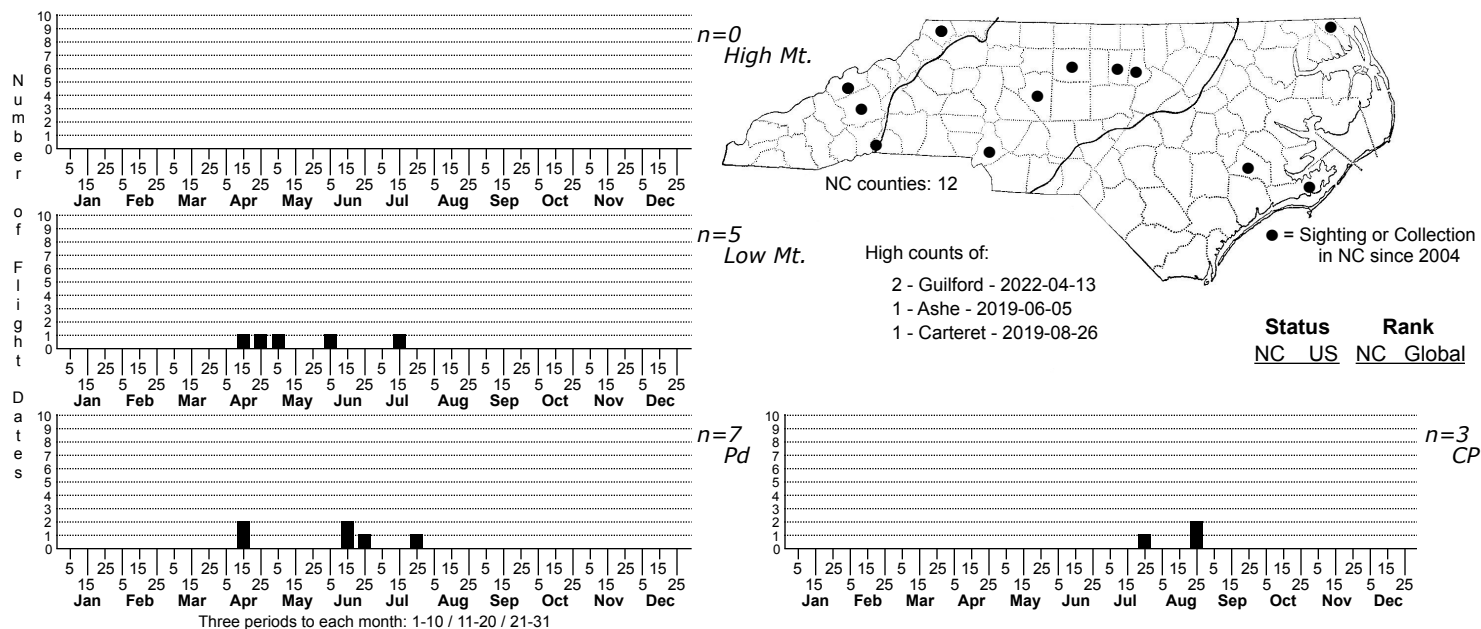


Ancylis muricana Red-headed Ancylis Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Enarmoniini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: The genus *Ancylis* contains around 130 described species that occur worldwide. The exact number of species in North America is uncertain due to several unresolved species complexes, but is around 35 species.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1923)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based in part on that of Forbes (1923). The head and tegulae are light orangish brown, while the palps are whitish and the antenna grayish brown with a rusty orange basal region. A basal patch covers the basal half of the wing and is dark grayish-brown with some lead-gray iridescence. Immediately behind this on the inner margin is a paler whitish patch that is overlain with a mixture of yellow-brown and chocolate scales. A broad median band of dark chocolate brown is present between the lighter dorsal patch and the tornus that extends inward to the middle where it narrows and runs obliquely forward to the costa. The costa has a series of paired whitish striae along the entire length that become more pronounced towards the apex, along with two or three large oblique, reddish-ocherous streaks on the apical third that extend towards the subapical region of the termen. The speculum has a whitish patch with an overlay of lead-gray scales, and the fringe is lead gray. The hindwing is smoky gray to grayish brown with a slightly paler fringe and a faint darker basal line.

DISTRIBUTION: *Ancylis muricana* is found throughout most of the eastern US and in adjoining areas of Canada (Ontario; Quebec; Nova Scotia; Prince Edward Island). In the US the range extends from Maine southward to central Florida and westward to eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, eastern Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Wisconsin. As of 2022, we have records from all three physiographic provinces, but only two from the Coastal Plain where this species appears to be rare.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from February through November in the southern portion of the range, and from April through September at more northern latitudes. As of 2022, our records are from mid-April through late-August.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae are reported to be polyphagous (Forbes, 1923; Heinrich, 1923; Putman, 1942; Miller, 1987; Heppner, 2007; Riley, 1881; Robinson et al., 2010). Recorded hosts including birch (*Betula*), dogwood (including *Swida racemosa*), blackberry (*Rubus*) and strawberry (*Fragaria*). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. They can be found exposed and resting on low vegetation during the day.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S3S4

STATE PROTECTION: Has no legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: This species appears to be uncommon throughout the state, but more information is needed on host use, habitat requirements, and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status.