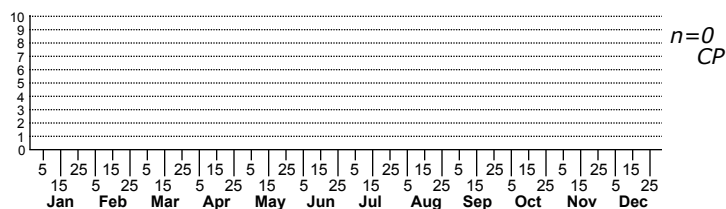
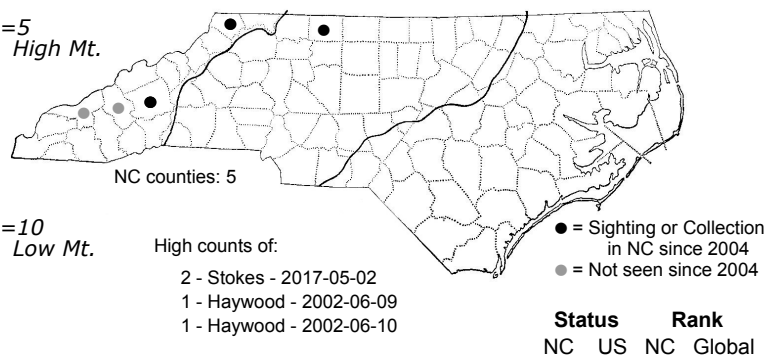
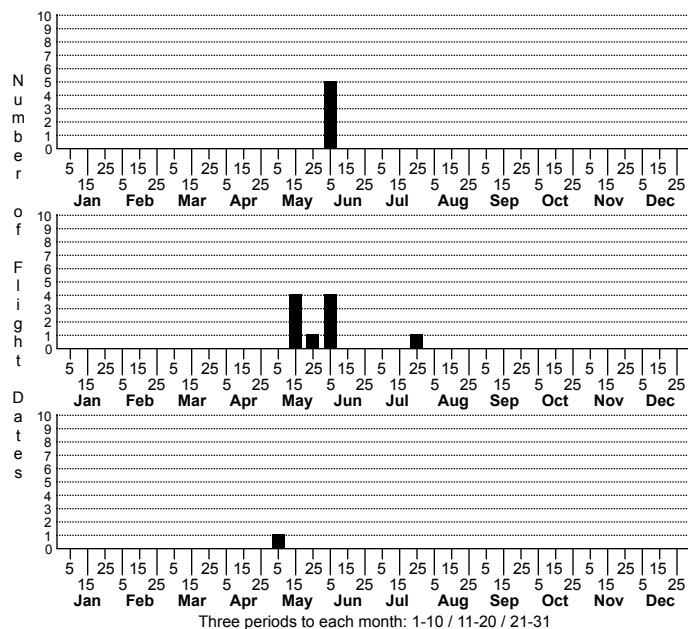


## *Scoparia penumbralis* Dark-brown Scoparia Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Scopariinae TRIBE: [Scopariini]  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species is easily recognized by its rounded forewing and the dark-fuscous and almost uniformly colored head, palp, thorax, forewing and hindwing. The markings on the forewing are obscured by the dark coloration. The antemedial line is obliquely curved, and the orbicular and claviform spots are small, blackish fuscous, and set on the antemedial line (Munroe, 1972). The orbicular is more basal than the claviform, and the postmedial line is almost straight and more-or-less runs parallel to the termen.

DISTRIBUTION: *Scoparia penumbralis* is found in eastern North America. It occurs in southern Canada from Saskatchewan eastward to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and in the US from Maine westward through the Great lakes region to northern Minnesota. Populations extend southward through the Appalachian region to western North Carolina, eastern Tennessee and northeastern Alabama. As of 2023, all of our records except one are from the Blue Ridge, where individuals have been collected from a wide range of elevations. We have one record from Hanging Rock State Park in the Piedmont in mountainous terrain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been found from May through September in different areas of the range, with a peak in activity typically in June and July in northern populations. As of 2023, our records are from early May through early June.

HABITAT: Local populations are associated with mesic hardwood or northern hardwood-conifer forests.

FOOD: The feeding ecology of the larvae is undocumented, but in all likelihood they do not feed on the leaves of vascular plants.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2S4]

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

COMMENTS: Populations in North Carolina are near the southern limit of the range and appear to be patchily distributed in the Blue Ridge. More information is needed on host use, distribution and local abundance before we can accurately assess the conservation status of this species.