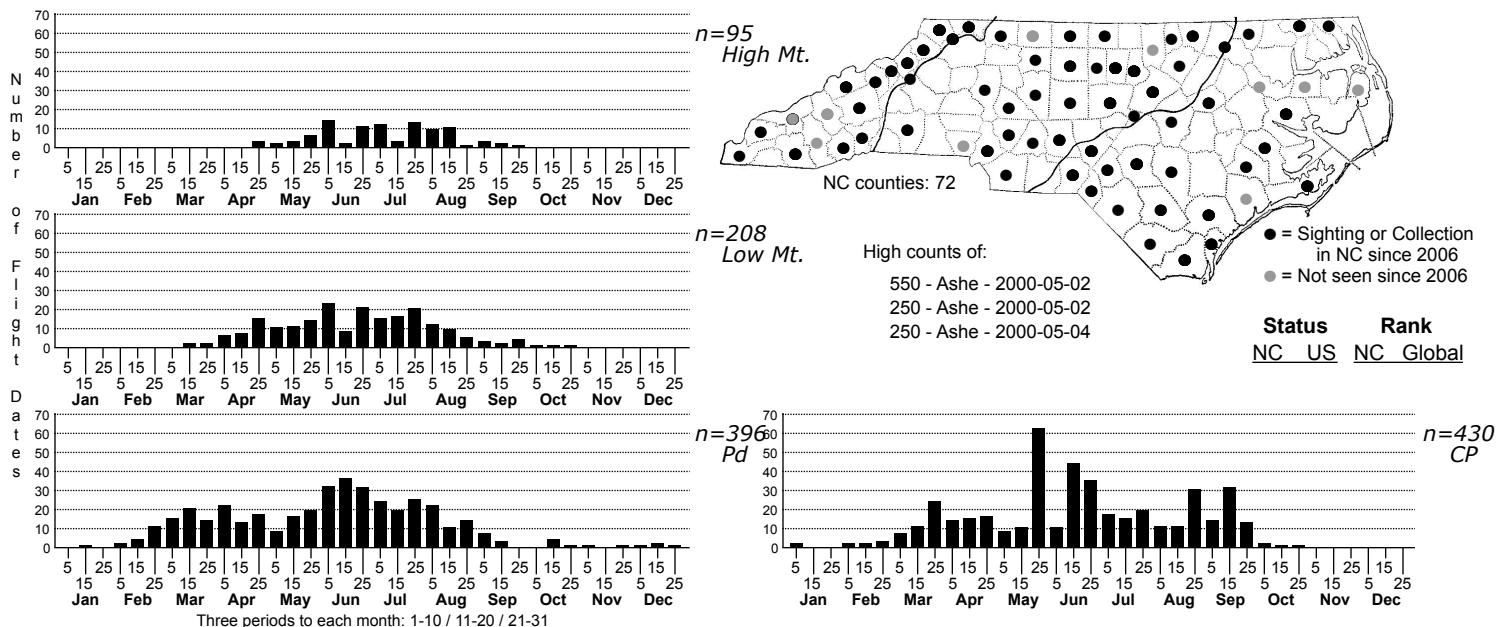


Melanolophia canadaria Canadian Melanolophia



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Melanolophiini
TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, brownish Geometrid that is very similar to *Melanolophia signataria*. The ground color is whitish in northern specimens but is darker in the South, heavily dusted with fuscous and often with blackish blotches in the terminal area (Forbes, 1948; Rindge, 1964). The postmedian is waved or outwardly dentate on the veins and usually represented by the preceding dark line; its course is strongly curved in towards the inner margin. During the spring, when both species fly at the same time, dissection is often needed to distinguish them.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous, feeding on a very wide range of hardwood trees and shrubs; also on pines (Wagner, 2005). As of 2024, we have records for Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), and Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*). J.B. Sullivan also reared larvae from Live Oak (*Quercus virginiana*), Sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*), cherry (*Prunus*), walnut (*Juglans*), and azalea (*Rhododendron*).

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S5]

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

COMMENTS: