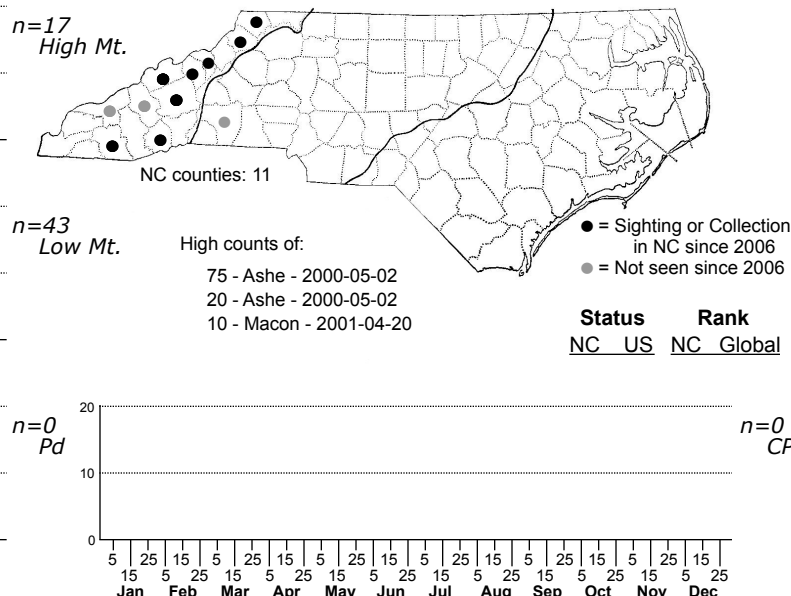
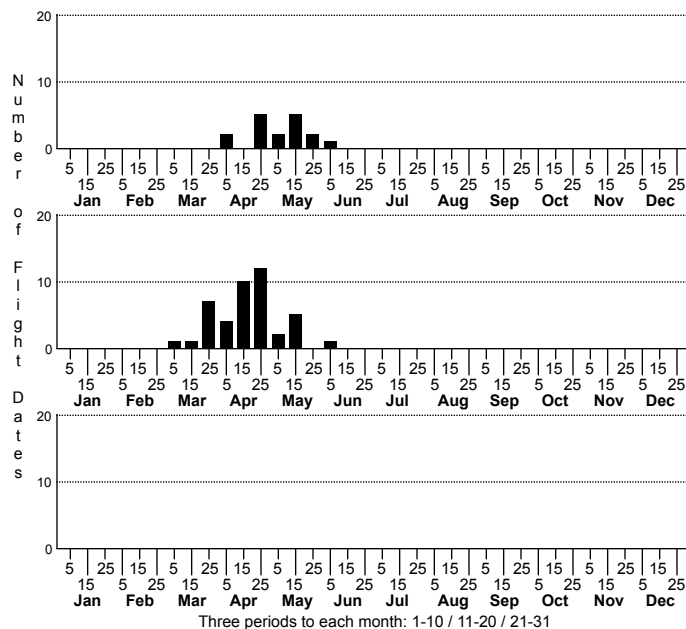


Cladara atroliturata Scribbler Moth



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Larentiinae TRIBE: Lobophorini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: This genus currently includes two species that are found in North America, with both occurring in North Carolina. *Cladara anguilineata* is a previously described species that has been a source of confusion with *C. limitaria* since it is very similar in external morphology. Recent studies indicate that the mtDNA variation and genitalic morphology of *C. anguilineata* is indistinguishable from that of *C. limitaria*, and it has since been considered to be a color form and junior synonym of *C. limitaria*.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1948)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Wagner et al. (2001)

ID COMMENTS: This beautiful species is on the wing in the early spring together with one other member of the genus. Its green and white ground color and bold black lines makes it unmistakable, but the color fades quickly in pinned specimens. Note the black spot on the thorax that help to distinguish it from *C. limitaria*.

DISTRIBUTION: No confirmed records in North Carolina outside the mountains.

FLIGHT COMMENT: One brood. The flight season is 3-4 weeks at a single location but by changing altitude it can be found for a longer period.

HABITAT: Our records all come from montane hardwood forests, including Cove Forests and Northern Hardwoods.

FOOD: Larvae are reportedly polyphagous, feeding on alder (*Alnus*), birch (*Betula*), maple (*Acer*), oak (*Quercus*), and willow (*Salix*) (Wagner et al., 2001). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The species comes readily to lights but not to baits.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S3S4]

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

COMMENTS: In general this is the least abundant of the three species although at higher altitudes it can be quite common.