

FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: <i>Cydia</i> is a large genus with over 200 described species that occur worldwide, and with around 50 species in North America. Several species are important economic pests that often feed on fruits and seeds.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: ONLINE PHOTOS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Heinrich (1923a) TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based primarily on the description by Heinrich (1923a). The palps and face are whitish and the antenna, head, thorax and forewing shining drab brown. The forewing ground color tends towards medium brown near the base and darker brown on the apical two-thirds, with the apical half commonly having numerous, vertical, bronzy or yellowish-golden striations. The ocellus has a vertical, metallic bar on the anterior and posterior margins, with the former longer and sometimes extending to the sub-tornal region of the inner margin. The central field has bronzy or yellowish-golden striations and there are three or four small, faint, black dots or dashes against the inner side of the outer bar.

The costa typically has seven white dashes that include a pair just before middle, a pair just after the middle, a single one just beyond twothirds (often represented as a spot) and a pair just before the apex. Several metallic bands extend from these. The first is an outwardly angulated band that is margined with white on the anterior side. It arises from the first pair of dashes and extends obliquely to near the midwing before angling back to the inner margin. A similar metallic band that lacks white edging arises from the second pair of white dashes. It runs parallel with the first and connects with the anterior vertical bar on the ocellus. A third bar extends from the costal spot near twothirds to the central field of the ocellus. A final bar originates from the sub-apical pair of white dashes and curves towards the termen where it appears to cut the black basal line with white. The fringe is leaden-colored to light fuscous and has a black basal line along the termen. The hindwing is brown and concolorous with the darker part of the forewing, while the cilia is slightly paler and has a dark basal band. This species is similar to <i>C. toreuta</i> and <i>C. ingens</i>, but can be distinguished by its small size and the anteriormost metallic bar that is more angulated and has white edging on its inner margin.

DISTRIBUTION: The range is rather poorly defined because of the paucity of records for this species. Scattered populations have been from New Hampshire southward to northern Florida and westward to eastern Texas, western Tennessee, and southern Ohio. As of 2023, we have records from all three physiographic provinces.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been documented from March through August, with most flying between May and August. As of 2023, we have records from mid-April through early-August.

HABITAT: Local populations are associated with pine or mixed pine-hardwood communities.

FOOD: The larvae appear to feed within pitch nodules of injured pine trees. The only reported hosts are Loblolly Pine (<i>Pinus taeda</i>; Heinrich 1923a) and a recent record in North Carolina of a larva using Virginia Pine (<i>P. virginiana</i>).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults occasionally appear at lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S2S4

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be uncommon in the state, but additional inofrmation is needed on host use, distribution, and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status.

March 2025

The Moths of North Carolina - Early Draft