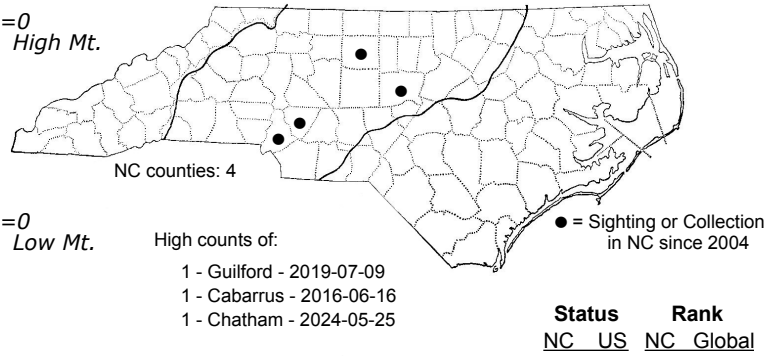
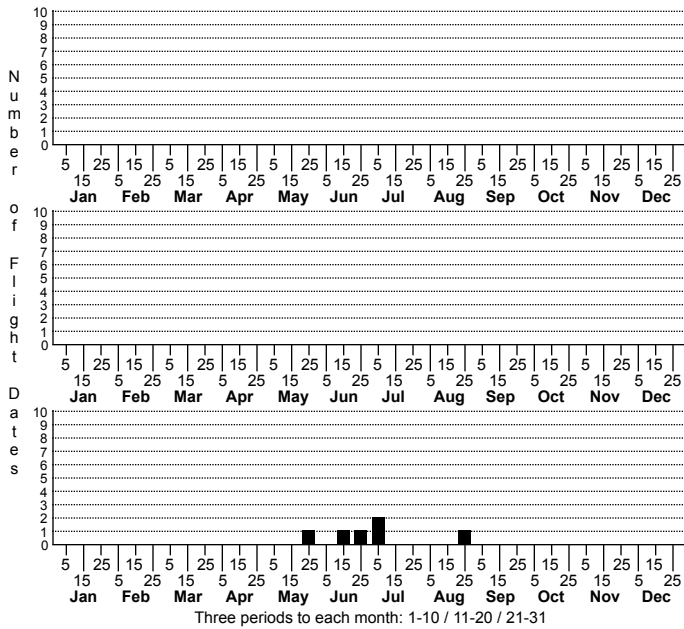


Diasemiodes nigralis Black Shawl Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE: Spilomelini
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:
 ONLINE PHOTOS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: In this species, both the forewing and hindwing have a black ground color that is overlain with a series of white marks. The forewing lacks an antemedial line and has an incomplete white postmedial line that extends from the costa to the middle of the wing. Most specimens have a white subcostal discal dot near the middle of the wing, and a small white spot near the inner margin that is between the discal spot and postmedial line. The fringe is mostly black, but sometimes has a patch of white near the apex and tornus. The hindwing is uniformly black with a white line that extends diagonally from the subterminal region before ending near the middle of the wing. A second and shorter white line extends from just beyond the middle of the costa at an angle that is nearly perpendicular to the first. The fringe is black.

DISTRIBUTION: The range is centered on the southeastern U.S. and extends from New Jersey and Maryland southward to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas, eastern Oklahoma, Missouri and Indiana. As of 2023, all of our records are from a narrow band in the central Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed year-round or nearly so in Florida and Louisiana, and mostly from May through September farther north. As of 2023, our records are from mid-June through late-August.

HABITAT: Our few records are from residential neighborhoods and a Piedmont nature preserve.

FOOD: The hosts plants (if any) are undocumented.

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2-S3]

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

COMMENTS: This species is uncommon throughout its range, including in North Carolina where it appears to be restricted to a narrow band in the central Piedmont. More information is needed on its distribution, abundance, natural habitats and food resources before we can accurately assess its conservation status.