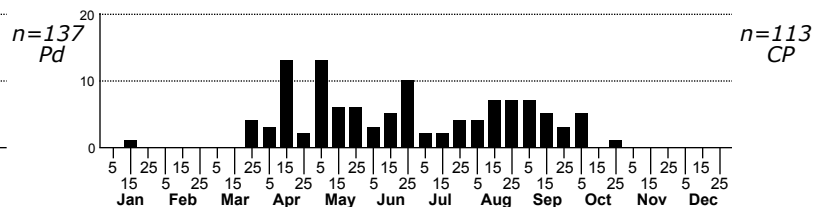
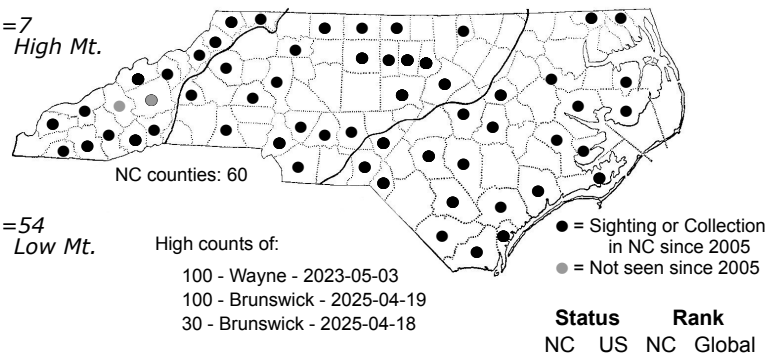
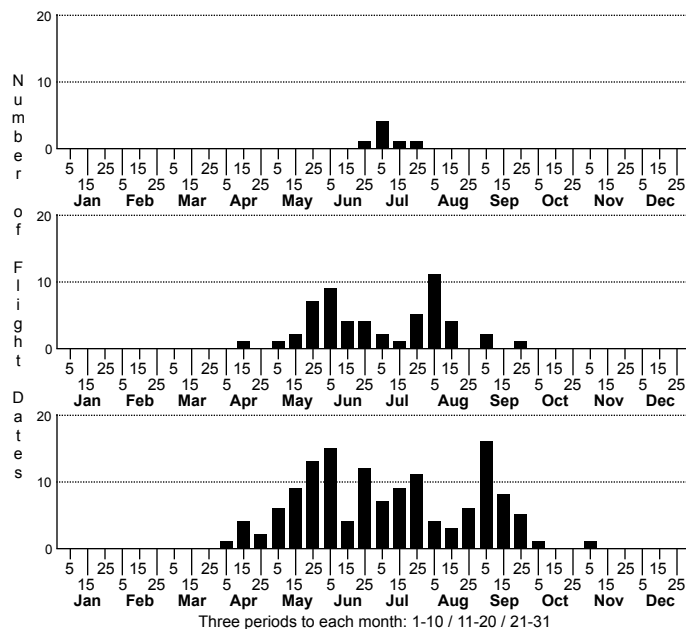


# *Anageshna primordialis* Yellow-spotted Webworm Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE: Spilomelini  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Dyar (1906)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The following description is based in part on the original description by Dyar (1906). In this species the ground of the forewing is pale yellow and mostly masked by a heavy dusting of dark brown. The transverse lines are dark brown to blackish and are margined with pale yellow on one side only. The antemedial line is slightly irregular and lined with yellow on the basal side. The postmedial line is lined with yellow on the outside and extends inward from the subapical area of the costa and projects to the tornus. The basal half is curved outward and there is a pale yellow patch on both sides where it meets the costa. A short, irregular, median line that is margined with yellow on the outer side extends inward from the inner margin and terminates before reaching a ring-shaped reniform spot with a dull yellow center. Immediately basal to the reniform is a conspicuous dull yellow triangular mark on the costa. A narrow dark-brown terminal line is present that is margined with yellow basally and parallels a thin dark brown line at the base of the fringe. The hindwing is predominantly brown and has a narrow, irregular, dark-brown antemedial line that is lined outwardly with a broad band of yellow. The postmedial has a much narrower yellow band on the outer margin. The terminal line and fringe are the same as the forewing, and the abdomen is brown with a thin yellow line on each segment.

<i>Anageshna stenialis</i> has similar markings, but the region before the postmedial line is predominantly yellow rather than brown as seen in <i>Anageshna primordialis</i>. In addition, the orbicular and claviform spots are usually evident in <i>A. stenialis</i> and the thorax is yellow with two brown spots near the middle.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Anageshna primordialis</i> is widely distributed across the eastern U.S. and in southern Canada from Manitoba to Prince Edward Island. In the U.S., the range extends from Maine to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas, central Oklahoma, eastern Kansas, eastern Nebraska and eastern North Dakota. This species is found statewide in North Carolina.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults fly year-round in Florida and during all but the coldest months in other southern states such as Georgia and Alabama. Farther north the flight season is mostly from April through October. As of 2023, our records extend from late March through early October. Local populations in North Carolina appear to produce two or three generations per year except for those at higher elevations in the mountains where there appears to be only one generation per year.

HABITAT: Our records come predominantly from open, herb-dominated habitats. These include barrier islands, inner Coastal Plain sandhills, mountain bogs, high elevation grasslands as well as a large number of residential areas.

FOOD: The larval host plants (if any) are unknown.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults come well to blacklights and bait, and also nectar on wildflowers..

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 and common within the state and appears to be secure.