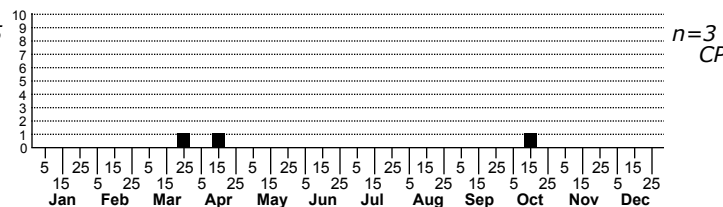
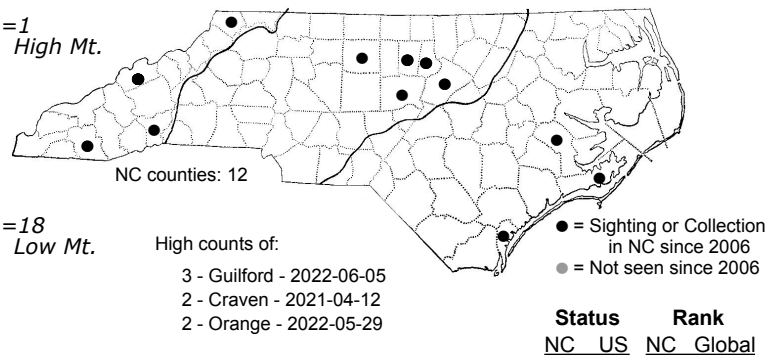
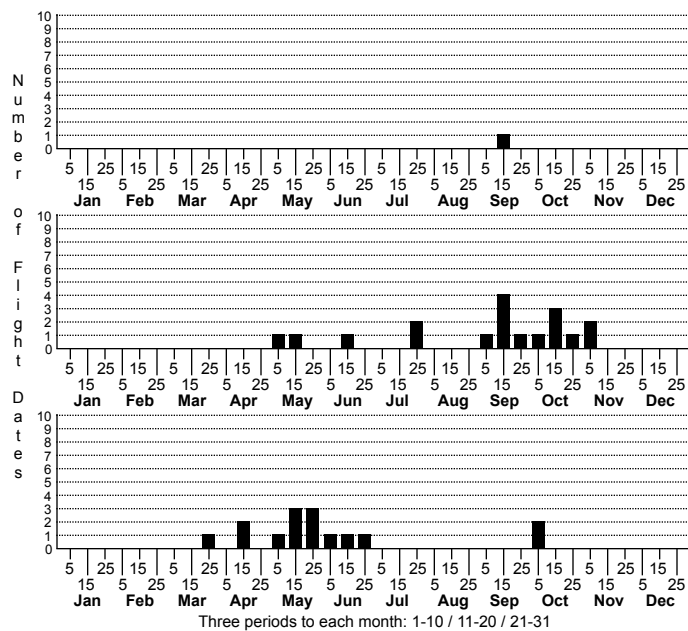


## *Perimede erransella* Gray Perimede



FAMILY: Cosmopterigidae SUBFAMILY: Chrysopeleiinae TRIBE: [Chrysopeleiini]  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

### FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

### ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hodges (1978)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Perimede* species in eastern North America are very similar and are often best identified by using genitalia and other structural features. The following description is based on that of Hodges (1962b). The labial palps, antennae and thorax are all dark fuscous-brown. The forewing is also predominantly dark fuscous-brown, with four relatively large black spots that are preceded by a few white scales. These are found at one-third the wing length on the fold, at one-half the wing length on the middle of wing, at two-thirds the wing length on the middle of wing, and a relatively large one at the apex. A few white scales are often present in the apical cilia around the black spot, and a small white costal spot is often evident at three-fourths the wing length. North Carolina specimens commonly have a row of two or three small spots of white scales that extend from the apical black spot towards the tornus. The cilia are dark fuscous-brown apically and often a shade or two paler at the base. The hindwing is dark fuscous-brown, with a pale-fuscous fringe. This species usually rest in a headstand position with the rear legs hidden.

*Perimede ricina* is very similar and often requires dissection for a positive identification. In North Carolina specimens, *P. ricina* tends to be a shade lighter in overall coloration, and often has both a costal and a dorsal patch of white scales at three-fourths the wing length (versus only a costal patch for *P. erransella*). The former also often has a row of two or three small spots of white scales that extend from the apical black spot towards both the tornus and the costa (versus only towards the tornus in *P. erransella*). These features are often reduced or missing in specimens, which hampers identification based on photographs alone.

DISTRIBUTION: *Perimede erransella* is found throughout much of the eastern US and in adjoining areas of southern Canada (Ontario; Quebec; New Brunswick; Nova Scotia). In the US the range extends from Maine to southern Florida, and westward to eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota. This species occurs in all three physiographic provinces of North Carolina, from barrier islands to mesic forests in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: As of 2025, our records extend from late-March through early-November.

HABITAT: Local populations are associated with deciduous forests, and primarily mesic to hydric communities. Most of our records are from semi-wooded residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The larvae appear to feed on the foliage of hardwood trees (Hodges (1978, 1962b; Heppner, 2007; Eiseman, 2022). The reported hosts include Mockernut Hickory (*Carya tomentosa*), Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Scarlet Oak (*Quercus coccinea*), Black Oak (*Q. velutina*) and other oaks, Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*) and elms (*Ulmus* spp.). As of 2025, we do not have any host records for North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

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: