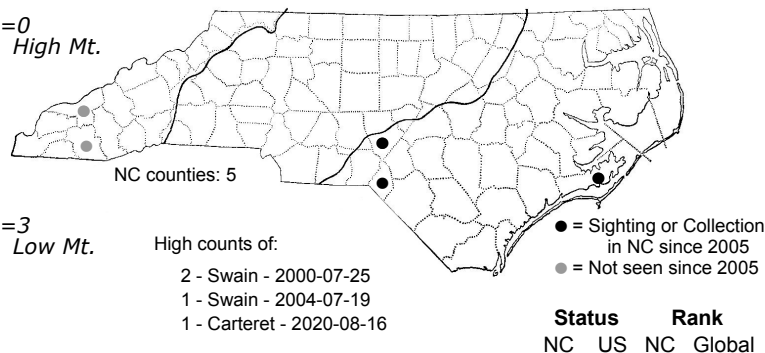
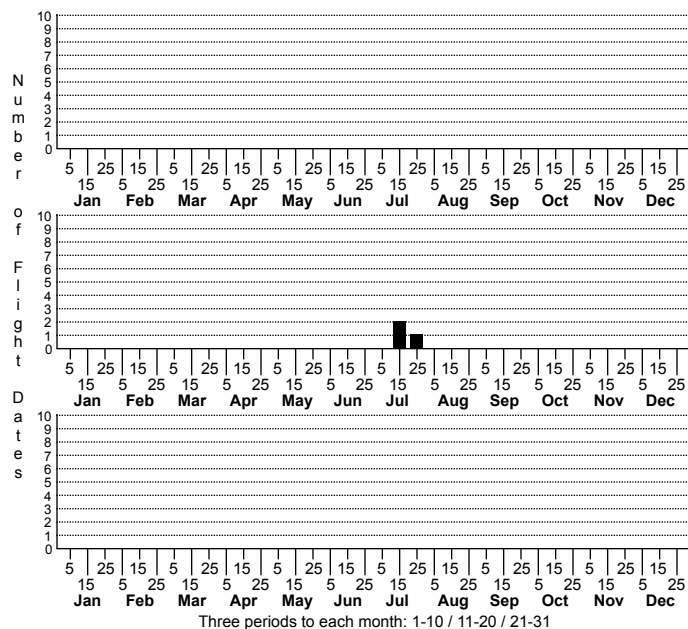


# *Aethiophysa consimilis* None



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Glaphyriinae TRIBE: [Glaphyriini]  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Aethiophysa invisalis* and *A. consimilis* cannot be distinguished based on external patterning and coloration and require genitalia for identification (Scholtens, 2017). The following is a general description that applies to both species based in part on the description of *A. consimilis* by Munroe (1964).

The frons is orange and margined anteriorly and laterally with white. The labial palp is orange and has prominent scaling on the second segment. The second and third segments are tipped with white, and the antenna is whitish buff above. Both the vertex and thorax are orange, and the ground color of the forewing is orangish brown with a faint, pale, wavy antemedial line at around two-fifths the wing length. The antemedial line is margined outwardly with a dark line of similar width. The postmedial line is similar in color but is margined inwardly with a dark line. The postmedial line begins on the costa at around two-thirds and is broadly excurved to about two-thirds the wing width, then slants basally to the inner margin. The area between the antemedial and postmedial lines is often slightly darker than the general ground color. The fringe is dull brown in the basal half and whitish buff in the distal half. A broken terminal line is usually evident that consists of a row of faint dark dots. The hindwing is faintly washed distally with the same ground color as the forewing, but is much paler in the basal, costal and anal regions. The fringe and terminal line are similar to those on the forewing.

*Aethiophysa invisalis* and *A. consimilis* are similar to *Glaphyria sequestralis* and *G. glaphyralis* and are best separated by the fringe, which is two-toned in our *Aethiophysa* species. In contrast, the fringe is evenly ochreous yellow and concolorous with the ground color in *G. sequestralis* versus evenly creamy-white in *G. glaphyralis*.

DISTRIBUTION: *Aethiophysa consimilis* is largely restricted to the southeastern U.S. where specimens have been observed from Maryland and vicinity westward to southern Ohio and western Kentucky, then southward to northeastern Texas, central Mississippi, northern Alabama and South and North Carolina. As of 2023, all of our record are either from the Coastal Plain or lower-elevation sites in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly from May through August in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak from June through August. As of 2023, our records extend from mid-July through early August.

HABITAT: The preferred habitats are poorly documented, but this species seems to tolerate a wide range of conditions. We have records from a coastal pine community, a xeric Sandhill community, a mountain meadow, and mesic forests in the Blue Ridge.

FOOD: The larval host plants, if any, are undocumented.

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: This species appears to be uncommon in North Carolina, but more information is needed on its habitat requirements, feeding ecology, and distributions before we can accurately assess its conservation status.