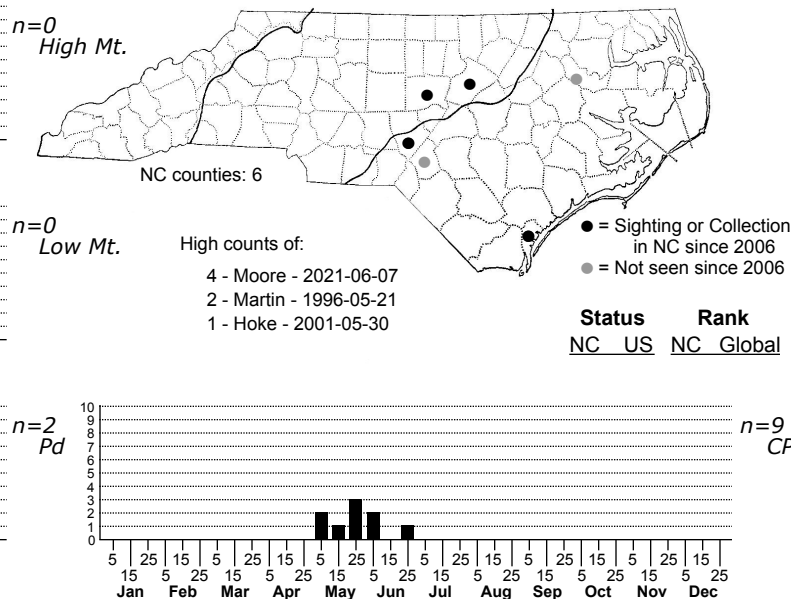
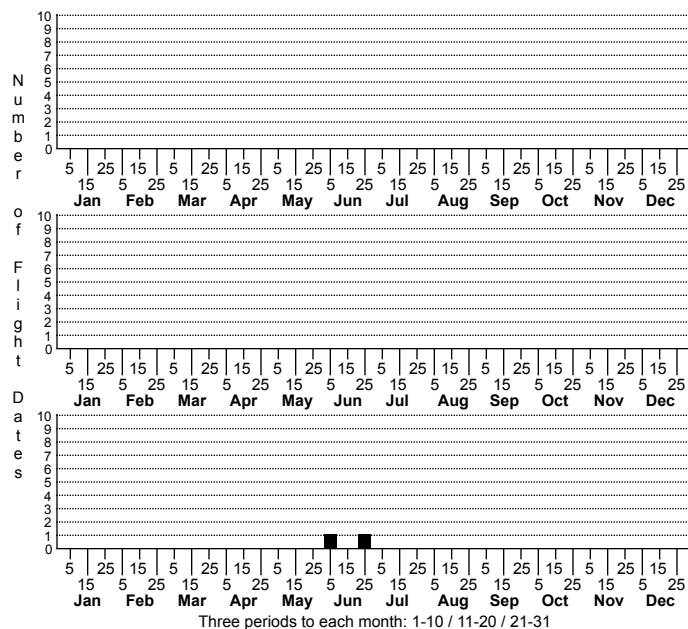


# *Inguromorpha basalis* Black-lined Carpenterworm Moth



FAMILY: Cossidae SUBFAMILY: Hypoptinae TRIBE: [Hypoptini]

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of four species (one undescribed) of this genus that occur in North America, and the only one that occurs in the southeast. As with others in the genus, it is among the largest of the "micro-moths."

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Walker (1856); Edwards (1888)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Forewings are creamy white to ashen gray with light brown tinting proximal to the inner and outer margins. There is a variable number of jagged black lines connecting the veins. The most prominent markings are a black crescent near the apex and a vertical black line at the base. Thoracic hump triangular and prominent. Typically rests with abdomen curled upward, well above the wings. Length from tip of head to apex of forewing at rest averages 22 mm (n=1). **Larvae:** The larva remains undescribed (Covell, 2005), but it is highly suspected that larvae bore into trees like those of other members of this family.

DISTRIBUTION: Our records come mainly from the Coastal Plain and from an adjoining area in the eastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Probably univoltine; our records come from May and June.

HABITAT: The two records from the Coastal Plain come from riparian forests. The Piedmont (Chatham County) record was collected in mixed, second-growth deciduous woodlands adjacent to a river floodplain.

FOOD: Larvae have apparently not been documented.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Attracted to lights but since the mouthparts of the adults are rudimentary, they do not feed and consequently do not come to bait or visit flowers.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G4 [SU]

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

COMMENTS: Records of this species in NC are few; three records from the coastal plain (collected) and one from the eastern piedmont (photographed/collected). It is possible that *I. basalis* is genuinely uncommon in the state. The species is not widely depicted in online resources and the number of mapped records relatively small.