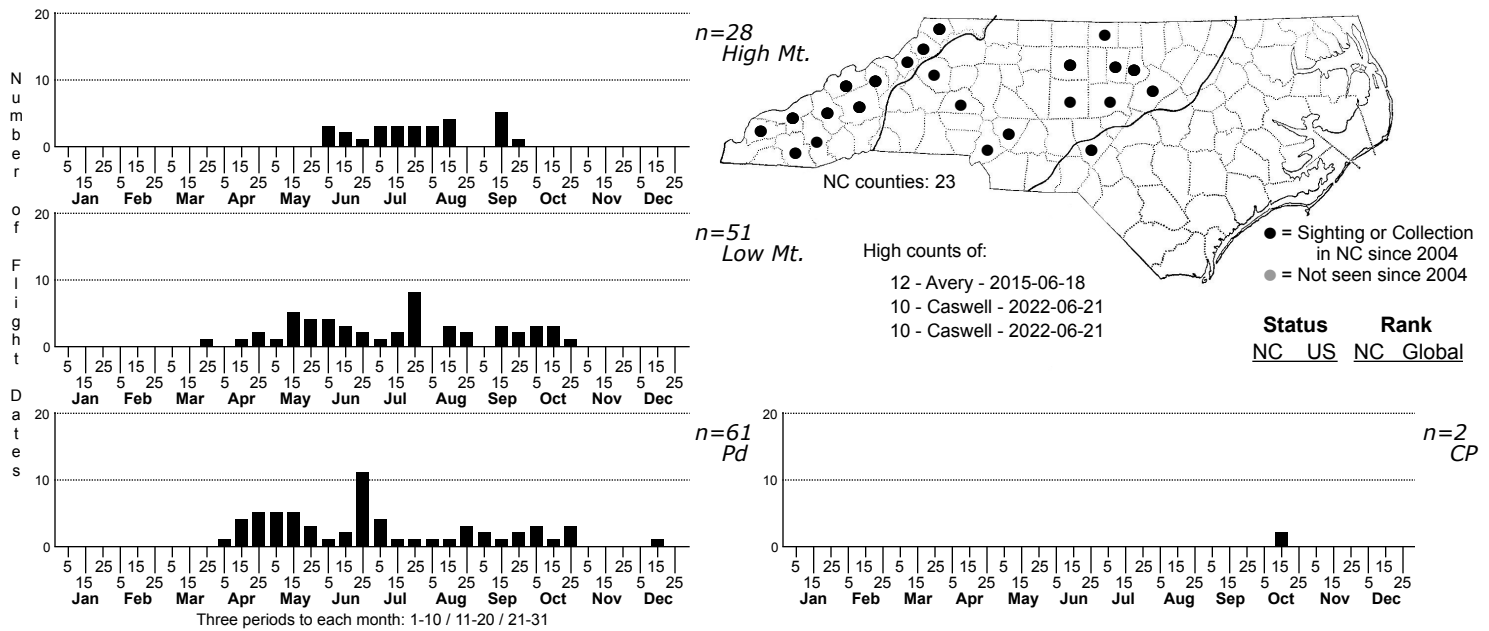


Scoparia biplagialis Double-striped Scoparia Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Scopariinae TRIBE: [Scopariini]
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: In this species the thorax, vertex, and forewing are mottled gray, white, brown, and black and the palps are porrect. The orbicular and claviform spots on the forewing are usually elongated, outlined with black, and filled with brown (Munroe, 1972). In North Carolina specimens the fill is often dark brown or black. Both the antemedian and postmedian lines are white. The antemedian is smoothly curved or slightly bent from the anal vein to the inner margin. The postmedian either zig-zags or is dentate between the costa and the median flexure just before the middle of the wing, then runs obliquely straight and forward to the inner margin in the subterminal region. In our other species of *Scoparia*, the orbicular and claviform are smaller and the postmedian is not dentate or strongly angled. *Scoparia biplagialis* also has a basal dash that appears as a thin, black line that extends a short distance from the middle of the wing base.

DISTRIBUTION: *Scoparia biplagialis* is widely distributed in North America. It occurs in southern Alaska and throughout much of southern Canada from the Yukon and British Columbia eastward to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. It is also widespread in the eastern US, and occurs in the West in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and all of the west-coast states. In the eastern US the range extends from Maine southward to northern Florida, and westward to Arkansas, Missouri, eastern Kansas, Minnesota and eastern North Dakota. This species is generally absent from much of the southeastern Coastal Plain. As of 2023, our records are almost all from the Piedmont and Blue Ridge, with two records from the western Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through October in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak typically from May through September. As of 2023, our records extend from early April through late-October, with one late-season record in mid-December. Local populations in North Carolina appear to have two or perhaps three overlapping generations per year.

HABITAT: Most of our records are from hardwood forests, and often from mesic habitats. We also have numerous records from semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larval host plants are unknown (Munroe, 1972).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are readily attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S3S5]

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

COMMENTS: