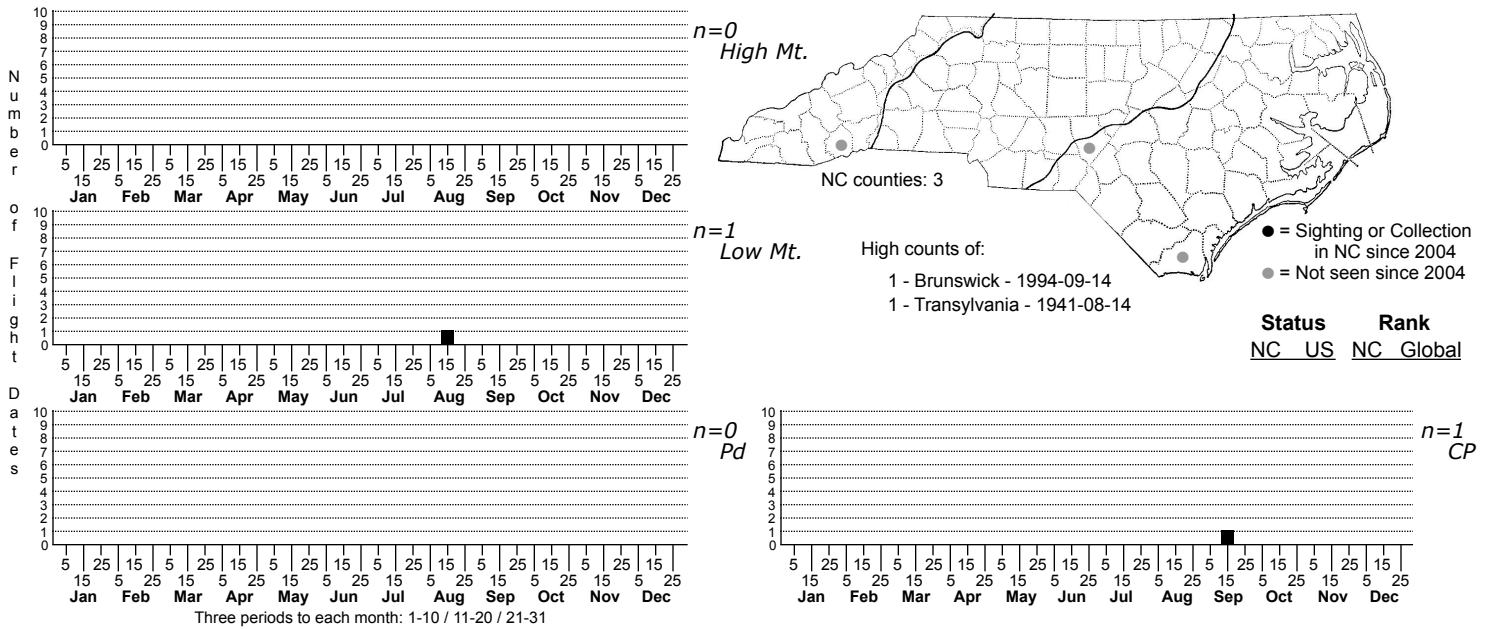


## *Schinia bina* Bina Flower Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Heliiothinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 126 species in this genus that occur in North America (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010, 2011), the majority of which occur in the West; 25 have been recorded in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954); Hardwick (1996)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized Flower Moth, shaded with olive on the thorax and terminal area of the forewing; often with rose or pink in the median area and darker purple in the basal area and on the head (not evident in our specimens). The antemedian is often white and dentate; the postmedian is similar but more weakly developed and sometimes bordered by a dark olive subterminal shade. The hindwings are black with two yellow spots; sometimes with a spot or bar on the margin. On the under-surface of the hindwing, the costa is light yellow but crossed by a rusty or rose postmedian band; the base may also be rusty (Forbes, 1954).

DISTRIBUTION: Scattered records exist from the Mountains to the Coastal Plain

FLIGHT COMMENT: Probably univoltine, with adults flying in September

HABITAT: Our sole recent record comes from a dredge-spoil disposal area located in the lower Cape Fear River estuary.

FOOD: Oligophagous, feeding on several species of Composites. Wagner et al. (2011) list the following species that occur in the North Carolina Coastal Plain: Smallflower Hawksbeard (*Crepis pulchra*), Blanket-flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*), Beaked Hawkweed (*Hieracium gronovii*), and Skunk-daisy (*Verbesina encelioides*).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: We have too few records to determine how well adults come to blacklights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G4 SH

STATE PROTECTION: Listed as Significantly Rare by the Natural Heritage Program. That designation, however, does not confer any legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: Although we have very few records for this species, neither host plants nor habitats appear to be limiting factors. Too little is known about this species in North Carolina to assess its conservation status. More information is needed on its host plants, habitat associations, and permanence of its populations.