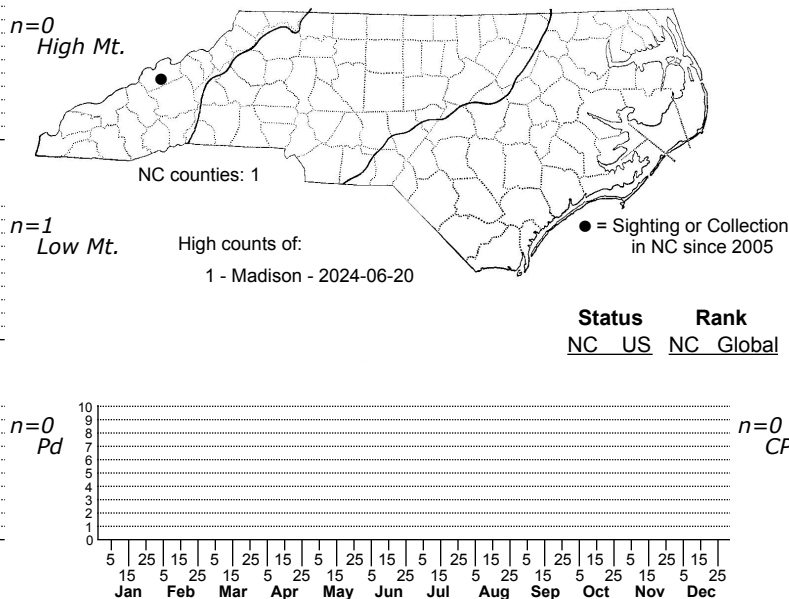
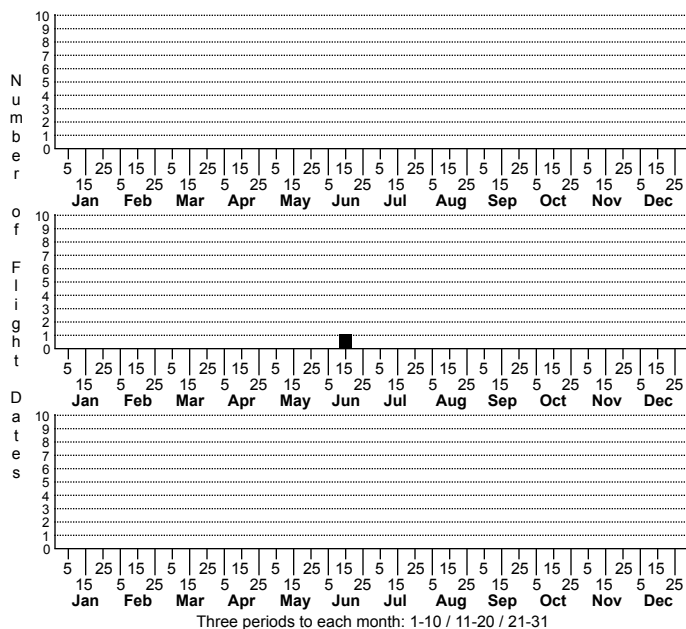


*Bucculatrix speciosa* None



FAMILY: Bucculatricidae SUBFAMILY: TRIBE:  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Braun (1963)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Braun (1963)

ID COMMENTS: This is a distinctive *Bucculatrix* that has five white spots on an otherwise dull brown forewing. The following detailed description is based on that of Braun (1963) based on specimens that she collected in West Virginia. The face is creamy white, while the antennal stalk is dark brown with narrowly paler annulations. The head tuft has a few creamy white hairs toward the face, but is otherwise shaded from reddish brown to dark brown posteriorly and centrally. The eye-caps are creamy white and very small, with the basal half fringed with long hairs. The thorax and forewings are dull brown, with the exception of the basal dorsal area below the fold to the first dorsal white spot that is more dull grayish ochereous. There is a pale ochereous region from the base of the costa to the fold. The most conspicuous marks are five whitish spots. These include 1) an oblique white costal spot at three-eighths, 2) a similar white spot at five-eighths, 3) a larger curved white spot before the middle of dorsum whose apex is directed toward the first costal spot, 4) a smaller triangular white spot before the tornus, 5) and a small white spot at the apex that is followed by a small black spot. The cilia along the outer margin are reddish brown, with marginal scales projecting irregularly into them. The hindwings are fuscous with reddish cilia. The legs are dark brown, with the tips of the tarsal segments paler.

DISTRIBUTION: The range of this species is poorly documented, with scattered records from Wisconsin, Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Massachusetts and southern Ontario. As of 2024, we have a single record from Madison County in the Blue Ridge.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: The larvae feed on goldenrods and local populations are restricted to sites where the host plants are present.

FOOD: Braun (1963) found the larvae and pupae on an unspecified species of goldenrod (*Solidago*). Other than this, very little is known about the host species.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The larvae are attracted to UV-lights, although perhaps only weakly so.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S1?]

STATE PROTECTION:

COMMENTS: This species appears to be rare within the state, with only a single record as of 2024. More information is needed on its distribution and abundance before we can accurately assess its conservation status within North Carolina.