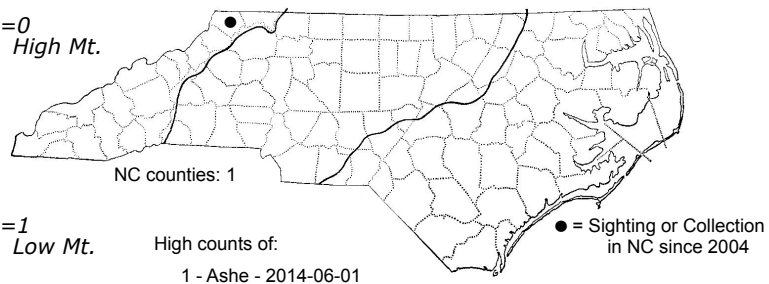
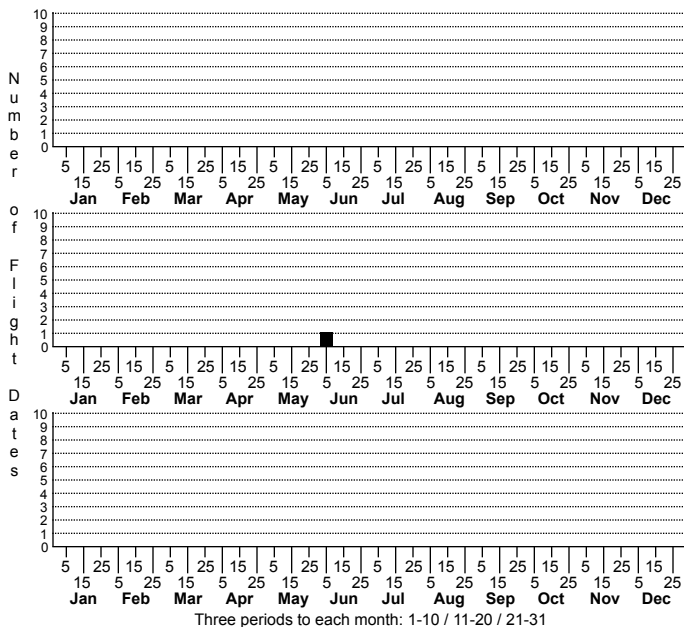


# *Anarta trifolii* Nutmeg Moth



Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global

FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Hadenini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: A large genus of somewhat uncertain composition which has undergone numerous taxonomic changes in recent years. Primarily Holarctic in distribution, there are 23 species in North America, almost exclusively Western, but one species ventures into the east and into North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984; as *Discestra trifolii*); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954), as *Scotogramma trifolii*

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Forbes (1954); Wagner et al. (2011)

ID COMMENTS: This species looks very much like a number of medium sized brown noctuids, particularly *Homorthodes*. The yellowish zigzag subterminal line is a good character not found in similar species.

DISTRIBUTION: At present known from a single record in Ashe County. It is likely that its range is expanding.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The species is multiple brooded and it is likely additional records will become known.

HABITAT: Found in open fields and agricultural settings as well as woodland edges. Our one record is consistent with that description.

FOOD: Wagner et al. (2011) indicate that it is a general forb feeder but will utilize elm and poplar as well. Many agricultural crops are attacked. Covell (1984) specifically lists cabbage, clover, and lettuce. We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Adults readily come to light and bait and probably come to flowers although we could find no records of this activity.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 [SU]

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

COMMENTS: Although this species is widely distributed and makes use of common habitats, its status as a resident species in North Carolina needs to be determined.