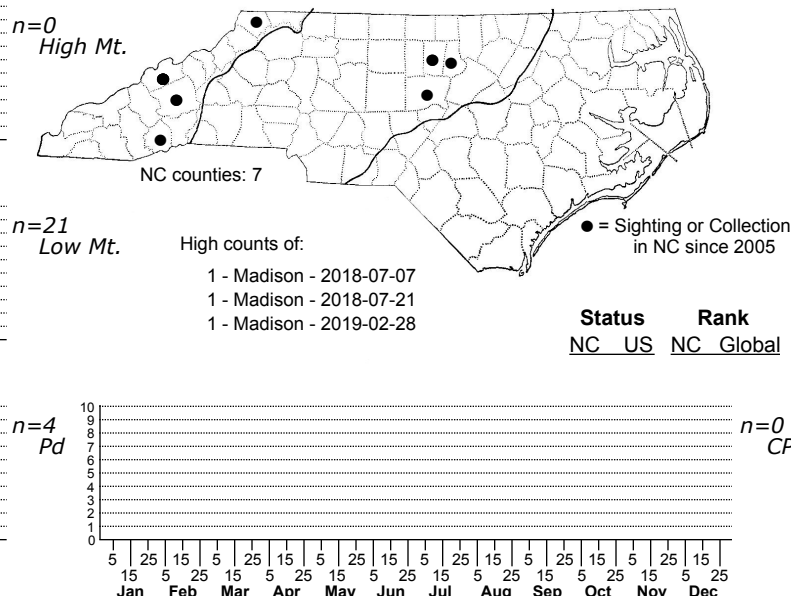
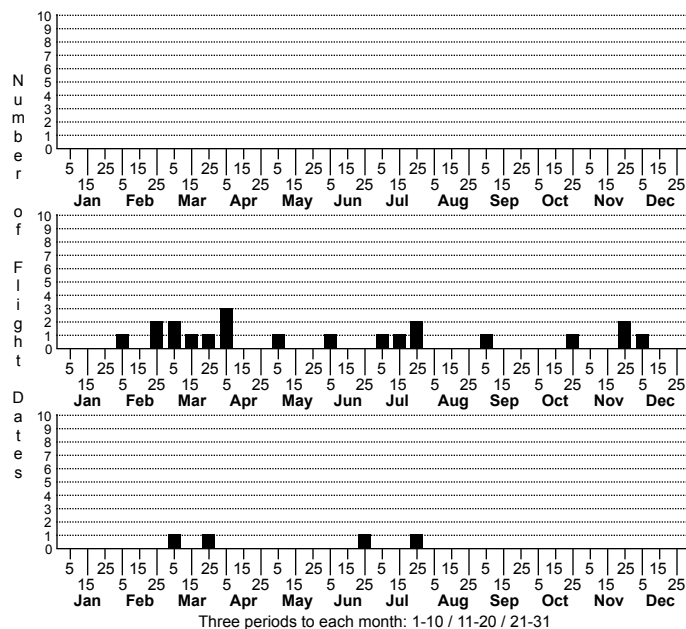


Acleris ptychogrammos None



FAMILY: Tortricidae SUBFAMILY: Tortricinae TRIBE: Tortricini
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Obratzov (1963).

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Acleris ptychogrammos* in North Carolina can best be identified by its overall ashy-gray appearance, a prominent, short, basal streak, and a chestnut-brown costal triangle that ends with a pair of dark dashes. The palps and head are light brown, while the thorax grades from light brown anteriorly to more ashy-gray posteriorly. The thorax commonly has a curved line of darker scales anteriorly and two small dark spots just before the posterior tip. The basal half of the forewing is mostly ashy-gray, with a well-defined, short, black, basal dash. A very thin longitudinal line of darker scales is often evident between the basal dash and inner margin that may extend all the way to an obliquely curved ridge of raised scale tufts at the midwing. The scale ridge runs from the inner margin and curves to run along the anterior margin of a prominent chestnut-brown costal triangle. The triangle often has varying amounts of ashy-gray scales near the center, and terminates near the center of the wing where there is a pair of short, dark-brown dashes. The remainder of the wing is ashy-gray, but sometimes a shade darker than the basal half. It has a few scattered, short, transverse lines of dark scales, along with scattered tufts of raised scales. The fringe is light-brown and often with patches of diffuse darker spots that continue for a short distance around the apex, while the hindwing varies from brownish-white to light-brown.

DISTRIBUTION: *Acleris ptychogrammos* is found in the eastern U.S., and in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. In the U.S. the range extends from Maine southwestward primarily through the Appalachian region to as far south as southern Alabama, Mississippi and southeastern Louisiana, and westward to eastern Oklahoma, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and southern Minnesota. This species is generally absent from the Atlantic Coastal Plain. As of 2024, our records are restricted to the Blue Ridge and Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: This species has been found year-round throughout its range, with populations in the southern portion of the range flying nearly year-round, and presumably having two generations annually, versus northern populations flying mostly during the late-spring and early summer months and having a single generation. Populations in North Carolina appear to have two generations per year, with the late-season adults from the second brood overwintering and appearing at lights beginning in early February. As of 2024 our records range from early February through early-December.

HABITAT: Most of our records are from sites with mesic hardwood forests.

FOOD: The only reported host that we are aware of as of 2024 is based on a single record for Red Twig Dogwood (*Swida sericea* [= *Cornus sericea*] by Obratzov (1963). Jeff Niznik and David George found an early-instar larva in North Carolina within a webbed shelter on the underside of a Flowering Dogwood (*Benthamidia florida* [= *Cornus florida*]).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. Additional information is needed on host use and the larval ecology in North Carolina and elsewhere.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S2S3]

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 in North Carolina with only a few site records as of 2024. More information is needed on its hosts and preferred habitats before we can accurately assess its conservation status.