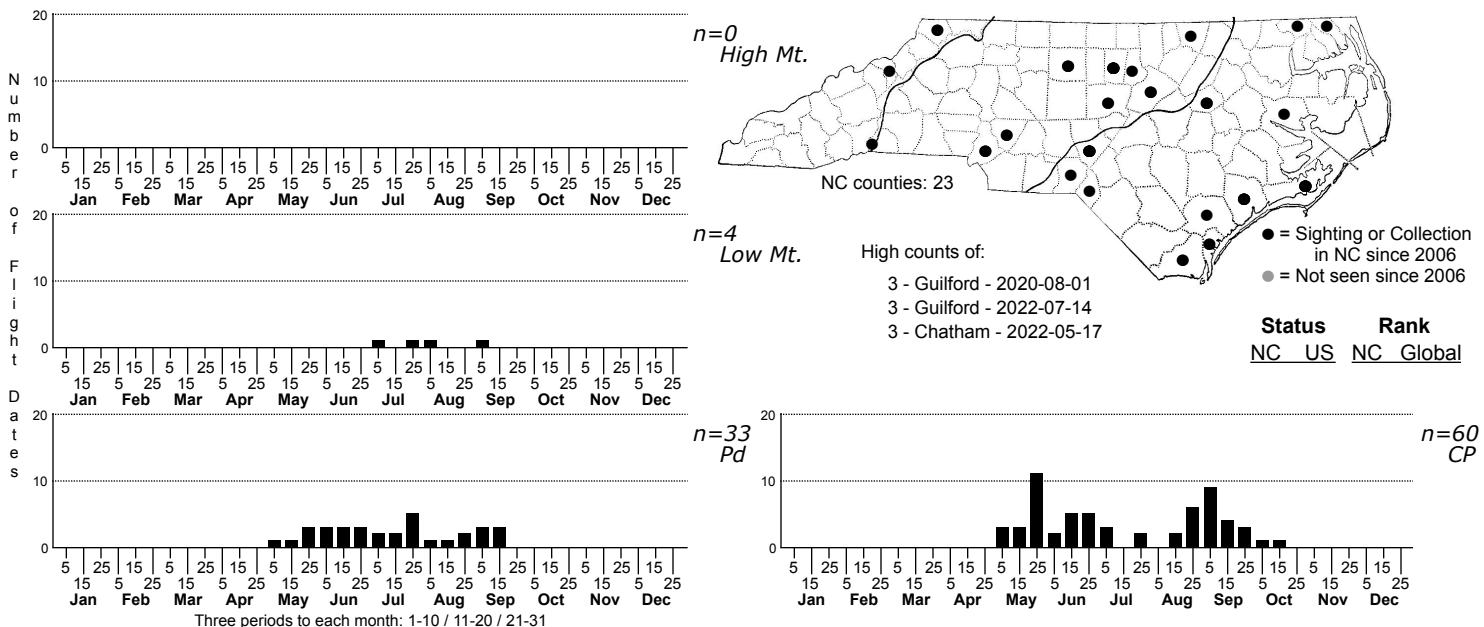


Glaphyria sesquistrialis White-rope Glaphyria



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Glaphyriinae TRIBE: [Glaphyriini]

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: The genus *Glaphyria* contains nine described species that are found in the New World from Canada southward to Brazil. The U.S. has seven species, with six occurring in North Carolina. They are all small moths that characteristically posture with the forelegs projecting forward. The larval life histories of all of our species are undocumented.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The ground color of the forewing is ocherous-yellow and is overlain with white lines and spots that have distinct brown edging (Forbes, 1923). The basal third of the wing has a series of poorly organized white lines and spots, while the antemedian line is distinct and waved. The postmedian line is sinuous on the dorsal half, then curved outward before angling obliquely to the costa. The black terminal line is distinct but broken, with the black spots preceded by white spots. The fringe is evenly ocherous-yellow and concolorous with the ground color.

Glaphyria glaphyralis is generally similar, but is lighter, lacks brown edging on the lines, and has white spotting in place of a broken, black terminal line. *Aethiophysa invisalis* is also similar, but the terminal dots are obscure and the fringe is two-toned, with the outer half pure white.

DISTRIBUTION: *Glaphyria sesquistrialis* is widely distributed across the eastern US, with the range extending from Maine and Massachusetts westward across the Great Lakes states to southern Minnesota and eastern Nebraska. From there, the range extends southward to Oklahoma, central and eastern Texas, the Gulf Coast states and Florida. Populations also occur in Ontario and Quebec. We have records from all three physiographic regions, but far fewer from the Blue Ridge than the Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed nearly year-round in Florida and Texas, but mostly fly from May through October elsewhere. As of 2023, our records extend from mid-May through mid-October. Local populations in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont appear to be bivoltine, while those in the Blue Ridge probably produce a single brood annually.

HABITAT: Our records are from both xeric and mesic sites, including maritime communities, xeric Sandhill pinelands, residential neighborhoods, and mixed pine-hardwood forests.

FOOD: In spite of this being a common species, the hosts are poorly documented. Heppner (2007) lists Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*), but this requires verification. In North Carolina, Tracy Feldman has reared a larva from Indian Blanket-flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*).

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

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: *Glaphyria sesquistrialis* is common and widespread in the state and appears to be secure.