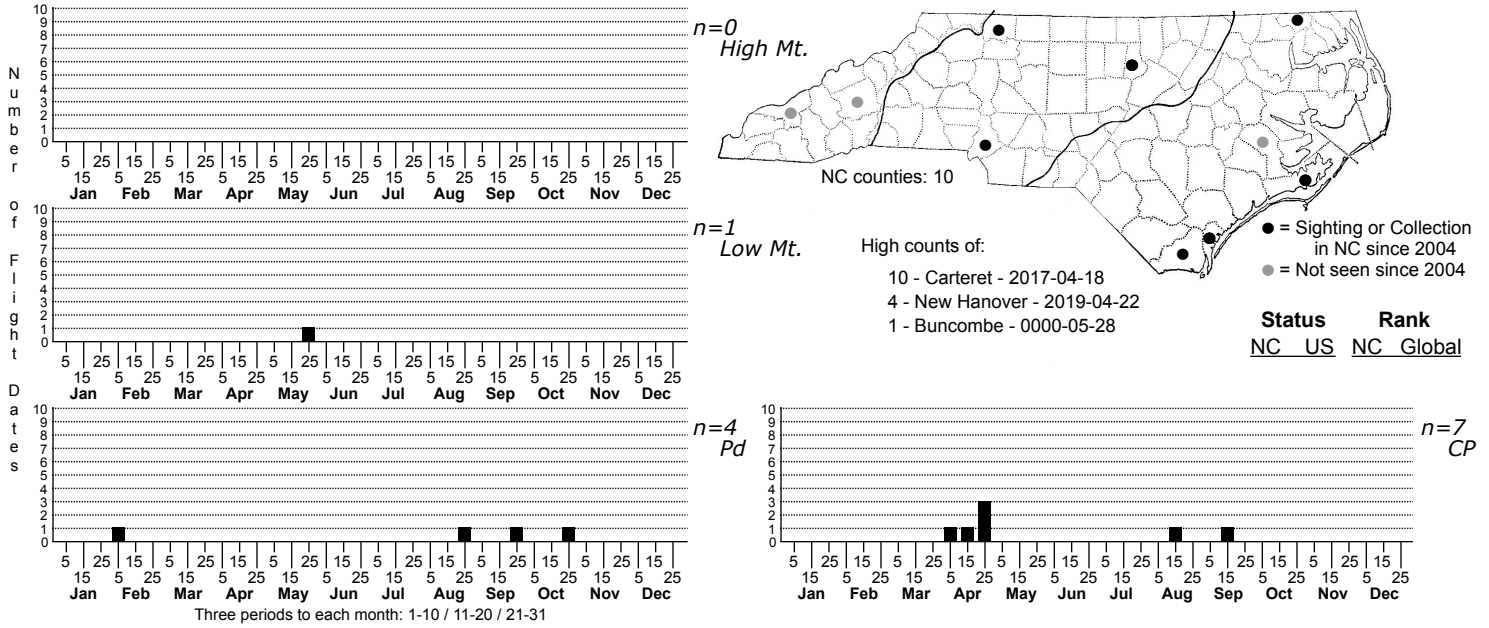


*Araneus miniatus* Black-spotted Orbweaver



ORDER:ARANEAE INFRAORDER:Araneomorphae  
 FAMILY:Araneidae

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: In erecting Amamrotypus as a new genus in 1954, Allan Archer had named a fairly obscure Arizona species *Am. miniatus*.

In 1973, Levi synonymized that genus with *Araneus*, which already included *Ar. miniatus*. This resulted in a proscribed homonym, whereby two different species would have ended up with the very same name: *Araneus miniatus*.

As Archer had named his species in 1954, while Walckenaer had named the other species (*Epeira*) *miniata* in 1841, the latter had priority, and the former, *Amamrotypus*, species needed a new specific epithet.

Thus, the name *Araneus allani* was duly assigned by Levi who pointed out that he had named it after its original author, Allan Archer.

DISTRIBUTION\_COMMENTS: Statewide in North Carolina. Occurs in eastern United States, New England to Florida and west to Texas. Adults early spring to early summer.

HABITAT: Open and swampy woods, pines, scrub oaks, southern hammocks, maritime forests and barrier islands.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Visual observation, at night in web or in retreats during the day.