

## Coleophora unidentified species No common name

FAMILY: Coleophoridae SUBFAMILY: Coleophorinae TRIBE: [Coleophorini]

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: The genus <i>Coleophora</i> contains a large number of very small moths that have been taxonomically challenging for experts. There are many undescribed species in North America, and several sibling species complexes that are taxonomically difficult. Dissections of genitalia are required to identify most species. The shape and size of the larval cases and host plants help to narrow down choices, particularly when combined with rearing.

Jean-Francois Landry, who is an authority on the group, communicated the following to us: "Identifying Coleophora from external aspect is usually unwarranted, save for a few exceptions. Categories like white-winged and brown-streaked may be useful at a general level but not much beyond. Larval cases and host plants are very useful. Genitalia must be examined to recognize the majority of species. Moreover, specific differences are often subtle so high-quality dissections are necessary in which delicate membranous structures are preserved intact. Rearing adults from feeding larval cases, although oftentimes arduous, provides the best source of information. The taxonomy of Nearctic species remains largely unresolved, the number of undescribed species being at least three times that of named ones." Coleophora species frequently occur at UV-lights and we have numerous records that currently cannot be placed beyond the genus level. Some of these are undoubtedly undescribed species.

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

ID COMMENTS:

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD:

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: