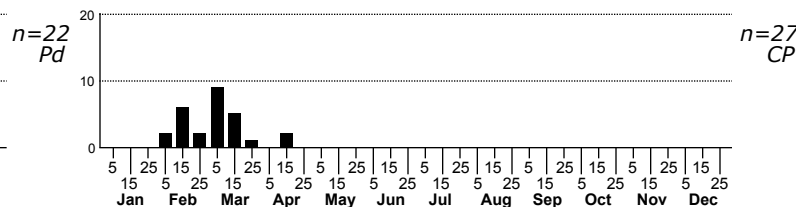
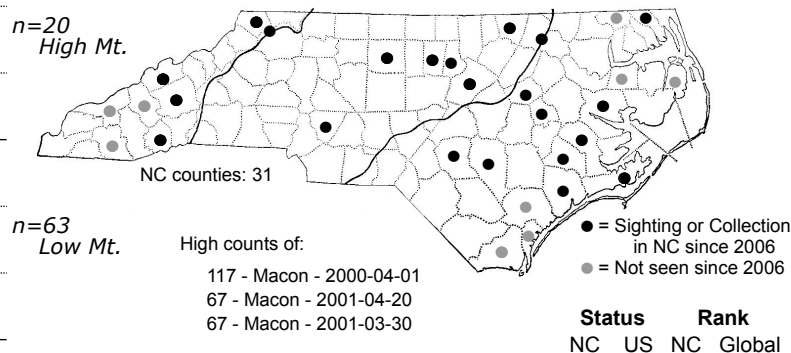
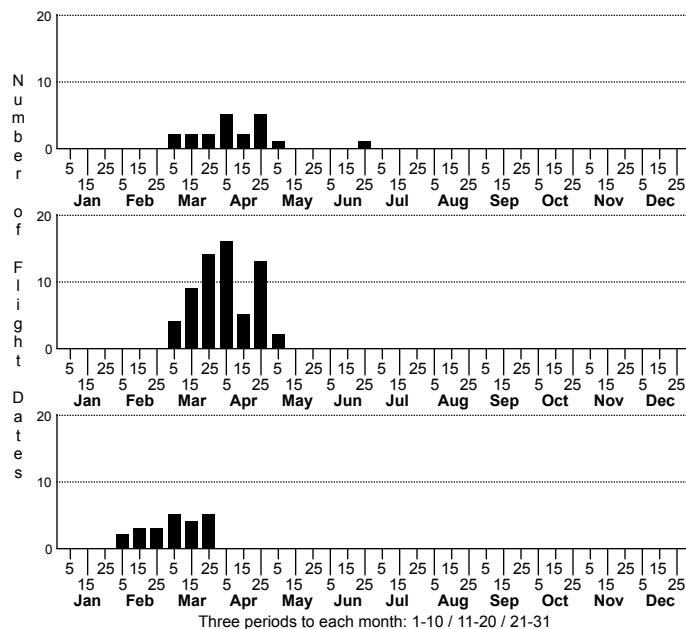


Orthosia hibisci Speckled Green Fruitworm Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Orthosiini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 22 species (two others provisional) that occur in this genus north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 210); five have been recorded in North Carolina

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Very similar in coloration and patterning to alurina but usually has a continuous and distinct pale subterminal preceded by dark bars (Forbes, 1954).

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Our records come from all types of hardwood forests across the state, from maritime forest on the barrier islands to northern hardwoods on the tops of our highest peaks.

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous, feeding on both hardwoods, conifers, and shrubs. Wagner et al. (2011) specifically list maple (<i>Acer</i>), birch (<i>Betula</i>), Autumn Olive (<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>), ash (<i>Fraxinus</i>), larch (<i>Larix</i>), apple (<i>Malus</i>), spruce (<i>Picea</i>), poplar (<i>Populus</i>), cherry (<i>Prunus</i>), oak (<i>Quercus</i>), currant (<i>Ribes</i>), willow (<i>Salix</i>), and elm (<i>Ulmus</i>). In North Carolina, larvae have been recorded feeding on Great Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>), Southern Red Oak (<i>Quercus falcata</i>), cherry, River Birch (<i>Betula nigra</i>), Smooth Blackhaw (<i>Viburnum prunifolium</i>), and Red Maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>).

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S4S5]

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

COMMENTS: