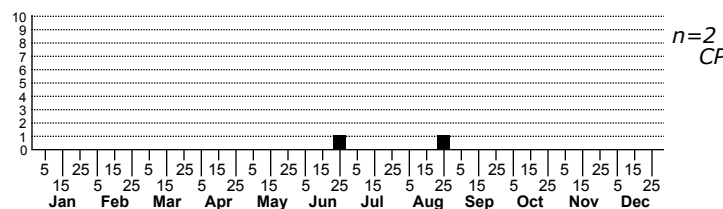
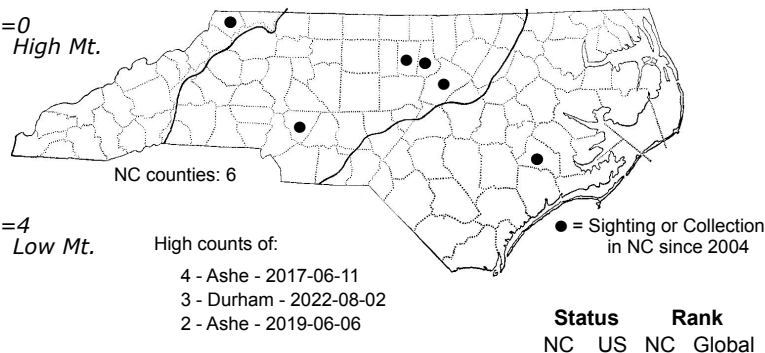
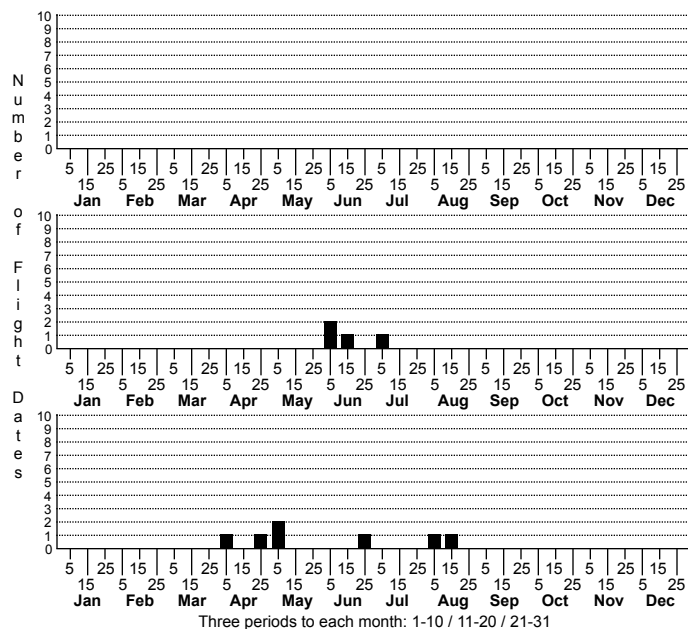


Nascia acutellus Streaked Orange Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE: Pyraustini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: BOLD has three BINS, with specimens from the southern Appalachians and coastal North Carolina being genetically distinct from those in the remainder of the range.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1976)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This species has a triangular forewing that varies from light yellow to orange or brown. The most distinctive feature is a series of broad, longitudinal, brown to reddish-brown streaks along the veins. A rather wide brownish terminal line is usually evident, and the fringe is paler than the ground color. The hindwing is much lighter than the forewing and varies from very light brown to light brownish-yellow or pale white. A brownish terminal line is present and streaking along the veins is either absent or greatly reduced relative to that of the forewings.

DISTRIBUTION: *Nascia acutellus* is restricted to eastern North America where it occurs in southern Canada (Winnipeg; Ontario; Quebec; New Brunswick; Nova Scotia) and in much of the eastern U.S. The range in the U.S. extends from Maine southward to Florida, and westward to central Texas, eastern Oklahoma, eastern Nebraska and Minnesota. Populations are common in the northern half of the range and are more scattered farther south. As of 2023, we have only five site records that range from the Blue Ridge to the Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from February through October in different areas of the range, with a seasonal peak from May through August. As of 2023, our records extend from early May through early July.

HABITAT: This species is common in grassy marshes in the Northeast (Munroe, 1976). Our limited records are mostly associated with wetlands, including a mountain bog in Ashe Co. and wetlands in the Piedmont where grasses and sedges are well represented.

FOOD: The larval hosts are unknown but are probably sedges (Munroe, 1976). A closely related species in Europe (*N. ciliaris*) specializes on sedges, including species of *Carex* and *Cladium*.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: This species appears to come well to blacklights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR [S2S4]

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

COMMENTS: We have only five site records for the state as of 2023. Additional information is needed on habitat requirements, feeding ecology, distribution and abundance before we can accurately assess the conservation status of this species.