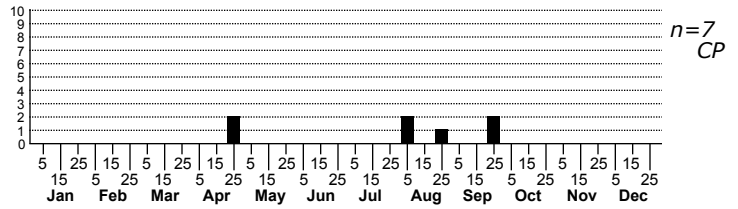
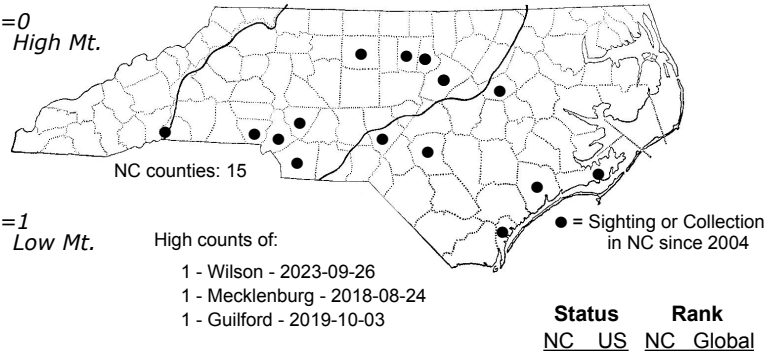
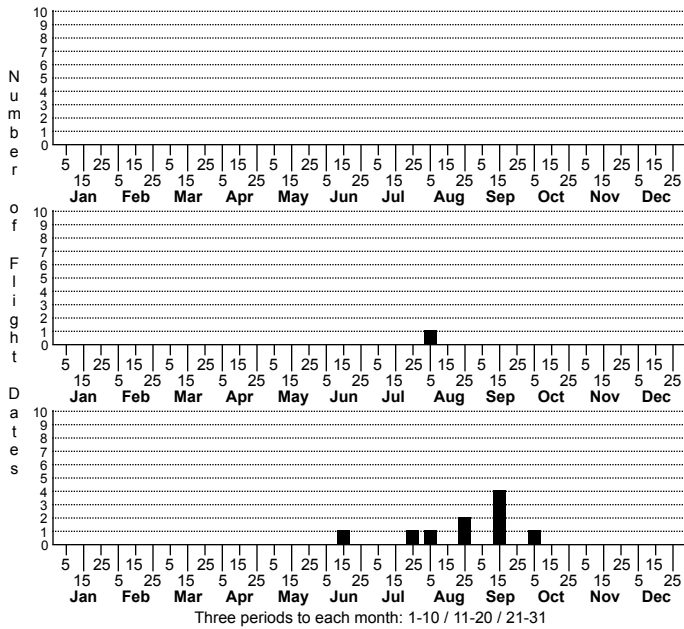


*Diastictis baccatalis* No common name



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Spilomelinae TRIBE:  
 TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hulst (1886)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Diastictis baccatalis* is a distinctively marked species that has dull golden-yellow forewings with conspicuous white spotting. The following is based in part on the original description by Hulst (1886). The head, thorax, and ground color of the forewings are all dull golden-yellow, but sometimes dusted with fuscous. The forewing has three sets of dull white spots (basal; medial; postmedial) that are all edged with black. The black edging is most prominent on the outer and inner sides, in part due to the black antemedial and postmedial lines that adjoin certain spots, particularly in the postmedial region. The spots include a basal pair of similar size that are on the costal half of the wing, a middle pair with the costal spot noticeably smaller than the dorsal spot, and a postmedial group that consists of a relatively large quadrate spot in the subcostal region. It is followed dorsally by two small cone-shaped spots near the middle of the wing, and a final medium-sized spot just beyond these. The black postmedial line runs along the apical side of the first spot and the basal side of the two conical spots. The fringe is dull yellow with a line of diffuse dark spots near the base. The hindwing is mostly white, but with a golden-yellow wash in the subterminal region. The black antemedial and postmedial lines are similar to those on the forewing, and contrast sharply with the lighter ground color.

DISTRIBUTION: This species is restricted to the southeastern U.S. where it occurs from North Carolina southward to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas and central Oklahoma. As of 2023, all of our records are from the Coastal Plain and Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults are active from March through December in the southernmost locales such as Florida and Texas, and from April through October farther north. As of 2023, our records are from late-April through early-October.

HABITAT: This species frequents open habitats such as Long-leaf Pine forests, field edges, old fields and residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The hosts (if any) have not been documented.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S3-S4]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be reasonably secure given that it has a large range and frequents disturbed or open habitats.