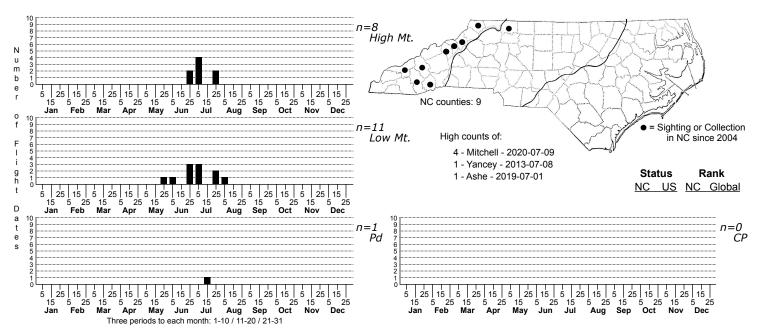
Anania funebris White-spotted Sable Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE: Pyraustini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: This wide-ranging species occurs in both North America and Eurasia. Munroe (1976) treated the North American populations as a separate subspecies (<i>Anania funebris glomeralis</i>) from the nominate form, largely based on the larger spots on the wings.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012) ONLINE PHOTOS:

UNLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1976)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Allyson (1981)

ID COMMENTS: The diurnally active adults are very distinctive and easily identified. Both wings are black and each has two large white spots, one near the basal third and the other at around two-thirds the wing length. The forewing sometimes has a small white spot between the two, and there is a conspicuous orange tegulum at the base of each forewing.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Anania funebris</i> is widely distributed in North America, but mostly at the more northern latitudes. It occur in Alaska and much of southern Canada from the Northwest Territories and British Columbia eastward to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. In the eastern U.S. it occurs from Maine southwestward through the Appalachian region to eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina, and westward to Minnesota, Wisconsin, northern Illinois, northern Indiana and eastern Kentucky. Farther west it has been observed in Colorado, Wyoming, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and northern California. As of 2023, all of our records are from the Blue Ridge except for a single Piedmont record.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed in North America from April through August. As of 2023, all of our records are from late-May through early-August. Populations in North Carolina appear to be univoltine.

HABITAT: Our records come from wet meadows, old fields, and roadsides that support flowering plants.

FOOD: The only reported hosts in North America are goldenrods (<i>Solidago spp.</i>) (Covell, 1984; Allyson, 1981). In Europe the larvae have been reported to use two species of legumes: Black Broom (<i>Lembotropis nigricans</i>) and Dyer's Greenweed (<i>Genista tinctoria</i>). The adults are often seen nectaring on plants such as clovers, blackberries, and yarrows, but we do not have any larval feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are commonly seen during the day either resting openly on plants or nectaring on wildflowers.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2S3]

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

COMMENTS: