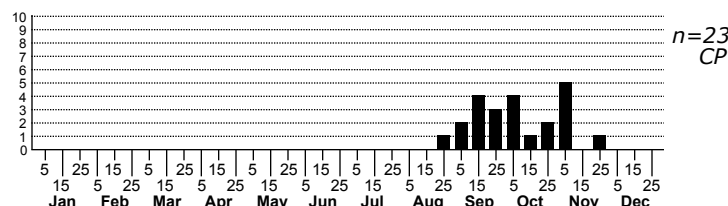
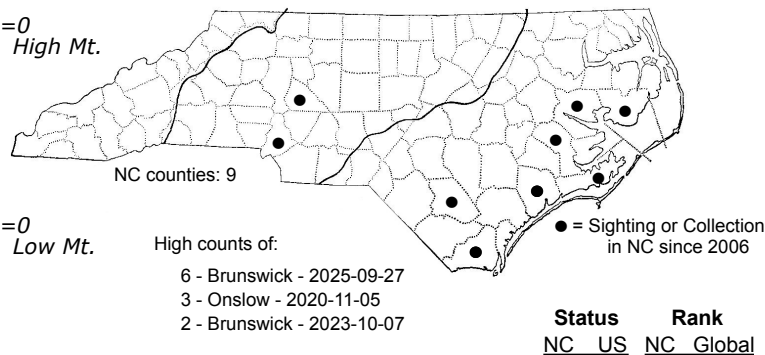
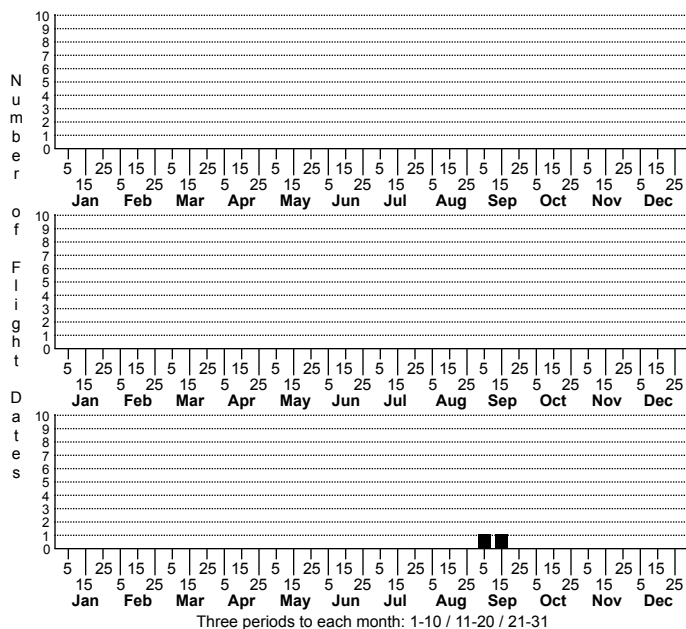


Ategumia ebulealis Stained Ategumia



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Spilomelinae TRIBE:
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The adults usually rest with the forewings spread and the hindwings exposed. The forewings and hindwings are generally similar in having thin, dark, wavy, transverse lines and the same ground color, which varies from dull yellow to orangish yellow. Both wings also have a broad, wavy, brownish to purplish-brown subterminal band, a thin, dark, terminal line, and a checkered fringe. The antemedial and median lines on the forewing are often incomplete and run from the inner margin to the orbicular and reniform spots, respectively, which are both lighter in their centers. The postmedial line is excurved and runs from the subapical region of the costa to the subterminal region. The hindwing typically shows only the antemedial and median lines, with the postmedial usually obscured by the purplish-brown subterminal band. There is a single orbicular spot that often joins the antemedial line. The abdomen varies from yellowish to yellowish-orange and has a prominent pair of black spots on the second segment, as well as two additional pairs that are less prominent near the tip. This species resembles our *Diacme* species, but can be readily distinguished by the paired spots on the abdomen.

DISTRIBUTION: *Ategumia ebulealis* is found in the southeastern U.S., the Caribbean, Central America and South America to as far south as Brazil. In the U.S., the main range extends from North Carolina southward to southern Florida, and westward to eastern Texas, western Tennessee and northeastern Arkansas. Isolated records are also known from Maryland, New Jersey and northern Iowa. As of 2023, our records are all from the eastern Coastal Plain except for one eastern Piedmont record.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed year-round in Florida and mostly from June through November in other states. As of 2023, our records extend from late-August through late-November.

HABITAT: In North Carolina, this species has been recorded in wet, open, herbaceous wetlands, including marshes, shorelines, and other open, wet, herb-dominated habitats. These are habitats occupied statewide by *R. mariana*. We do not, however, have any records from longleaf pine savannas or flatwoods, habitats that support a number of *Rhexia* species specialized on those habitats.

FOOD: The larvae appear to specialize on members of the Melastomaceae (Heppner, 2003; BugGuide). The reported hosts include a *Clidemia* sp., Johnny-Berry (*Miconia umbellata*) and Maryland Meadow-beauty (*Rhexia mariana*). In our area, several species of *Rhexia* are the only members of this family.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and the larvae can be found in webbed leaves on the host plants. We need more information on host use in North Carolina.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2-S4]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to reach its northern limit in North Carolina. Additional information is needed on its preferred habitat, host plants and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status.