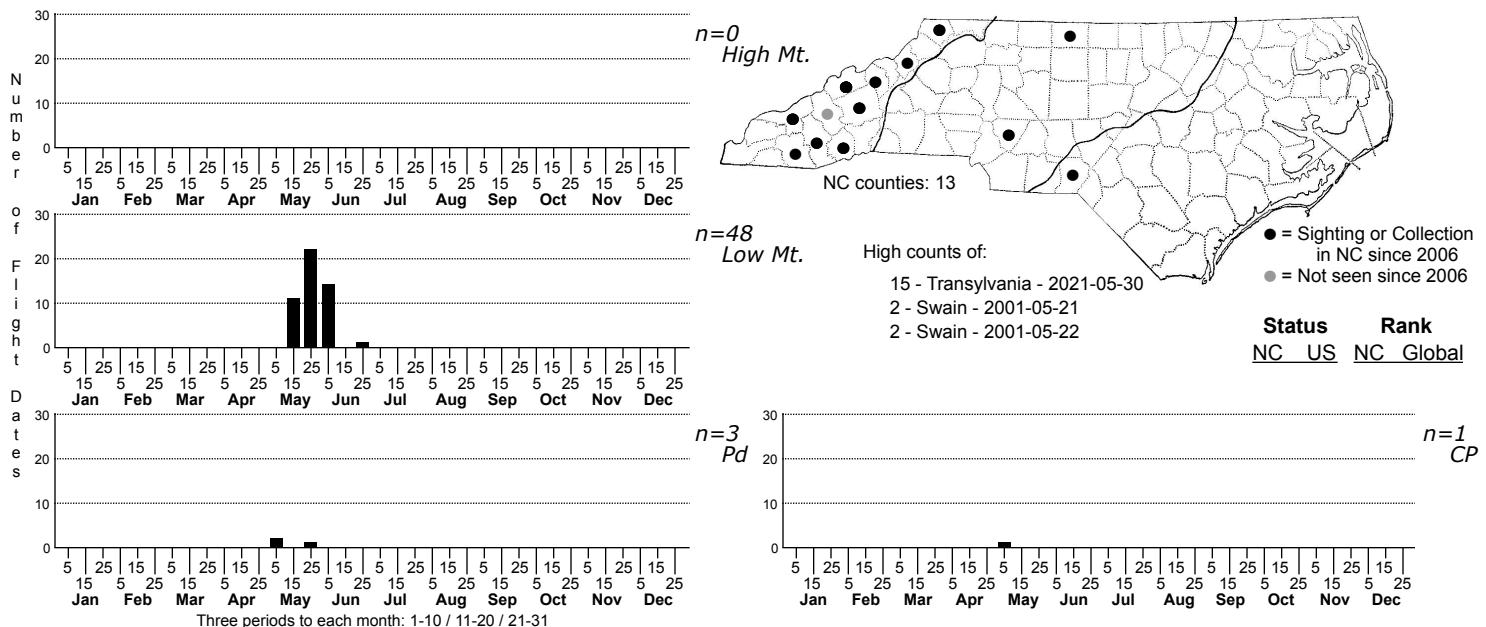


Pyrausta homonymalis None



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE: Pyraustini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1976)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species is patterned with regions of yellow and brown or rusty red scales, with all of the marks diffuse and not crisply defined. The antemedial line is obsolete, and the orbicular and reniform spots are widely spaced apart with a diffuse region of yellow and reddish scales between them. The base of the wing is rather uniformly brown or reddish-brown, but can appear more yellowish on worn specimens. Two of the most prominent marks are a yellowish, triangular, preapical patch that is just behind the dentate postmedial line, and a larger reddish-brown blotch that adjoins the triangular patch basally. The reddish postmedial line typically bisects another yellowish patch that occurs on the dorsal half of the wing. The subterminal region has a wide zone of dark reddish-brown scales, and the fringe is concolorous with the subterminal band. The hindwing is brown with a pale, diffuse yellow band at around four-fifths the wing length.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Pyrausta homonymalis</i> has a distribution that is centered on the southeastern U.S. It occurs from West Virginia and Maryland southward to central Florida, and westward to Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, central Tennessee, Kentucky, and southern Indiana. As of 2023, we have records from the Blue Ridge, central Piedmont and the western Coastal Plain, with most from lower-elevation sites in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Populations appear to be univoltine throughout the range, with the adults flying from April through June in different areas of the country. As of 2023, our records extend from early-May through late-June.

HABITAT: Most of our records are from rich hardwood forests or wooded residential communities.

FOOD: The host plants are undocumented.

OBSERVATION METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and are occasionally seen resting in the open on vegetation.

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 can be locally common in the mountains where it prefers rich hardwood forests. We currently do not have sufficient information on the host plants and life history to accurately assess the status of this species in North Carolina.