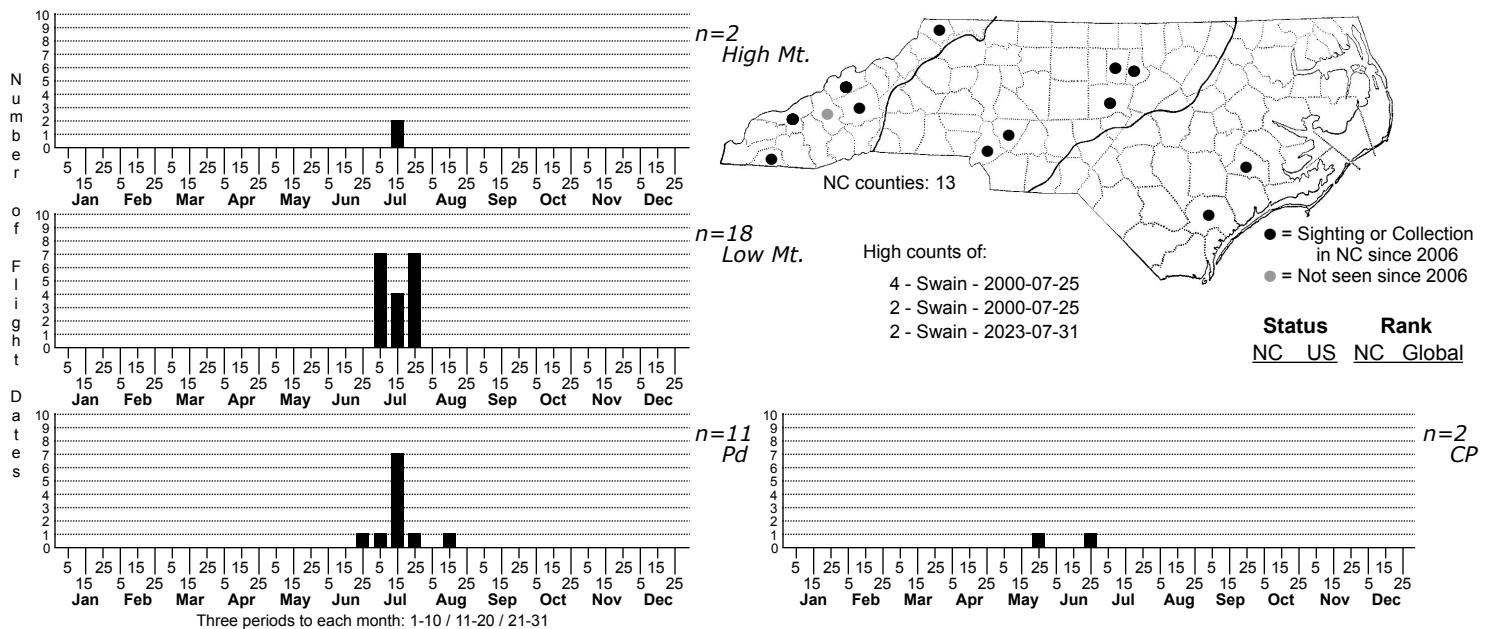


Lipocosma adelalis None



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Glaphyriinae TRIBE: [Glaphyriini]

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Kearfott (1903); Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Kearfott (1903)

ID COMMENTS: The following description is mostly based on that of Forbes (1923) and Munroe (1972). The ground color of the forewing is white and is lightly shaded with light brown or clay colors on the apical fifth of the wing and near the middle. The antemedial and postmedial lines are obscure, and a conspicuous, black, discocellular spot is present below the costa and just beyond the middle of the wing. A dark spot is also present at the apex. The hindwing is white and has conspicuous raised tufts of black-tipped scales near the inner margin. There is also a small light brown to grayish subterminal shade near the black tufts. The abdomen is mostly white, but with black scaling on the middle segments.

< i > *Lipocosma adelalis* < /i > is generally similar to our other two < i > *Lipocosma* < /i > species, but is easily distinguished by the presence of a clear, distinct, black discocellular spot on the forewing and prominent tufts of raised black scales on the hindwing.

DISTRIBUTION: < i > *Lipocosma adelalis* < /i > is found in the eastern U.S. from Rhode Island and New York westward to Ohio and Missouri, then southward to central Mississippi, central Alabama and South Carolina. As of 2023, we have records from all three physiographic regions. Most are from lower elevation sites in the Blue Ridge, while only one is from the Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from June through August in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak in June and July. Local populations in North Carolina are univoltine, with almost all of our records from July.

HABITAT: The adults have mostly been observed in mesic hardwood forests or semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larvae feed on lichens (Kearfott, 1903), but it is uncertain if they rely on particular species that are associated with certain tree species.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the case-dwelling larvae have been observed among lichens on oak tree trunks.

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: This species appears to be uncommon in North Carolina, but additional information is needed on its preferred habitats, distribution and abundance before we can fully assess its conservation status.