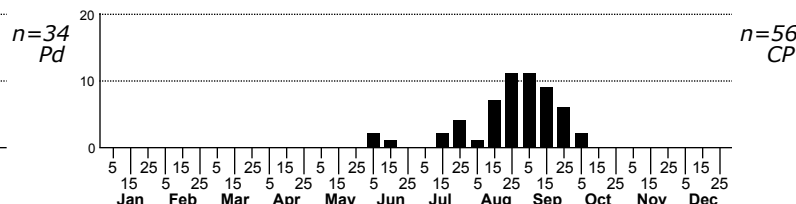
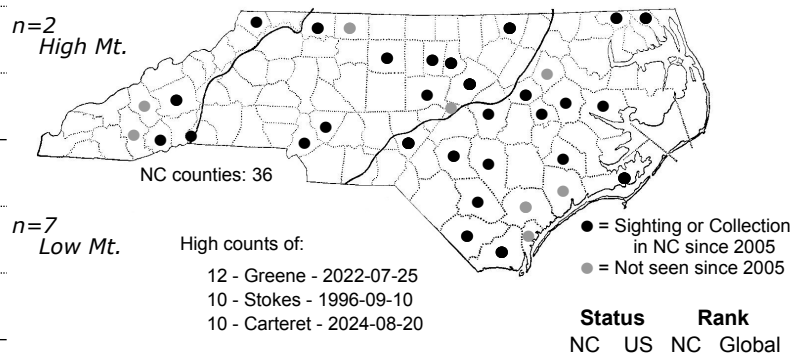
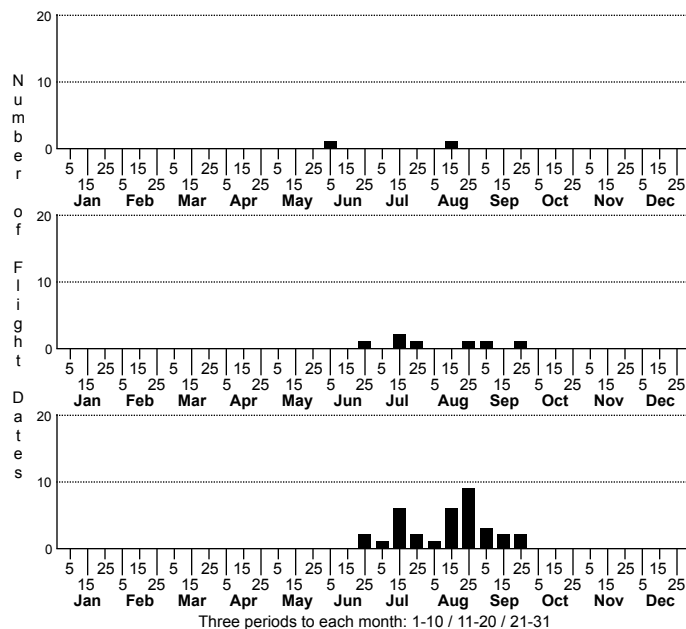


# *Chloridea virescens* Tobacco Budworm Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Heliothinae TRIBE:  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Chloridea virescens* and *subflexa* are similar in color and in having three straight lines running across the forewings. The hindwings provide the clearest way to separate the two: both have white hindwings, but *virescens* has a strong blackish or reddish margin, whereas *subflexa* has only a faint gray marginal band, if any. BugGuide also suggests that rusty coloring on the forelegs is characteristic of *virescens*, which appears to be true for at least some individuals but examination of specimens in our collection does not indicate a complete correlation between foreleg color and hindwing color and pattern (J.B. Sullivan, pers. obs.). We continue to recommend that photographs be submitted that show at least a portion of the outer margin of the hindwings.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous, feeding on a wide range of plants, including many crop species. Wagner (2005) specifically lists soybean, cotton, tobacco, geranium, ground-cherry, and rose. In North Carolina, larvae have been observed on Indian Jointvetch (*Aeschynomene indica*), Catnip (*Nepeta cataria*), Cultivated Tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*), beardtongue (*Penstemon* sp.), coneflower (*Rudbeckia* sp.), Sicklepod (*Senna obtusifolia*), Hairy Leafcup (*Smallanthus uvedalia*), Purple False Foxglove (*Agalinis purpurea*), *Silphium*, and Garden Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*).

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: