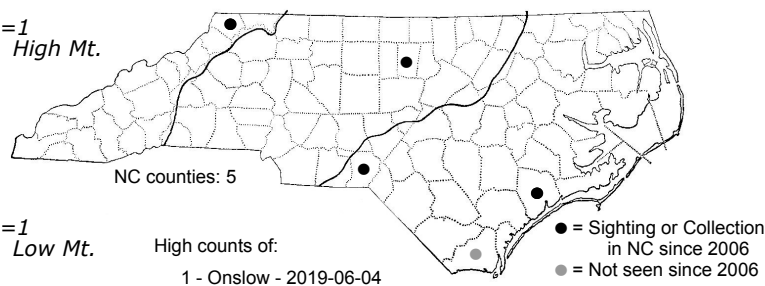
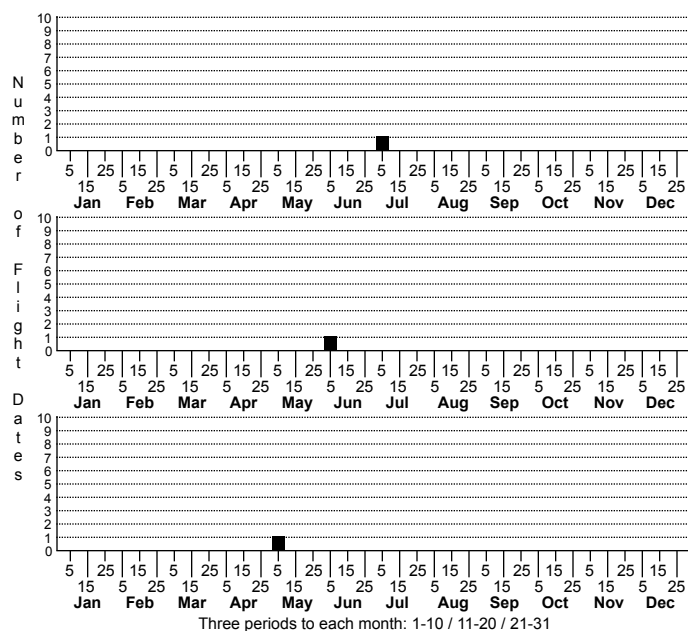
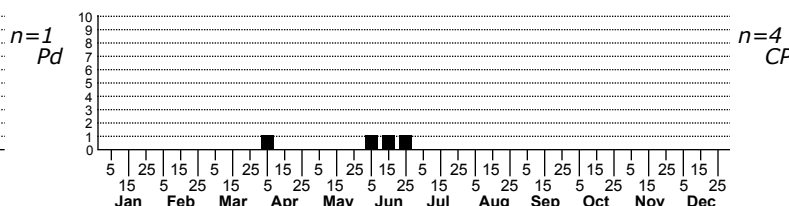


## *Deltophora sella* Black-spotted Twirler



Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global



FAMILY: Gelechiidae SUBFAMILY: Anomologinae TRIBE:  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Sattler (1979)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The head is yellowish white and sometimes has a wide longitudinal brownish streak on the vertex. The labial palp is pale yellowish and the third joint has a dark brown band at the tip and around the middle that is sometimes faint or missing. The thorax and forewing ground color are dull white to pale yellowing gray, with varying levels of darker dusting. The forewing has three conspicuous dark brown marks: a short, elongated spot on the fold at about one-fifth, a larger, irregular blotch immediately behind it just before one-half, and a black dot at about three-fourths. The last two often have a thin of pale scales along their margins. A faint whitish costal spot is often evident at three-fourths. The hindwing and cilia vary from yellowish brown to gray, and the legs are brown with pale annulations.

DISTRIBUTION: *Deltophora sella* is found from Ontario, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, southward to Georgia and northern Florida, and westward to central Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Illinois. Populations appear to be absent or rare in most of the Piedmont and Coastal Plain from Virginia south to northern Florida. As of 2021, we have records from both the eastern Coastal Plain and a bog complex in the mountains.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been collected during almost every month of the year in Florida and at other southern locales, and mostly between April and August at more northern latitudes. As of 2021, we only have two dated records, and both are from June.

HABITAT: The preferred habitats are poorly documented.

FOOD: The host plants are unknown.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SU

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be uncommon in the state, but more information is need on its preferred habitats, distribution, and abundance before we can assess its conservation status.