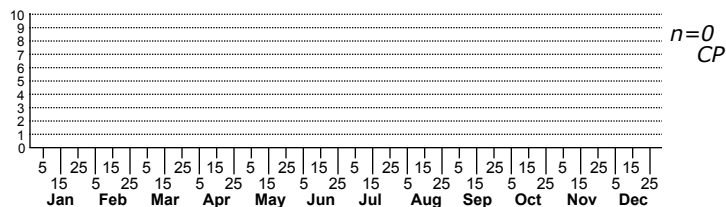
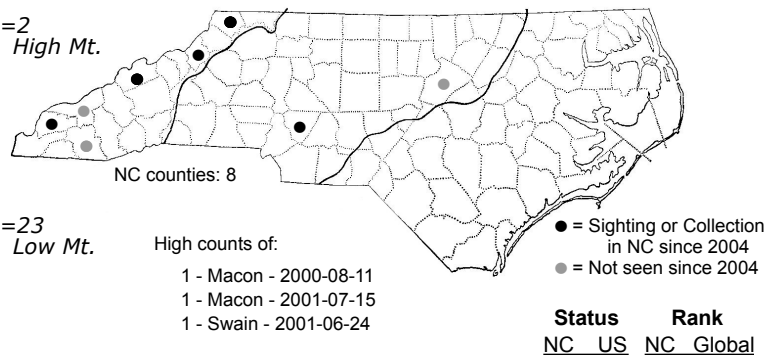
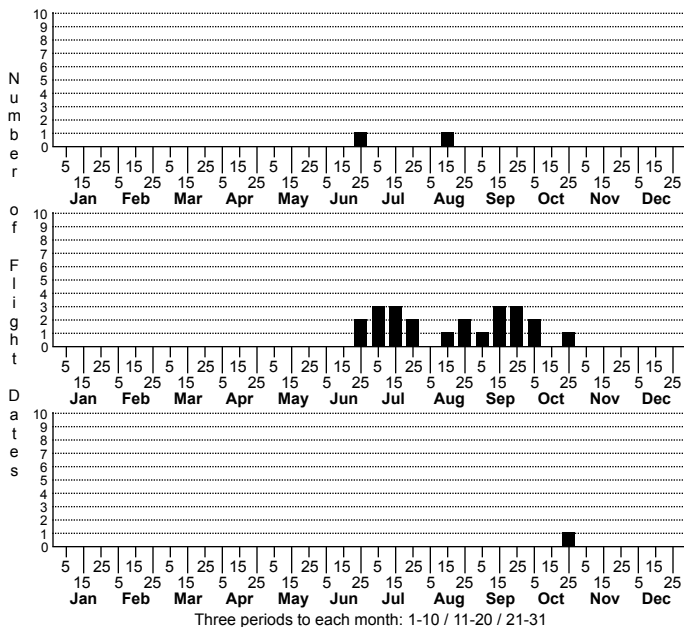


*Abagrotis anchocelioides* Blueberry Budworm Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Noctuini  
 TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, dull reddish-brown Dart. The head, thorax, and ground color of the forewings are all reddish-fuscous with an iridescent crimson sheen in some lights (Forbes, 1954). The antemedian and postmedian lines are double, with the postmedian followed by a series of pale points. The subterminal line is continuous and somewhat waved, followed by a pale but not strongly contrasting terminal area. The orbicular and reniform are dark brown and surrounded by a contrasting luteous outline; they are both smaller than the space that separates them.

<i>Abagrotis alternata</i> can be similar, but has much larger spots and often has a subterminal line that is interrupted on the veins or consisting of separated dots. The subterminal is usually highly irregular in <i>alternata</i> and the pale terminal space typically strongly contrasts with the rest of the wing; there is often a strong outward bulge about 1/4 below the apex in <i>alternata</i>, but is rarely present in <i>anchocelioides</i> or is much less prominent (J.B. Sullivan, pers. obs.). According to Lafontaine (1998), the second segment of the labial palpus is unicolorous reddish-brown, whereas in <i>alternata</i>, the apex is yellow-buff, contrasting with the reddish-brown sides.

DISTRIBUTION: Nearly all of our records come from lower elevations in the mountains.

FLIGHT COMMENT: <i>A. anchocelioides</i> is basically a June-July species and <i>alternata</i> is uncommon at that time but abundant in the fall (J.B. Sullivan, pers. obs.)

HABITAT:

FOOD: Blueberry (<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>) is listed by the HOSTS database (Robinson et al., 2010), but this host requires confirmation.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

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

COMMENTS: