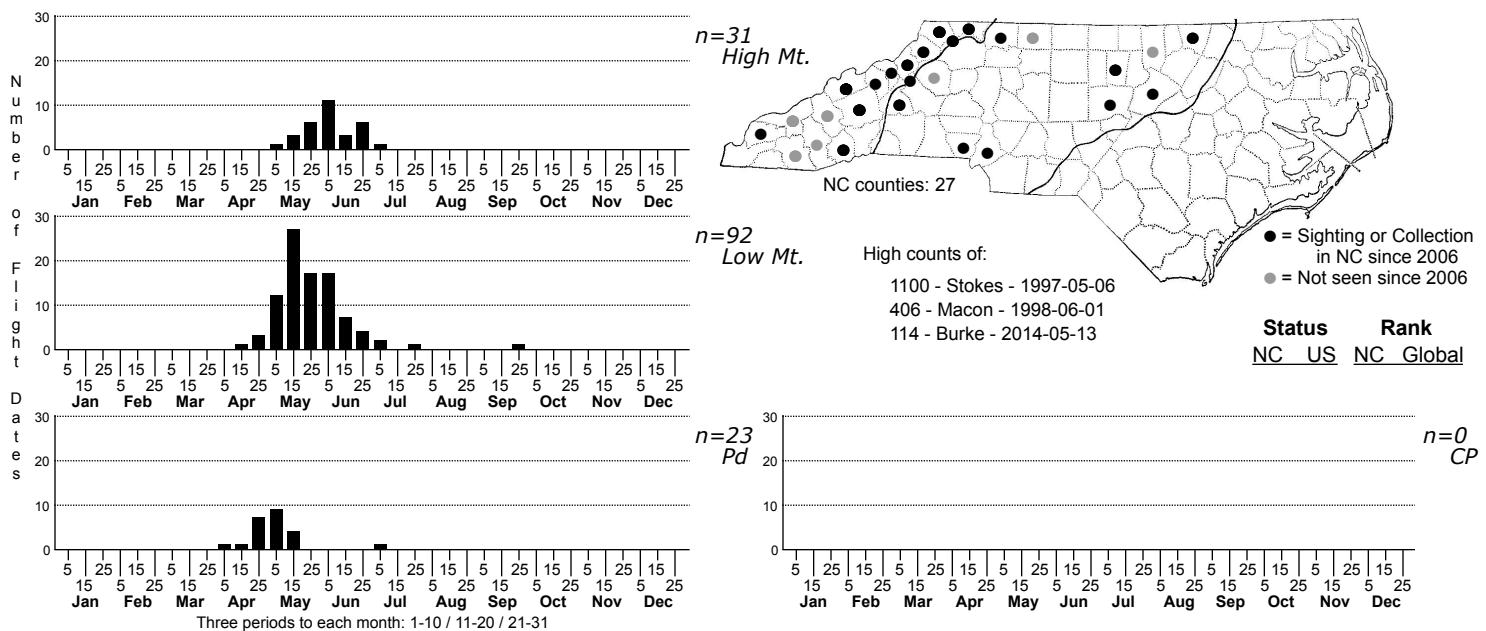


## *Tetracis cachexiata* White Slant-line



**FAMILY:** Geometridae   **SUBFAMILY:** Ennominae   **TRIBE:** Ourapterygini

**TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:** One of thirteen species in this genus that occur in North America (Ferris and Schmidt, 2010), two of which are found in North Carolina.

**FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:** Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

**ONLINE PHOTOS:**

**TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:** Ferris and Schmidt (2010)

**TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:**

**ID COMMENTS:** Both species of *Tetracis* that occur in North Carolina are moderately large, pale species, angular-winged Geometrids with a single straight line (postmedian) crossing their forewings from inner margin all the way to the apex or to the costa just in front of the apex. Other similarly sized, pale Geometrids with a strong transverse line either have more than one line or the line terminates or makes a sharp bend before it reaches the apex. *Tetracis cachexiata* is a glossier, purer white or ivory than *crocallata*, which has a stronger yellowish or cream shading. It also lacks the brown dusting and discal spots found in *crocallata* and the transverse line is usually narrower and a lighter, more yellowish brown.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Please refer to the dot map.

**FLIGHT COMMENT:** Please refer to the flight charts.

**HABITAT:** Forests and woodlands (Wagner et al., 2001). We have records from mesic, dry, and shoreline forests in the Piedmont and riparian, cove, and northern hardwood forests in the Mountains.

**FOOD:** Larvae are widely polyphagous, feeding on a large number of hardwood trees and shrubs as well as conifers. Wagner et al. (2001) specifically list fir (*Abies*), maple (*Acer*), alder (*Alnus*), birch (*Betula*), American Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*), bittersweet (*Celastrus*), Sweet-fern (*Comptonia peregrina*), ash (*Fraxinus*), laurel (*Kalmia*), larch (*Larix*), Sweet-gale (*Myrica gale*), Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), ninebark (*Physocarpus*), spruce (*Picea*), pine (*Pinus*), poplar (*Populus*), cherry (*Prunus*), oak (*Quercus*), willow (*Salix*), American Basswood (*Tilia americana*), hemlock (*Tsuga*), elm (*Ulmus*), and *Viburnum*. In spite of this being a relatively common species in the North Carolina mountains, we do not have any larval records.

**OBSERVATION METHODS:**

**NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:** G5 SNR [S4S5]

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

**COMMENTS:**