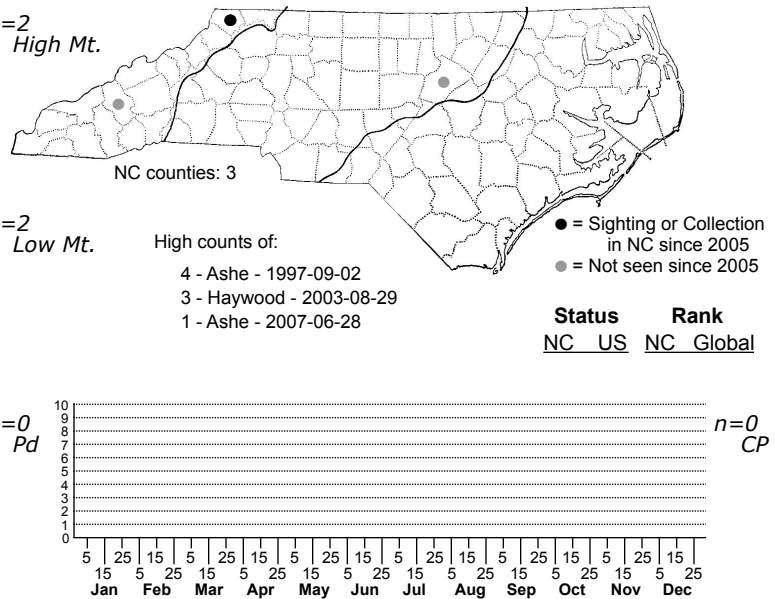
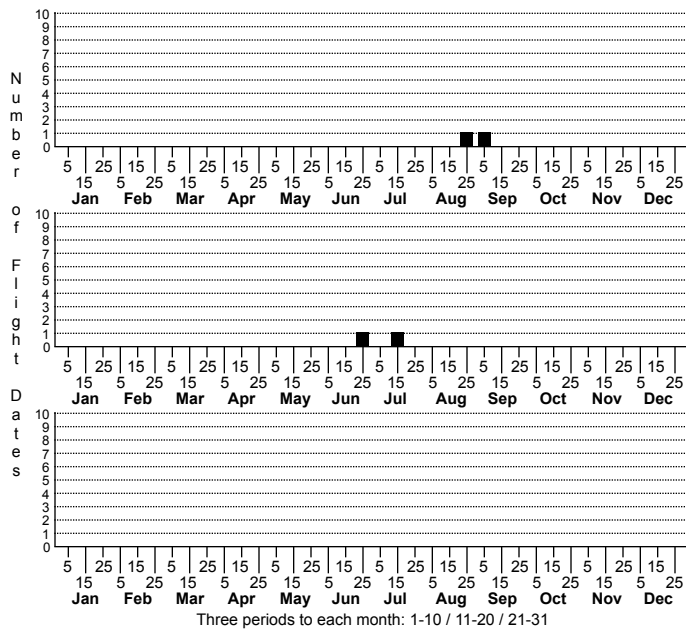


## *Euxoa messoria* Reaper Dart



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Noctuini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: One of 181 species that occur in North America north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010). Most are Western but 13 have been recorded in North Carolina. *Euxoa messoria* belongs to subgenus *Longivesica* (Lafontaine, 1987), which contains three other species, none of which has been recorded in North Carolina.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Lafontaine (1987)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Can be confused with *E. inmixta* and *E. scholastica*; distinguishable by genitalia (Lafontaine, 1987).

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous, feeding on many species of agricultural importance. Wagner et al. (2011) specifically list Garden Onion (*Allium cepa*), Turnip (*Brassica rapa*), strawberry (*Fragaria*), Sweet Potato (*Ipomoea batatas*), Garden Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*), apple (*Malus*), Cultivated Tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*), Garden Pea (*Pisum sativum*), Peach (*Prunus persica*), Garden Radish (*Raphanus sativus*), currant (*Ribes*), Garden Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*), clover (*Trifolium*), grape (*Vitis*), and Corn (*Zea mays*).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S1S2]

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

COMMENTS: