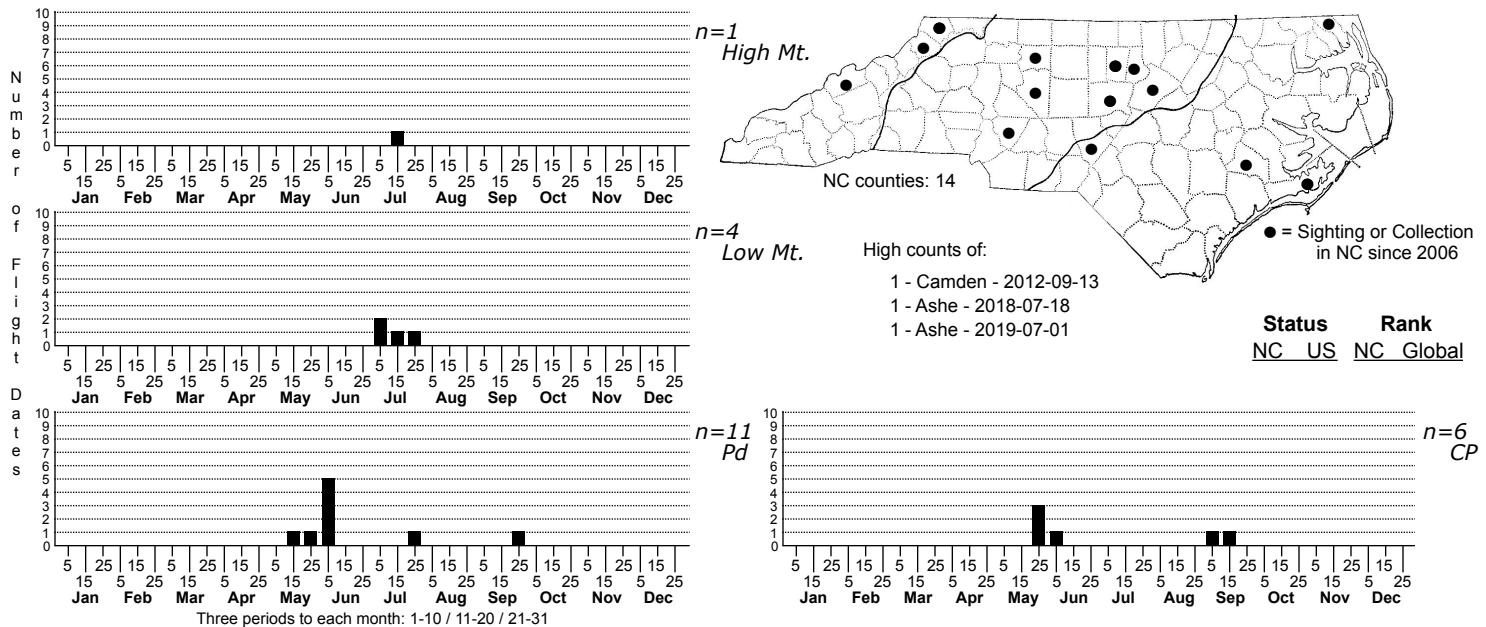


Lipocosmodes fuliginosalis Sooty Lipocosmodes



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Glaphyriinae TRIBE: [Glaphyriini]

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: In this species the forewing is mostly fuscous, with whitish coloration typically limited to the wing base, in the apical and terminal areas, and narrowly along the costa (Munroe, 1972). The antemedial and postmedial lines are obscure and fuscous, and there are areas of raised scales on the discocellular and behind the end of the cell. The hindwing has the anterior part light gray, with the remainder largely fuscous. A dark postmedial line is present at around two-thirds the wing length, and a pale bar is just basal to the anal angle and separates the medial from the postmedial tufts of dark raised scales.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Lipocosmodes fuliginosalis</i> is found in eastern North America, including southern Canada (Winnipeg; Ontario; Quebec) and much of the eastern U.S. from Maine and other New England states southward to southern Florida and westward to central Texas, eastern Oklahoma, eastern Nebraska and Minnesota. We have records from all three physiographic provinces, but with relatively few from the Coastal Plain and Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly rear-round in Florida and have been observed from March through October in other areas of the range, with a seasonal peak from June through August. As of 2023, our records range from mid-May to mid-September. Our limited data suggests that Coastal Plain populations may be bivoltine, with a late spring and late summer brood.

HABITAT: Our records include wet grassy habitats in the Piedmont and Outer Coastal Plain, a low-elevation mountain meadow, and a xeric old field in the Fall-line Sandhills. The common denominator appears to be the presence of open, grassy habitats.

FOOD: The hosts are poorly documented, but there is an adult in the USNM collection that was reared on LeConte's Thistle (<i>Cirsium lecontei</i>) in Louisiana (Solis, 2008). This species is found in wet Longleaf Pine savannas and flatwoods in North Carolina, so other hosts are undoubtedly used in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S3S4

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 fairly common in North Carolina and reasonably secure.