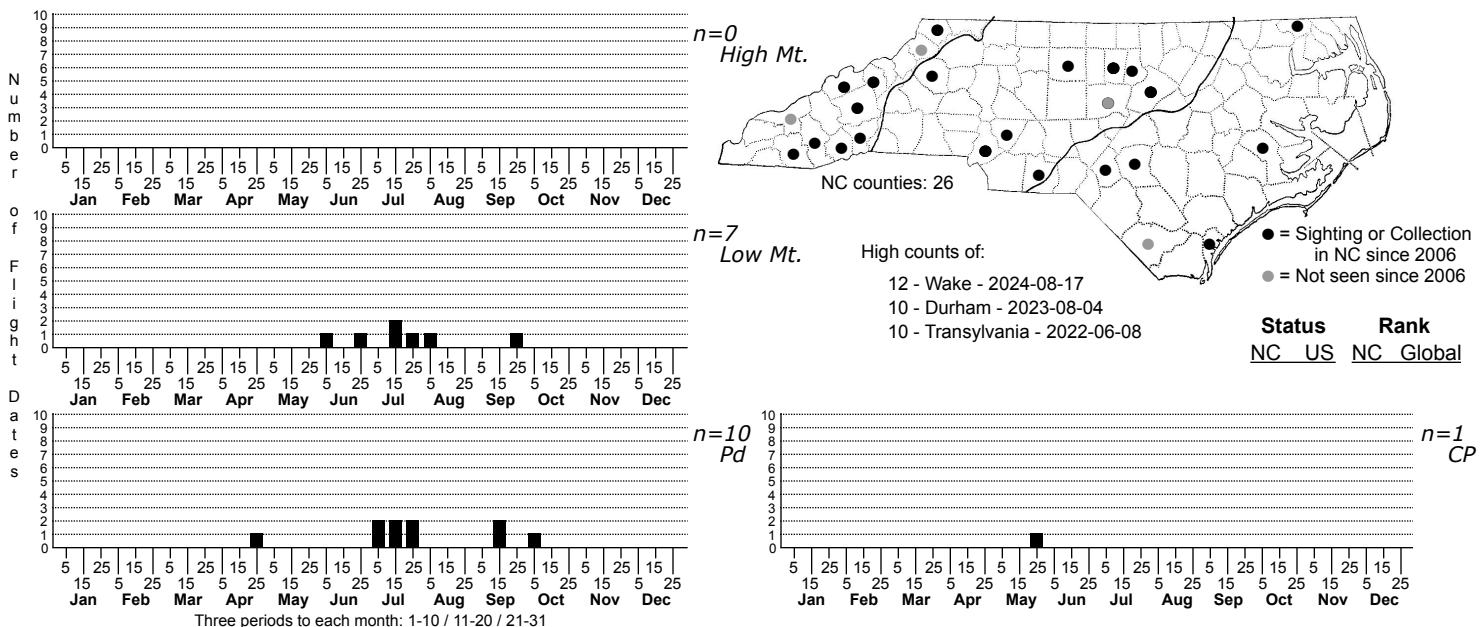


Evergestis rimosalis Cross-striped Cabbageworm Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Evergestinae TRIBE: [Evergestini]

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1973)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Although it lacks bold marks, this is a distinctive species due to its mottled appearance. The following description is based on that of Munroe (1973). The forewing is straw-colored, but heavily suffused with olivaceous or violaceous brown in a somewhat mottled pattern. The area beyond the postmedial line tends to be slightly darker than the rest, and there is a small subtriangular clear-yellowish patch at the apex that is divided by fuscous veins. The antemedial and postmedial lines are oblique and dentate. They are often obscure, with the postmedial generally the most prominent. The fringe is checkered with yellowish and fuscous. The hindwing has a pale translucent straw-color with a weak fuscous discocellular bar. The middle part of the postmedial line is represented as broken dots on the veins. There is a fuscous apical patch and a crenulated fuscous terminal line. The fringe is yellowish, with a weak darker midline.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Evergestis rimosalis</i> is a wide-ranging species that occurs in Nova Scotia, the U.S., Central America, and several Caribbean islands. In the U.S. the range extends from the New England states southward to southern Florida, and westward to western Texas, central Oklahoma, central Kansas, southeastern Nebraska, Iowa, Indiana and Wisconsin. A few scattered populations have been documented farther west in New Mexico, Colorado, and California. This species occurs statewide in North Carolina except for the northern Coastal Plain where it appears to be absent.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed nearly year-round in Florida and from April through October elsewhere in the range. As of 2023, our records are from late-April through early-October. Local populations in North Carolina appear to produce two broods per year.

HABITAT: Local populations are generally found in the vicinity of cultivated members of the Brassicaceae. They regularly show up in vegetable gardens where they attack collards, kale, cabbage and other members of the mustard family.

FOOD: This species is native to North America and presumably fed on native species in the mustard family such as <i>Rorippa</i> (Robinson et al., 2010) before the cultivation of crops. It has since mostly switched to feeding on cultivated crops such as Brussels sprouts, collards, cabbage, and kale. In North Carolina, larvae have been recorded on kale (<i>Brassica oleracea</i>).

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the larvae are commonly found on garden vegetables.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S4S5]

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 secure given that it is widespread and commonly exploits garden vegetables.