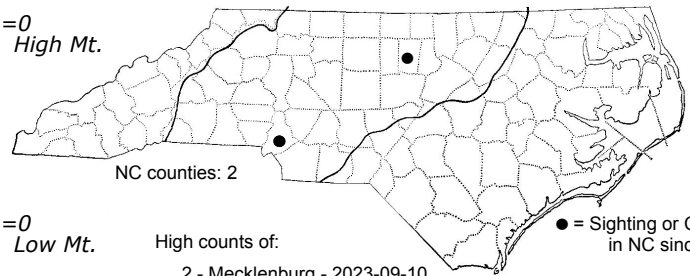
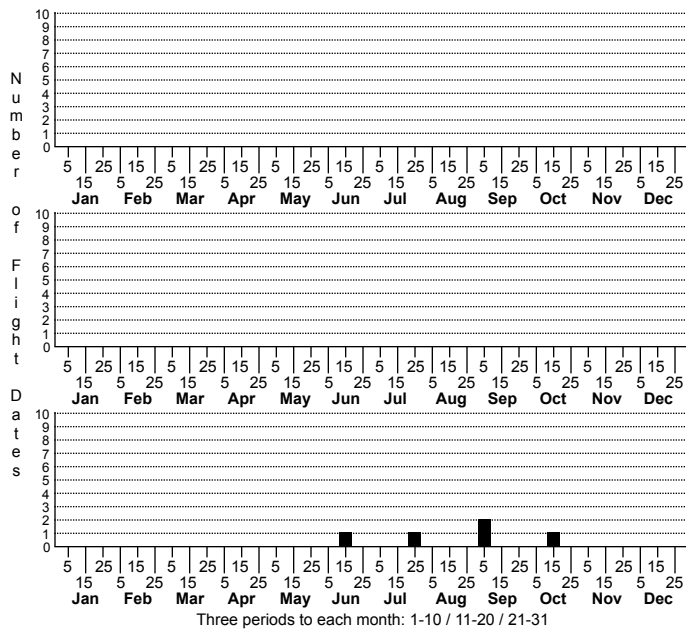


Pyrausta inornatalis Inornate Pyrausta

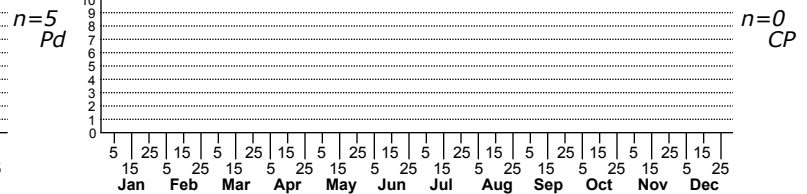


High counts of:

- 2 - Mecklenburg - 2023-09-10
- 1 - Mecklenburg - 2020-07-31
- 1 - Mecklenburg - 2020-09-01

● = Sighting or Collection in NC since 2005

Status	Rank
NC	US
NC	Global



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE:
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Munroe (1976)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: BugGuide

ID COMMENTS: This species is easily distinguished by the uniformly bright-pink forewing that is unmarked except for the brown-based, white fringe (Munroe, 1976). The head and anterior part of thorax are buff-colored, and the hindwing is light fuscous with a bit of pink terminally. This is our only pinkish *Pyrausta* that lacks markings on the forewings.

DISTRIBUTION: *Pyrausta inornatalis* is found in North America at relatively southern latitudes. It occurs from southern Florida westward through Texas to southern California, and northward to Kansas, Arkansas, southern Illinois, southern Ohio and southern Pennsylvania. As of 2023, all of our records are from the eastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly from March through December in Texas and mostly from April through October elsewhere. As of 2023, our records are from late-July through mid-October.

HABITAT: This species appears to favor open habitats such as meadows, roadsides, and gardens where sages grow.

FOOD: Limited observations (BugGuide) suggest that the larvae specialize on sages (*Salvia* spp.), including Red Sage (*S. coccinea*) and Mealy Sage (*S. farinacea*). There are also iNaturalist records from North Carolina showing larvae apparently feeding on *Salvia*.

OBSERVATION_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights and are occasionally seen resting on vegetation during the day and nectaring on flowers.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS:

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: