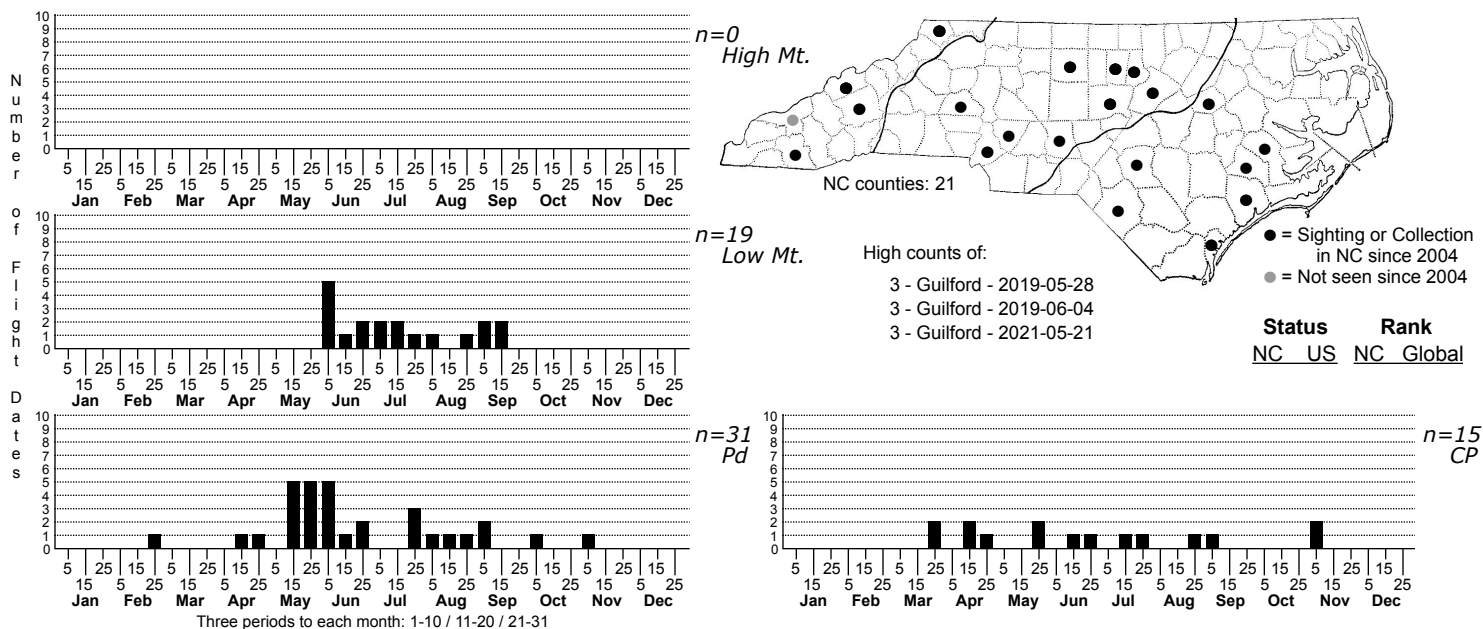


## *Eudonia strigalis* Striped Eudonia Moth



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

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972a)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: George Smiley (BugGuide)

ID COMMENTS: *Eudonia strigalis* is easily identified by its heavily streaked appearance (Scholtens, 2017). The ground color of the forewing is typically dull white to pale gray and is heavily dusted with darker gray or light brown specks. The antemedial and postmedial lines are often vaguely represented, with the postmedial being somewhat dentate to strongly angulate or excurved opposite the cell. The reniform, orbicular and claviform spots are represented as black longitudinal streaks. Dark streaks are also present in the basal area, with the most prominent one immediately anterior to -- and sometimes connected to -- the claviform streak. A number of streaks are also present in the subterminal area. In particular, most specimens have a pair of closely abutting streaks near the middle of the outer margin that run roughly parallel to each other. The fringe is pale to whitish with a median dark line that is regularly interrupted.

DISTRIBUTION: *Eudonia strigalis* is found throughout most of the eastern US and adjoining areas of southern Canada from Ontario eastward to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The range in the US extends from Maine southward to southern Florida, and westward to eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, eastern Kansas, eastern Nebraska, Illinois and Minnesota. This species appears to occur essentially statewide, although as of 2023 we do not have records for the higher elevations in the Blue Ridge and the northern Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed year-round in southern localities such as Florida, Alabama, and Louisiana, and from May through September farther north. Southern populations presumably have two or more generations per year, while populations in the northernmost areas of the range appearing to be univoltine. Many populations in North Carolina appear to be bivoltine. As of 2023, we have records that range from late-February through early November.

HABITAT: We have records from hardwood forests and semi-wooded residential neighborhoods. The larvae feed on mosses, and mesic or hydric habitats that have moss mats appear to be essential habitats for this species.

FOOD: The larvae appear to specialize on mosses, but more observations are needed on their food resources.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights. We need observations of microhabitat use and food resources of the larvae.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S3S4]

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 somewhat uncommon in North Carolina, perhaps due to its dependence on moss mats as larval microhabitats.