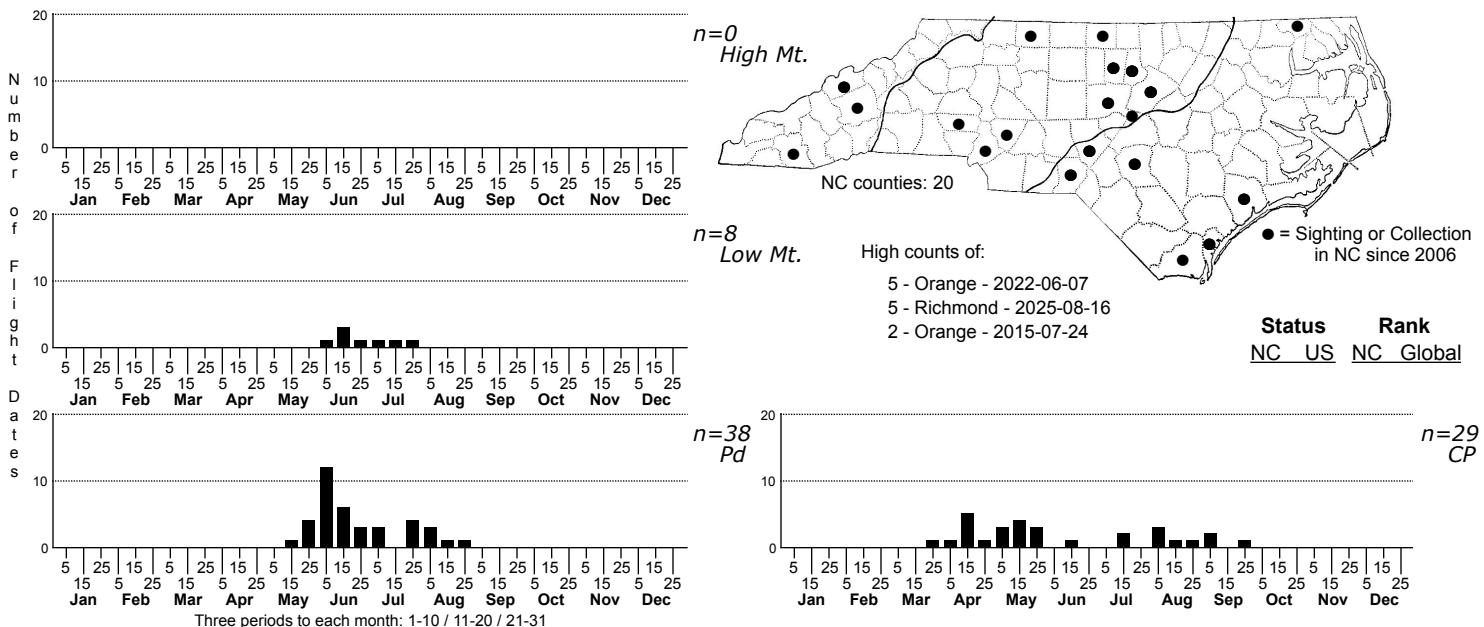


Corticivora parva Bronze-banded Corticivora



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Grapholitini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: This is one of three congeneric species that are found in North America north of Mexico (Brown, 1994).

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Brown (1984)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: All three of the species in this genus are very small -- Brown (1984) described them as the smallest tortricids occurring in North America. The following description is primarily from that of Brown (1984). The head and palps are creamy white, and the scape of the antenna has elongated scales that cover the pedicel. The thorax and ground of the forewing is creamy white with intermixed amounts of light grayish brown. The forewing ground is overlain with two brown to bronzy-brown bands that extend from the inner margin to the costa. The first is at one-fourth and often fills the entire basal region to form a patch, while the second occurs just beyond the middle and terminates in the subterminal region. Both bands have an outer edge that is more-or-less straight. A subapical spot is also usually present that can range from a small spot to a larger patch. The interfascial area between the basal and median band often has a thin, dark, broken line. The outer wing margin has a line of dark spots, and the fringe is grayish brown with white tips. The hindwing is light grayish brown with a concolorous fringe.

All three species in this genus have similar wing patterns, but *C. parva* can be distinguished from *C. clarki* by the straight rather than clearly angulate outer margin of the basal dark band. It also lacks a bulge on the outer margin of the median band and the subterminal spot or blotch is poorly developed relative to that of *C. clarki*. *C. parva* and *C. chica* are apparently indistinguishable based on outward appearance and need to be dissected to confirm their identities. The latter species was only known from Florida when originally described and is known from only one site along the coast in North Carolina. Specimens collected from coastal savannas should be dissected, while those from inland sites can be safely assumed to be *C. parva*.

DISTRIBUTION: *Corticivora parva* occurs in much of the eastern US and in Ontario and Quebec, Canada. In the US, the range extends from Massachusetts southward to southern Florida, and westward to eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Nebraska, with a possible geographic isolate in Colorado. This species occurs statewide in North Carolina except for the higher elevations in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Specimens have been observed from January through November in Florida and from March through October elsewhere, with a seasonal peak from May through August. As of 2022, we have records from late-March through late-September, which suggests that there are two broods annually -- at least in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

HABITAT: This species is generally associated with pine or mixed pine-hardwood forests.

FOOD: Pitch Pine (*Pinus rigida*) is the only reported host (Wagner et al., 2003), but other pines are presumably used. We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S4S5

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 relatively common and widespread in North Carolina and shows no evidence of marked population declines.