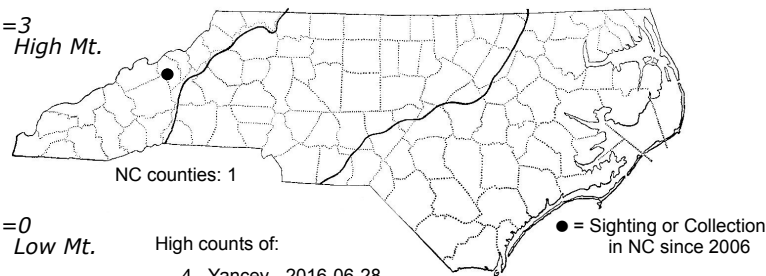
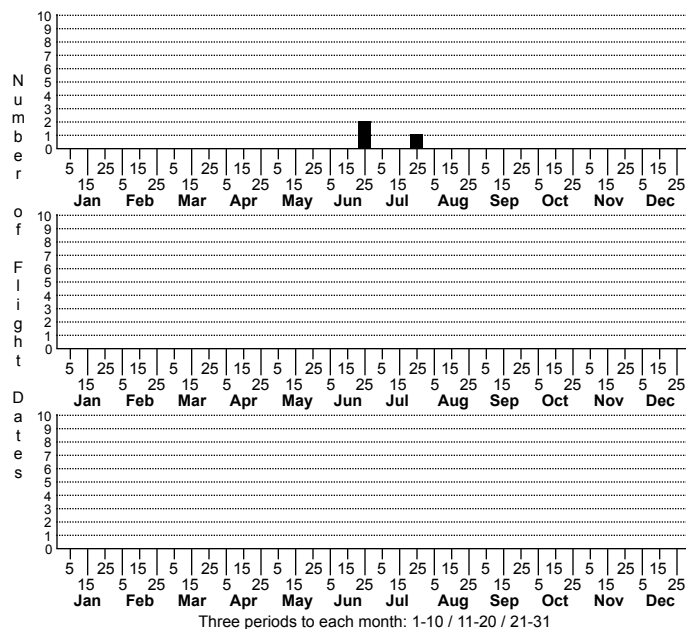


Enchrysa dissectella Orange-crescent Moth



High counts of:
 4 - Yancey - 2016-06-28
 1 - Yancey - 2020-07-26
 1 - Yancey - 2016-06-29

Status Rank
 NC US NC Global

FAMILY: Gelechiidae SUBFAMILY: Anomologinae TRIBE:
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is a very distinctive species with a dark bronzy brown ground color and a curved orange patch on the dorsal half. The following detailed description is based on descriptions by Kearfott (1905, as *Aristotelia youngella*) and Forbes (1923). The head, antenna, labial palp, thorax, basal half of the forewing, abdomen and legs all have a shining iridescent green hue, but may appear darker depending on the angle of the light. The labial palps are entirely smooth, strongly divergent, and terminate above the head near the thorax. The antenna is dark brown, except for a white tip on the apical fourth. The basal half of the forewing and the outer half along the costa are dark brown to blackish-brown and overlaid with iridescent green, particularly on the basal half. The dark basal half is often outwardly margined by the black ground color owing to the absence of iridescent scales in this region. It abuts a vertical yellow to whitish line that extends across the wing. The apical half of the forewing has a conspicuous, crescent-shaped orange mark that begins at the whitish line at mid-wing. From there it progressively narrows along the dorsal margin before curving back towards the apex. The remainder of the wing is dark brown. The hindwing and cilia of both wings are dark brown.

DISTRIBUTION: *Enchrysa dissectella* is found in eastern North America, and primarily at northern latitudes. The range extends from the New England states and adjoining areas of Canada (Ontario; Quebec; Nova Scotia) to New York, Ohio, West Virginia, and North Carolina. There is one disjunct record from British Columbia (Pohl et al. 2018). As of 2021, our records are all from Mt. Mitchell. The population there appears to be a southern disjunct, with the nearest known population from West Virginia.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults have been observed from June through August, with a seasonal peak in July. As of 2021, our records are from 28 June and 26 July.

HABITAT: The host plants have not been reported. Our populations are all from Mt. Mitchell, but the specific habitats that were used were not reported by observers.

FOOD: The host plants are unknown.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults appear to be only weakly attracted to lights. They are diurnal and can be observed resting on vegetation.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S1S2

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: As of 2021, our only known records are from Mt. Mitchell where this population may be at risk from climate change.