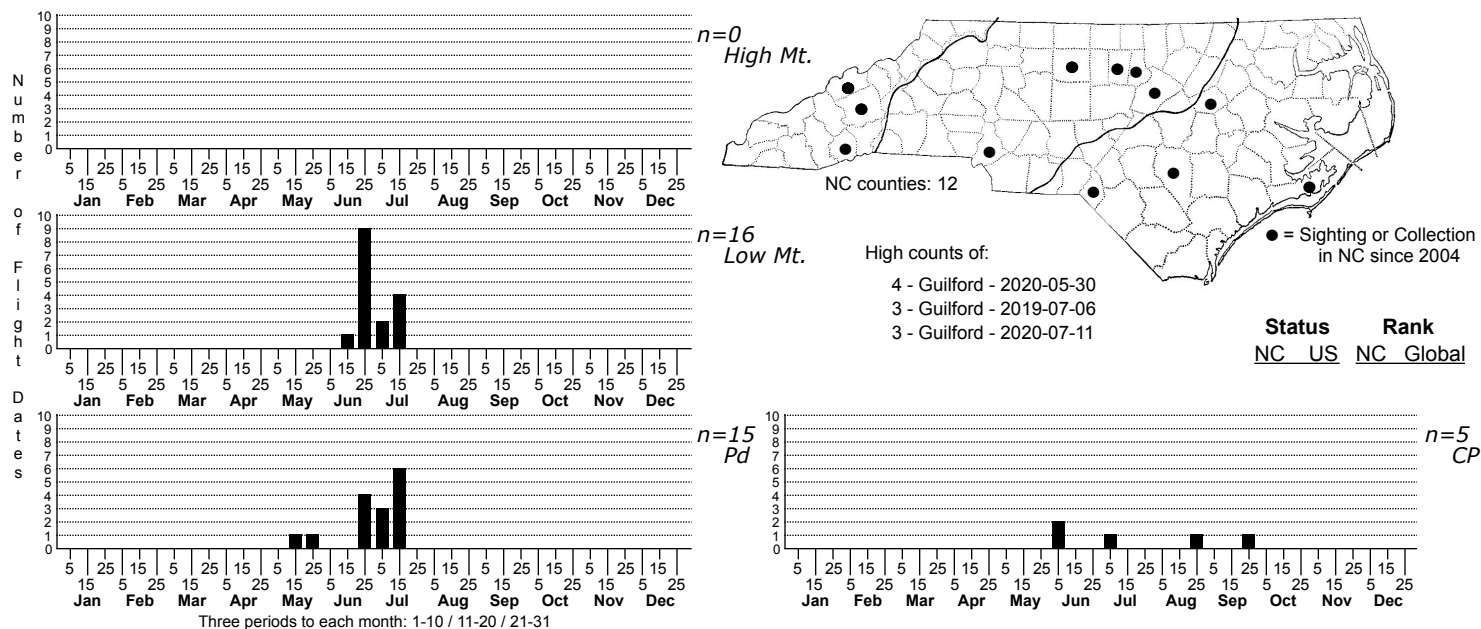


## *Glaphyria fulminalis* Black-patched Glaphyria Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Glaphyriinae TRIBE: [Glaphyriini]

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: The genus *Glaphyria* contains nine described species that are found in the New World from Canada southward to Brazil. The U.S. has seven species, with six occurring in North Carolina. They are all small moths that characteristically posture with the forelegs projecting forward. The larval life histories of all of our species are undocumented.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1972)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Glaphyria fulminalis* is very similar to *G. cappsii* in terms of the wing patterning and coloration (see the account of *G. cappsii* for a detailed description of that species). The primary difference is that the base, costa and termen of the forewing of *G. fulminalis* are lighter colored (light brownish yellow to dull buff versus bright orange in *G. cappsii*), and less strongly contrasting with the purplish fuscous shading. The most reliable way to distinguish these species is by the angle at which the oblique portion of the postmedial line intersects the inner margin: about 25 degrees or less for *G. cappsii* versus 45 degrees or more for *G. fulminalis* (see BugGuide for an illustration). In some instances the angle may be difficult to accurately determine from images of live specimens and is best seen in spread specimens.

DISTRIBUTION: *Glaphyria fulminalis* is restricted to central America and eastern North America. It occurs in the U.S. from Maine southward to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas, eastern Oklahoma, and eastern Nebraska. Populations have also been documented in Ontario and Quebec. We have records for all three physiographic provinces, with the majority from the Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Adults in Florida have been found from January through October, and mostly from May through September in more northern populations. As of 2023, we have records from mid-May through late-September, with a seasonal peak in June and July.

HABITAT: Specimens in North Carolina have been found in a variety of habitats that range from xeric to mesic, and from relatively natural habitats to residential neighborhoods. Examples include sandy, maritime communities, pine-dominated Sandhill communities, semi-wooded residential neighborhoods, and mesic forests in the Blue Ridge.

FOOD: The host plants (if any) are unreported.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR[S3-S5]

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

COMMENTS: More information is needed on the preferred habitats, feeding ecology, distribution and abundance before we can accurately assess the conservation status of this species.