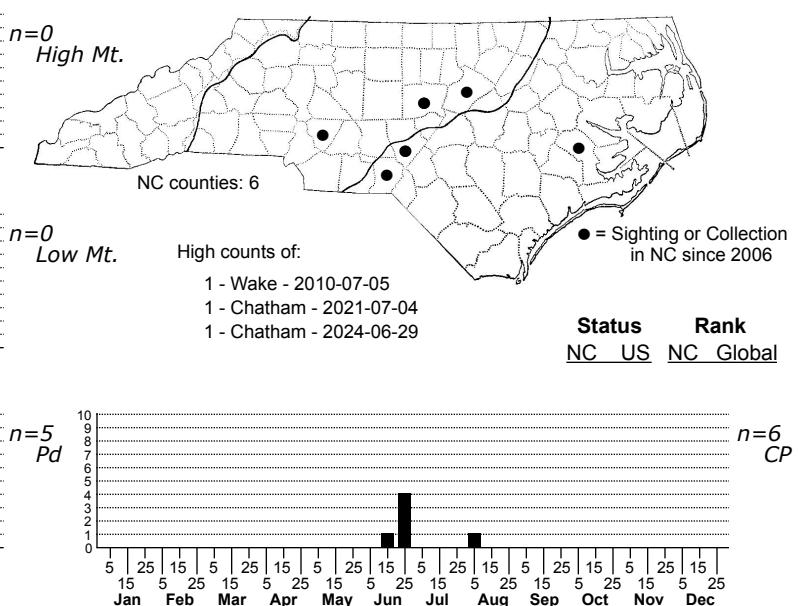
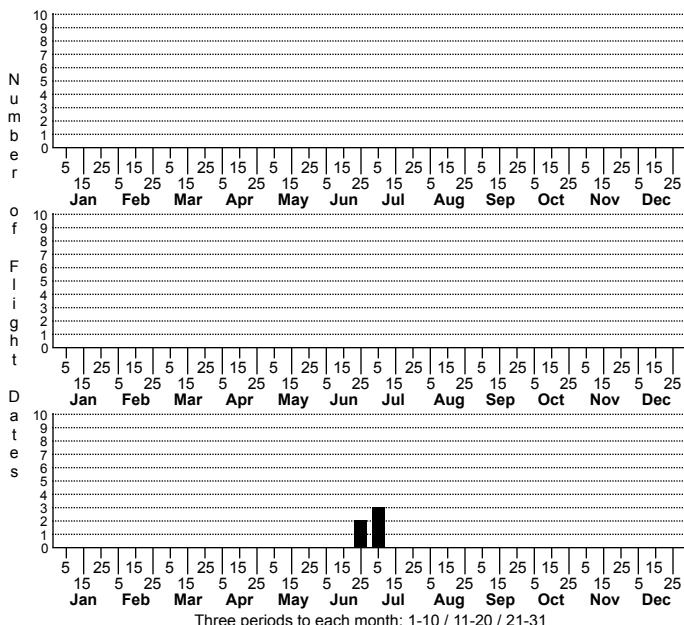


Lipocosma septa Exposed Lipocosma



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 is based on the original description by Munroe (1972). In this species the ground color of the forewing is creamy white with inconspicuous creamy-buff patches and bands. The wing base is marked with a bit of buff shading that is followed by a cream-colored antemedian area that has a convex outer margin. This pale area is followed by a buff-colored band that extends from the costa to the cell where it joins a prominent, inwardly oblique, reddish-brown band that extends to the inner margin. The band is followed by a faint gray antemedian line and is sometimes followed by a dusting of blackish scales. The postmedial line is far out on the wing and is indistinct and grayish buff. The disco-cellular spot is often absent. When present, it typically is not as strongly defined as it is in *L. adelalis*. The postmedian and subterminal areas have the cream colored ground that is shaded with buff. A dark apical spot is present, and the fringe is creamy-buff.

The ground color of the hindwing is white, and there is a conspicuous band of broad dark-fuscous scales from beyond the end of the cell to near the anal margin at about its middle. Just basad of this band and adjoining it is a strong subanal tuft of reddish-brown scales. In the resting position these continue the line of the reddish-brown band of the forewing. There is also a line of raised, whitish, spatulate scales that continues as a patch of broader, fuscous, raised scales on the fuscous band beyond the cell. The postmedial line is weak, grayish, sinuate and obsolete anteriorly and posteriorly. Beyond it is a weak grayish subterminal band. There is also a weak gray terminal line. The fringe is creamy buff basally and white distally.

DISTRIBUTION: This species is mostly found in the Coastal Plain and adjoining areas of the Piedmont from New Jersey to southern Florida, then along the Gulf Coast to eastern Texas and eastern Oklahoma. Scattered specimens have also been observed farther north in Ohio. In North Carolina, all of our records are from the Coastal Plain and eastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been observed in Florida from January through August, but in other regions they mostly fly from June through August. As of 2023, our two records are both from early July.

HABITAT: The preferred habitats are poorly documented.

FOOD: The plant hosts, if any, are undocumented. The discovery of *L. adelalis* feeding 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[S2-S3]

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 our state. More information is needed on its distribution, abundance, preferred habitats, and feeding ecology before we can accurately assess its conservation status.