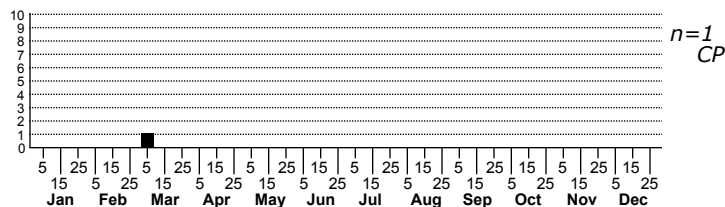
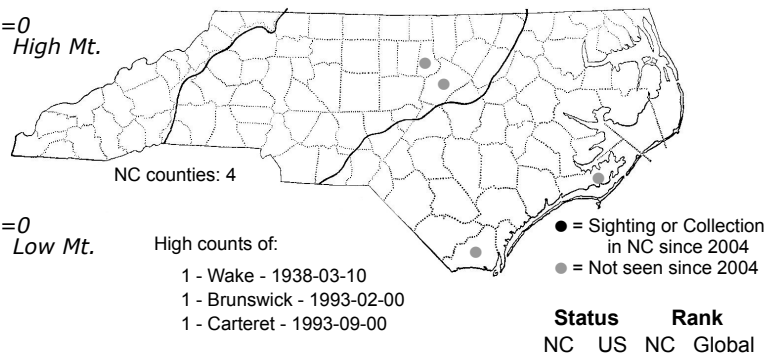
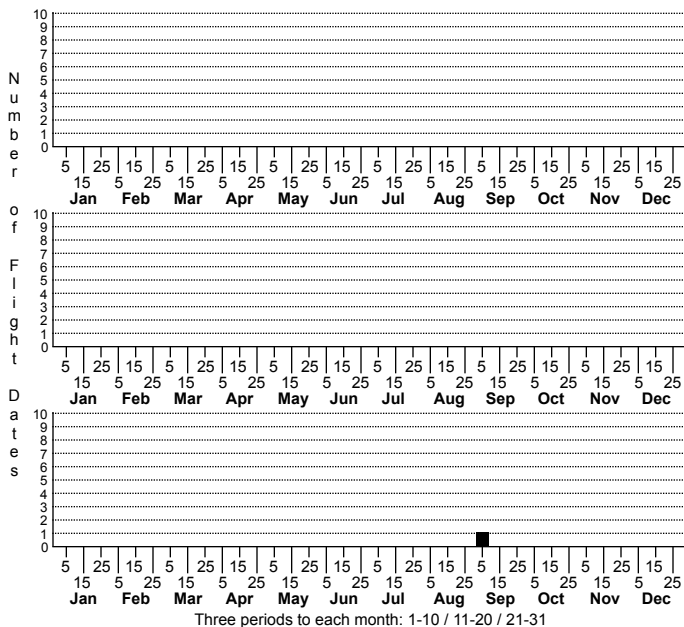


### *Centruroides hentzi* Hentz Striped Scorpion



ORDER:SCORPIONES

FAMILY:Buthidae

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: One of 47 species in this completely New World genus (Fet and Graeme, 2000; Valdez-Cruz et al., 2004). Four species occur in North America north of Mexico - three in the East -- and two have been recorded in North Carolina.

FLD\_GUIDE\_DESCRIPTIONS: Evans (2008)

ONLINE\_PHOTOS: BugGuide

DISTRIBUTION\_COMMENTS: Records come only from the eastern Piedmont and Coastal Plain but probably represent individuals that were accidentally imported and could show up anywhere in the state.

HABITAT: Observations of this species are all from buildings or developed areas

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: All North Carolina observations represent random encounters with accidentally introduced individuals. As in other scorpions, they are highly fluorescent and can be easily detected at night using blacklights. As a poisonous species, it should be collected carefully. Although capable of producing a painful sting, it is apparently not dangerous to humans, at least those that do not have allergic reactions to the venom (Shelley, 1994).

NHP\_RANKS: [GNR] [SNA]

STATE\_PROTECTION: Arachnids are not protected by state laws in North Carolina and as an introduced species, it is not of any conservation concern.

STATUS\_COMMENTS: This species is a widespread, resident species in Florida and parts of adjoining Georgia and Alabama but observations further north all probably represent accidental introductions, perhaps from propagated palm trees from Florida (Shelley, 1994). With warming temperatures, there is a good chance that it could become established north of its current range, although as long as cold winters persist, populations out in the wild are unlikely to survive.