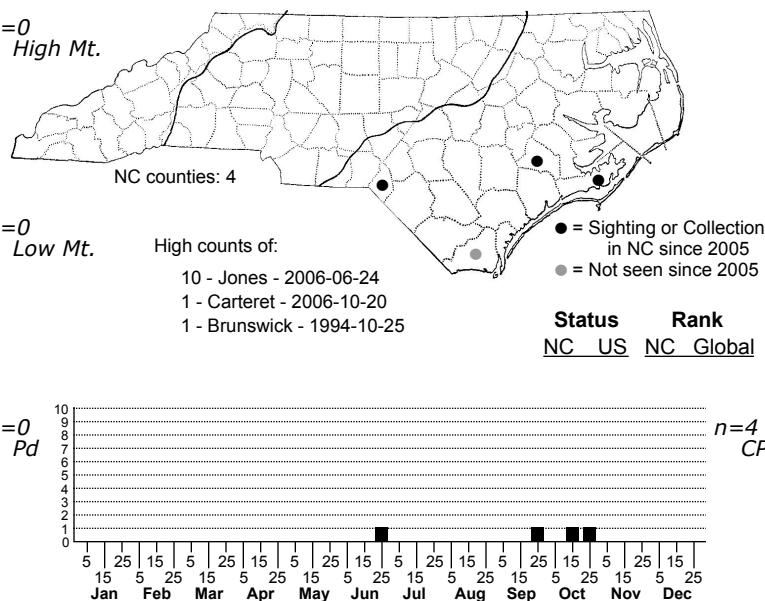


# *Crambus sanfordellus* None



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Crambinae TRIBE: Crambini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: The genus *Crambus* includes around 155 species that are distributed globally. Some of the species are significant pests that can cause damage to agricultural crops, lawns and rangelands. This is one of 41 species in this genus that occur in North America north of Mexico (Pohl and Nanz, 2023), and one of fifteen species that occur in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Klots (1942)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following is based in part on the original description by Klots (1942). The face, head, and thorax are white and the tegula is a brassy lustrous, brown. The ground color of the forewing is orangish-brown and darkest between the discal stripe and the costa. The most conspicuous mark is a silvery white discal stripe that is broad and narrowly separated from the costa by a thin brown line that widens apically. The stripe begins at the wing base and gradually widens to the middle of the wing, then tapers gradually to a sharp point just before the submarginal line. The stripe has a very long and slender dorsal tooth that arises just beyond its middle. The inner margin is narrowly but distinctly white from the base, and the submarginal line is preceded on the costa by a trapezoidal white patch. A series of fine, but not very distinct, semi-metallic lines are present between the veins and extend outward from the discal stripe towards the submarginal line. The submarginal line runs obliquely outward from the costa to below the apex, then bends to form a rounded angle of slightly more than 90 degrees and runs to the inner margin. It consists of an inner dark line and an outer semi-metallic line. The region between the costa and apex may have an additional dark line that parallels the semi-metallic line. The apical area is white and contains a dark brown, slender, triangular dash. The submarginal space below the apex is powdery gray-brown, with five indistinct, slender, black lines, each more or less margined by a few white scales. The marginal line is dark brown, narrow, and most distinct below the apex. The fringe is brownish and semi-satiny, and more whitish basally in the apical region. The hindwing is light brown with a white fringe.

*Crambus sanfordellus* is best distinguished from other silvery striped *Crambus* by the broad silvery stripe with its very long slender, dorsal tooth, and by the narrowly white inner margin. This species also has very distinctive genitalia.

DISTRIBUTION: This seemingly rare species is only known from a few sites in Florida and from a small number of counties in eastern North Carolina. As of 2023, we have only four site records for the state.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Florida adults have been observed from April through December. As of 2023, we have one record from late-June, with the remainder from late-September through late-October.

HABITAT: Our very limited records are from both xeric Long-leaf Pine communities and more mesic bottomland settings.

FOOD: The host plants are undocumented.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S1S2]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This seemingly rare species is only known from a few sites in Florida and from a small number of counties in eastern North Carolina. As of 2023, we have only four site records for the state. We need additional information on its distribution, abundance, preferred habitats and larval life history before we can accurately assess its conservation status within the state.