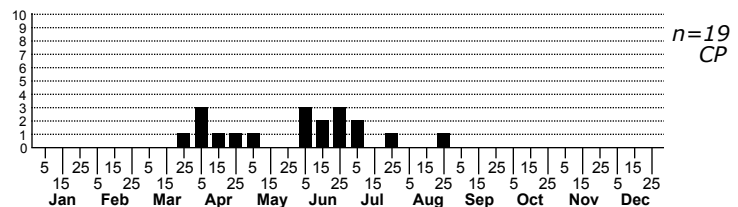
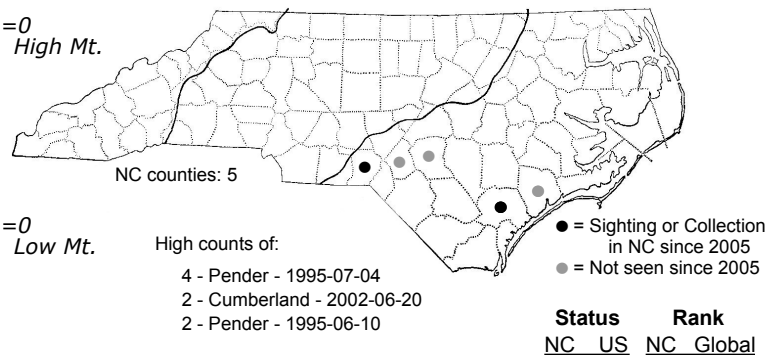


# *Tornos cinctarius* None



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Boarmiini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: One of seven species in this New World genus that occur in North America north of Mexico (Rindge, 1954), three of which have been recorded in North Carolina

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Rindge (1954)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, dark brown Geometrid, with narrow, elongated wings held horizontally at rest. Unlike other members of this genus, sexes are identical in color and pattern. The ground color of the forewings is ochraceous, overlain and somewhat mottled with dark brown. Both the antemedian and postmedian lines are black and prominent; the discal spot is dull black and elongated (Rindge, 1954). *Tornos colopacinaria* and *T. abjectarius* are similar in size and form but are lighter in color, have less prominent lines, and are sexually dimorphic.

DISTRIBUTION: All of our records come from the southern half of the Coastal Plain, including the Fall-line Sandhills

FLIGHT COMMENT: Appears to have separate spring and summer flights.

HABITAT: All of our records come from Longleaf Pine dominated habitats or from stands of hardwoods either embedded or adjoining Longleaf habitats. With respect to moisture regimes, habitats include both xeric sandhills and wet savannas.

FOOD: Host plants are unknown (Rindge, 1954).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Appears to come well to blacklights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SU [S2S3]

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to be strongly associated with Longleaf Pine habitats. These habitats have undergone a reduction in range of 90% or more since colonial times and are still being converted to silviculture and other uses and particularly to the effects of suppression of the natural fire regime upon which they depend. Our records for this species all come from areas where these habitats still occupy large landscapes where a relatively natural fire regime - augmented by prescribed burning - still persists. Although knowledge of the host plants used by this species would help refine our understanding of its conservation needs, this species appears to be fairly rare even within its preferred habitats and probably should be listed as Significantly Rare in North Carolina.