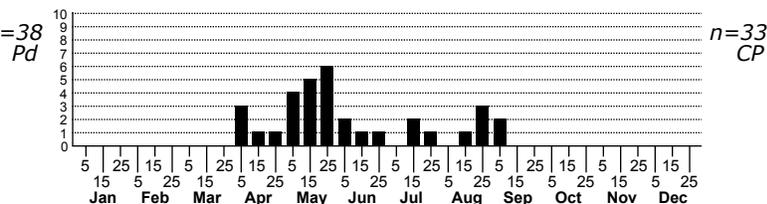
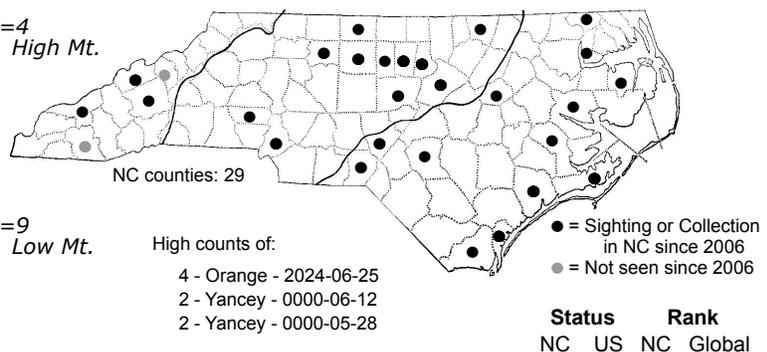
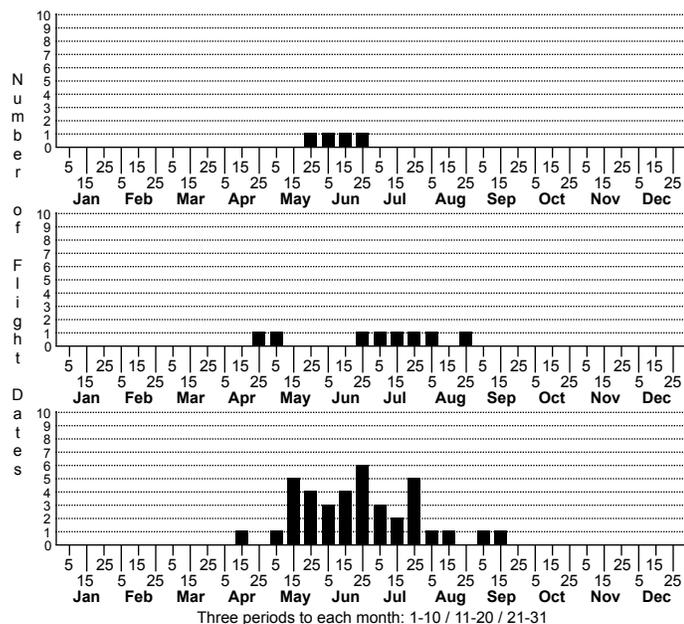


Diploschizia impigritella Yellow Nutsedge Moth



FAMILY: Glyphipterigidae SUBFAMILY: Glyphipteriginae TRIBE: [Glyphipterigini]
 TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)
 ONLINE PHOTOS:
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Heppner (1985)
 TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Diploschizia impigritella* is a very small brownish moth with a large, narrow, white crescent on the dorsal margin of the forewing, and five white streaks on the apical third of the costa. The following detailed description is based on that of Heppner (1981). The labial palp is white dorsally, with the venter white except for a medial brown line from the middle of the second segment to the apex of the third segment. The head is fuscous with a reduced white line near the antennal base. The antenna is fuscous dorsally, while the thorax and patagia are fuscous. The forewing has a fuscous ground color that is overlain with yellow-buff on the apical half, except for fuscous borders along all of the streaks and other markings. The dorsal margin has a large white crescent from the basal one-third to the midwing, with the point directed towards the apex. The costal margin has five white bars from near the middle of the wing to the apex, with the basal mark the longest and projecting obliquely to the center of the wing. The other marks tend to be triangular costal spots, and terminate with a silver line or have a detached silvery spot towards the outer margin. All of the costal streaks are more-or-less thinly margined with dark-brown scales. The apex has a black spot and there is a large dark-brown area mid-apically. The fringe is light-brown with a broad, silvery-brown band at the base and a whitish spot near the falcate indention near the middle. The tornus has a silvery spot, and the legs are fuscous with white at the joints. The hindwing and fringe are both fuscous.

Diploschizia lanista can be confused with *D. impigritella*, but it has four white streaks on the costa instead of five as seen on *D. impigritella* (Heppner, 1985). The site of collection is also helpful since *D. lanista* is only known from the Sandhills, while *D. impigritella* is found statewide.

DISTRIBUTION: *Diploschizia impigritella* is a common species that is widely distributed across North America. It occurs across most of southern Canada from British Columbia to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and in the western US from Washington southward to central California. Scattered records are also known from the Rocky Mountains from Idaho and Montana southward to Colorado and New Mexico. This species is widespread in the eastern US, with the range spanning from Minnesota southward to central and western Texas and eastward from southern Florida to Maine. This species occurs statewide in North Carolina, but is relatively uncommon in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly during the warmer months of the year and are generally inactive from November through February. Peak seasonal activity is typically from May through August depending on the latitude. As of 2025, our records are from mid-April through mid-September. Local populations in North Carolina appear to produce two or three overlapping broods annually depending on the location.

HABITAT: The two known hosts are common in disturbed habitats, and we have numerous records from residential neighborhoods and other fragmented and disturbed landscapes. We also have records from natural communities such as coastal dunes and fire-maintained communities in the Sandhills.

FOOD: Larvae reportedly feed on nutsedges (*Cyperus* spp.), including Yellow Nutsedge (*C. esculentus*) and Purple Nutsedge (*C. rotundus*) (Heppner, 1981, 2007).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and are occasionally found nectaring on native plants. More information is needed on host use in North Carolina and elsewhere.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S4S5

STATE PROTECTION: Has no legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands.

COMMENTS: This species is widespread in North America and locally common in North Carolina.