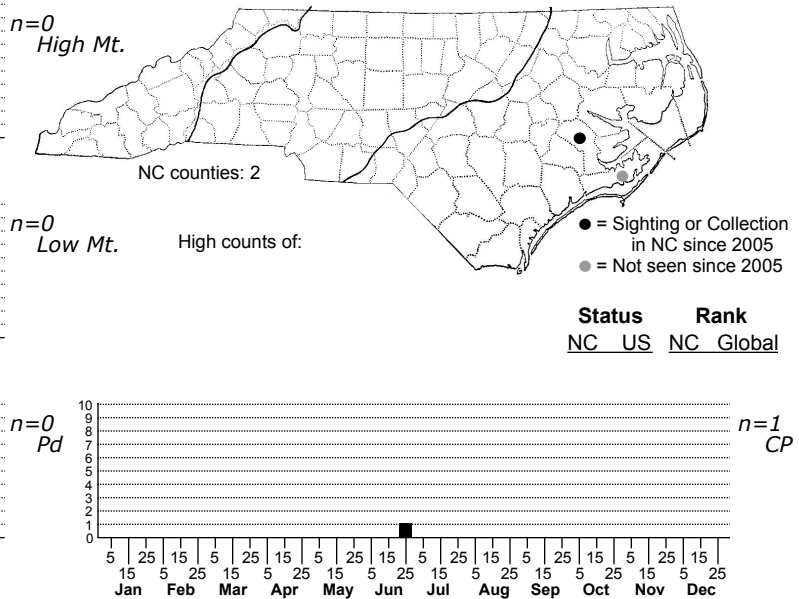


Rupela segregata None



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Schoenobiinae TRIBE: [Schoenobiini]
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: Heinrich (1937) examined the genitalia of what were thought to be two or three white species of *Rupela* and was surprised to find that these constituted a group of at least 18 cryptic species with very distinctive genitalia. Only two species are known from North Carolina and they usually require the examination of genitalia for identification.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Heinrich (1937).

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Only two species of *R. segregata* are known from North Carolina. The males and females of *R. segregata* are identical, with both having an elongated abdomen and the head, thorax, abdomen, and wings white. In contrast, males of our second species, *Rupela tinctella*, are uniformly brown, while the females are white and indistinguishable from the males and females of *R. segregata*. Genitalia are required to identify the white forms, while any brown *Rupela* can be safely assigned to *R. tinctella*.

DISTRIBUTION: The main range of *Rupela segregata* extends from southern Georgia southward to southern Florida. Isolated populations have been found farther north in North Carolina and Maryland. As of 2023, our records are both from Craven and Carteret Cos. near the coast.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from April through October in Florida, and from May through September elsewhere. As of 2023, our two dated records are both from late-June.

HABITAT:

FOOD: The hosts are apparently undocumented.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

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

COMMENTS: