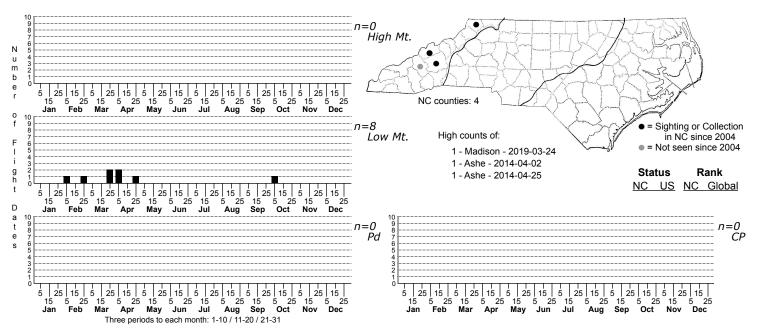
Pyreferra pettiti Pettit's Sallow



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Xylenini TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: ONLINE PHOTOS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, orange Noctuid. The antemedian, median, and postmedian lines are all brown and fairly straight; the antemedian is double-lined and filled with clear yellow. The postmedian runs obliquely and is followed by a series of gray dots or bars (Forbes, 1954). Hindwings are pale yellow. P. hesperidago is similar in pattern but has a more irregular antemedian line and usually lacks the dots following the postmedian (Forbes, 1954). The lines are also generally darker and stronger in hesperidago and the orbicular and reniform more prominent; the hindwings are also usually darker in hesperidago and often have a conspicuous postmedian shade that is missing in pettiti. The recently described P. slotteni is very similar to pettiti but its antemedian and median lines are usually straight rather than slightly waved as in pettiti (Troubridge, 2020).

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Monophagous, feeding on Hop-hornbeam (Ostyra virginiana). Reports of the use of birch (e.g., Forbes, 1954) are probably in error; larvae reared by Tim McCabe and Dale Schweitzer refused birch (Wagner et al., 2011).

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 S1S3

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

COMMENTS: