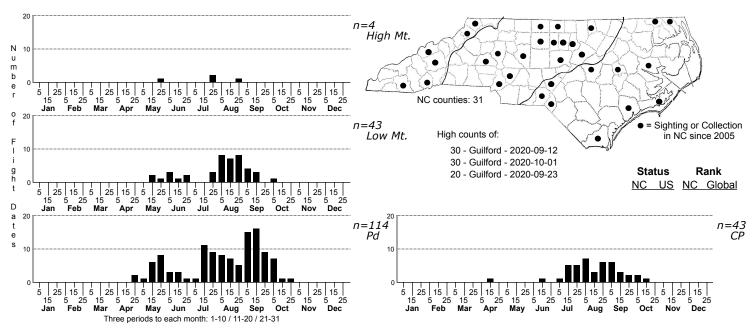
Cydia latiferreana Filbertworm Moth



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Olethreutinae TRIBE: Grapholitini

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: Covell (1984; as <i>Melissopus latiferreanus</i>); Beadle and Leckie (2012) ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1923); Gilligan et al. (2008)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Populations are geographically variable across the range. Those in North Carolina and surrounding areas typically have a light reddish or reddish-brown ground color on the head, thorax, and body with varying levels of heavy pale whitish dusting. The dusting in some specimens can be so dense on the apical two-thirds of the forewing that is becomes the predominant color. The ocellus has a lead-colored vertical bar on the posterior and anterior margins, with the anterior one longer and often continuing to the inner margin. The central area is similar to the overall ground color and has two or three faint, black, horizontal lines or rows of dots. Similar black marks are sometimes present between the ocellus and the apical third of the costa.

The ground in overlain with a heavy median lead-colored fascia that extends from the costa to the inner margin where it tends to broaden. Immediately behind it is a narrow, posteriorly oblique stria that extends from the costa inward to about one-third, then angles and broadens. It typically terminates before reaching the anterior vertical bar on the ocellus. A thin, posteriorly oblique, lead-color stria also extends from the costa at around three-fourths and projects towards the apical third of the termen. The fringe is lead-colored with a reddish line at the base, while the hindwing varies from gray to blackish brown and has a paler fringe with a dark basal line.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Cydia latiferreana</i> has a very broad distribution that covers much of the conterminous US where the host plants are present. It is also found along portions of southern Canada from British Columbia eastward to Nova Scotia. This species occurs statewide in North Carolina.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Local populations typically have two or more generations per year and have long flight seasons. The adults can be found nearly year-round in California, and well into November and December in Texas. In other areas of the range the flight season most commonly lasts from April or May through October. As of 2022, we have records that extend from late-April through late-October.

HABITAT: Local populations are commonly found in hardwood or mixed hardwood-pine forests that support oaks and other hosts. Our records include montane mesic hardwoods and barrier islands.

FOOD: The larvae are polyphagous and feed on a taxonomically diverse group of woody plants (Heinrich, 1926; Craighead et al., 1950; MacKay, 1959; Prentice, 1966; Peacock et al., 1988; Heppner, 2007; Brown et al., 2008; Gilligan and Epstein, 2014). Oaks appear to be the most important group, including White Oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>), Southern Red Oak (<i>Q. falcata</i>), Burr Oak (<i>Q. macrocarpa</i>), Water Oak (<i>Q. nigra</i>), Northern Red Oak (<i>Q. rubra</i>) and Black Oak (<i>Q. velutina</i>). Hazelnuts and filberts (<i>Corylus</i>) -- particularly the European Hazelnut (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) are also important, especially when grown in commercial operations (Chambers et al., 2011). Other taxa that are used are chestnuts (<i>Castanea</i>), birches (<i>Betula</i>), beeches (<i>Fagus</i>), walnuts (<i>Juglans</i>), cherries (<i>Prunus</i>), and Pomegranate (<i>Punica granatum</i>). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the larvae can be found inside acorns.

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 is widespread and common in most areas of the state and shows no evidence of widespread declines.