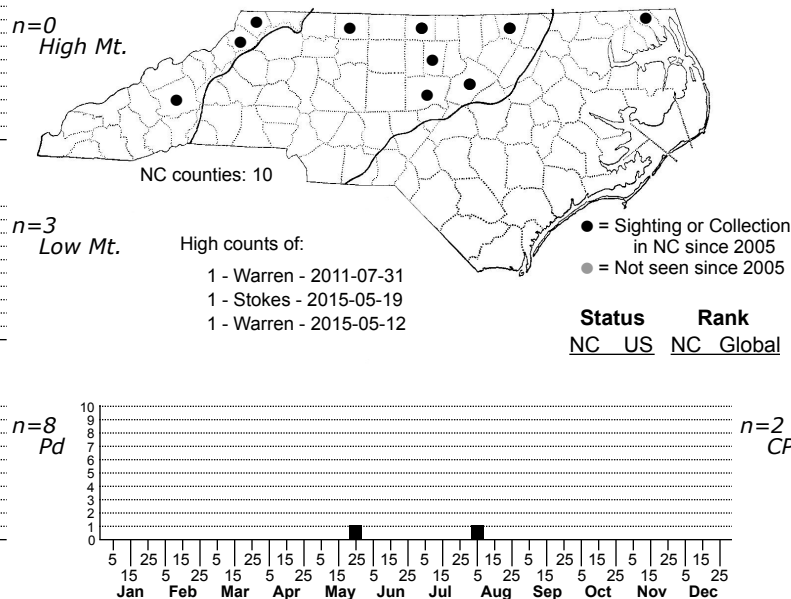
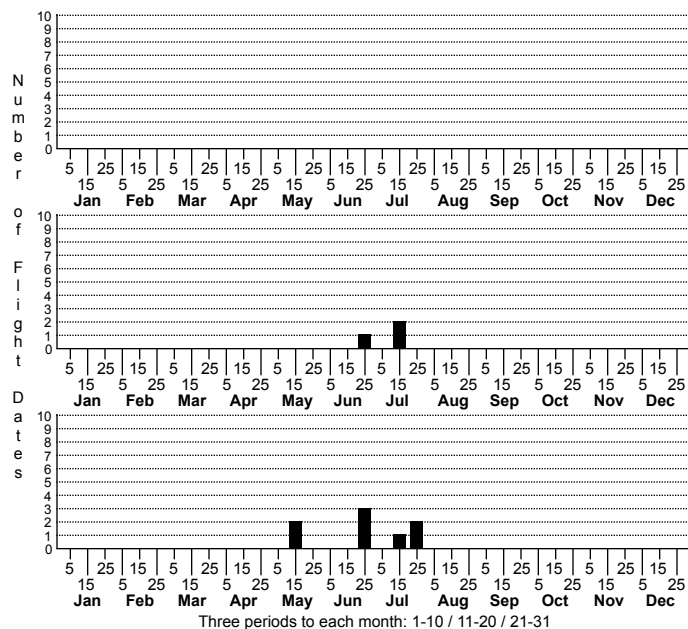


Lipocosma sicalis Brown-banded Lipocosma



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Glaphyriinae TRIBE: [Glaphyriini]
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based on those by Forbes (1923) and Munroe (1972). The forewing ground is creamy white but heavily shaded with yellowish, light brown or clay colors on most of the outer half and portions of the basal third. The whitish ground is generally most expressed along the outer margin and the basal third. The medial area is largely medium brown or clay colored, but is suffused with varying degrees of darker fuscous or blackish scales. The antemedial and postmedial lines are fine and dark. The antemedial is wavy, and the postmedial is somewhat jagged on the inner half and broadly outwardly angled on the costal half. A weak double discocellular bar or diffuse spot is present near the middle of the wing between the lines. The hindwing is generally similar to the forewing, but the median area is dusted with black, and there is a distinct, black, postmedial line.

Lipocosma sicalis is generally similar to our other two *Lipocosma* species and is the largest of the three. It is most easily distinguished from *L. adelalis* by the absence of a clear, distinct, black discocellular spot on the forewing and tufts of raised black scales on the hindwing. *Lipocosma septa* sometimes has a black spot -- although it is rarely as well developed -- and is best distinguished by the presence of a large, inwardly oblique patch of reddish-brown scales before the antemedial line near the middle.

DISTRIBUTION: *Lipocosma sicalis* is broadly distributed across much of the eastern U.S. and adjoining areas of southern Ontario and Quebec. In the U.S., the range extends from New Hampshire and Massachusetts southward to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and central Nebraska. As of 2023, our records are all from the northern half of the state and from all three physiographic provinces.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through November in different areas of the range, with the great majority from May through August. As of 2023, our records extend from mid-May through early August.

HABITAT: The preferred habitats are poorly documented. We have records from wetlands, but also from semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The plant hosts, if any, are undocumented. The discovery that *Lipocosma adelalis* feeds on lichens (Kearfott, 1903) suggests that our other *Lipocosma* species might do the same.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S3-S4]

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

COMMENTS: