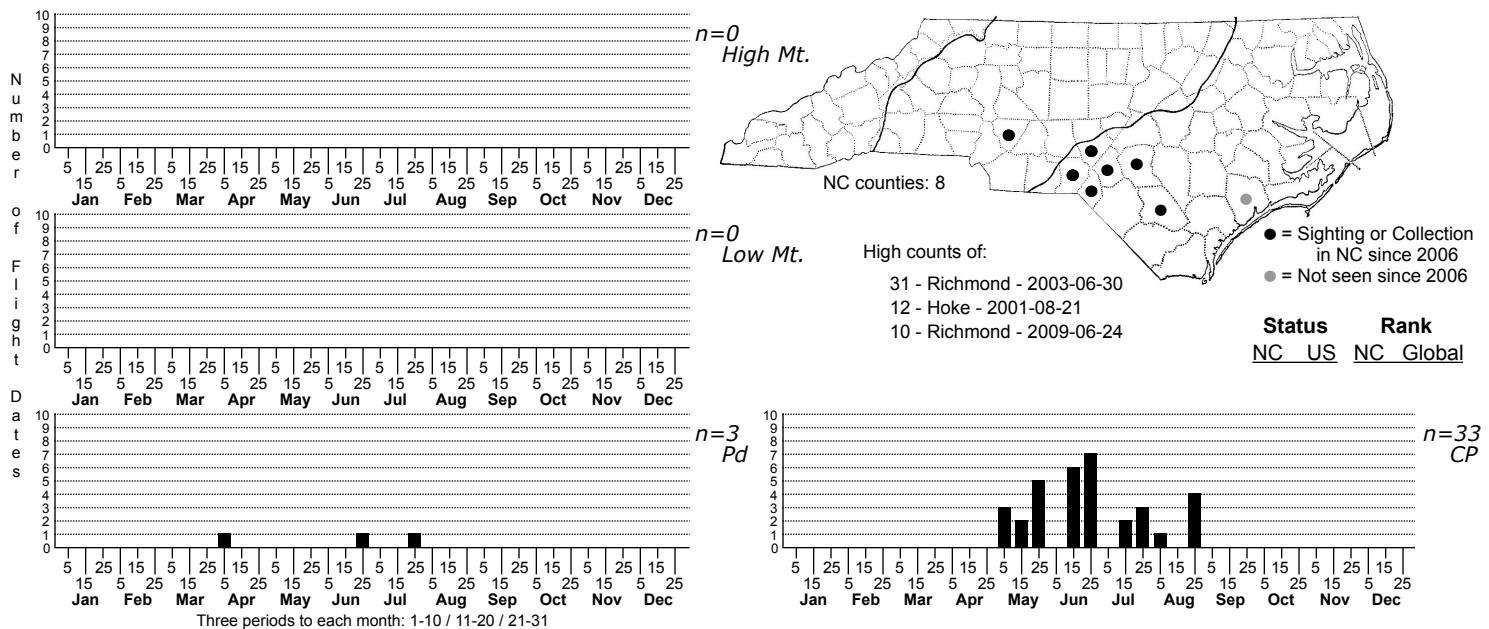


Hyperstrotia aetheria None



FAMILY: Erebidae SUBFAMILY: Phytometrinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of five species in this genus found in North America north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010, 2015), all of which have been recorded in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Grote (1897), Forbes (1954)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A small, white, black, and brown marked Graylet. The ground color is white to pale gray. The antemedian and postmedian lines are both pure white, narrow, and edged medially by black. A solid black spot is located on the costa just before the antemedian line and one or two small dark discal spots are present, along with a row of small black terminal spots. The median area is variably shaded with gray or brown, joining a darker patch that extends from the costa just before the apex to the postmedian line. Hindwings are fuscous (see Grote, 1897 and Forbes, 1954 for more details). Other members of this genus are similar in size and coloration but usually do not have solid, contrastingly black patches along the costa, although more diffuse gray patches may occur in the same location.

DISTRIBUTION: Most of our records come from the Fall-line Sandhills, with a few from the Outer Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: We have records from May to August.

HABITAT: Our records come primarily from Pine-Scrub Oak Sandhills, with a few from other types of dry oak woodlands. Most come from sites with loamy soils, supporting stands of Bluejack, scrubby Post Oak, and Blackjack Oaks. Records from Cabarrus County may be associated with Blackjack Oaks, but the moth has not been found in other areas in the Piedmont where that species occurs.

FOOD: Host plants are apparently undocumented but one of the more xerophytic oaks seems likely, including Blackjack, Bluejack, or scrubby Post Oak.

OBSERVATION METHODS: All of our records come from blacklight traps or sheets.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S3?

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to have a restricted geographic range in North Carolina and occupies a narrow range of habitats. Further information is needed on its host plants and its distribution within the Outer Coastal Plain before its conservation status can be accurately estimated.