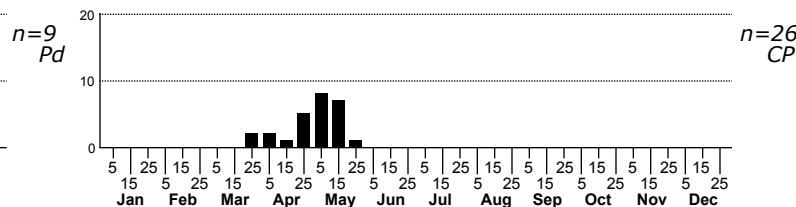
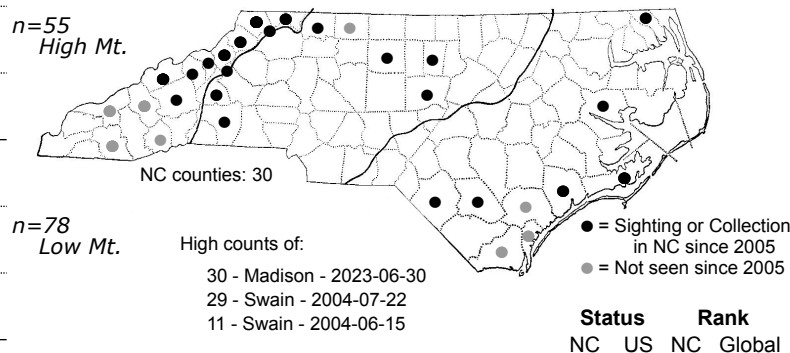
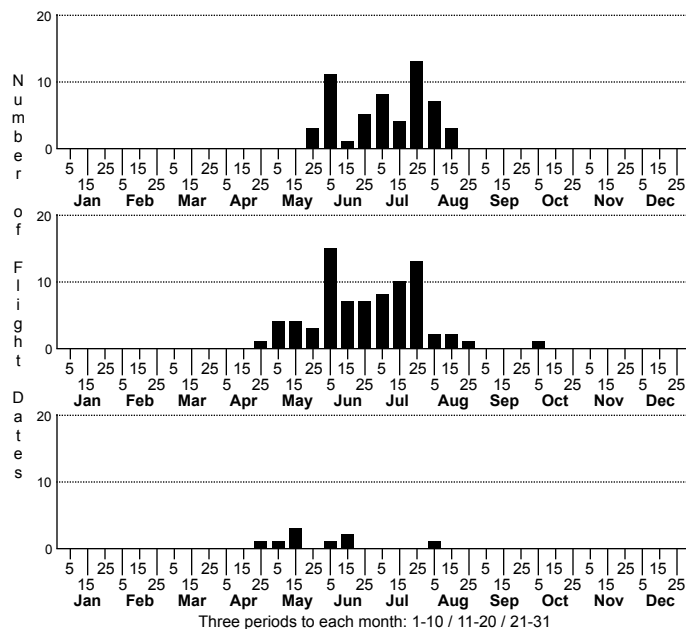


# *Rheumaptera prunivorata* Cherry Scallop Shell Moth



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Larentiinae TRIBE: Hydrimenini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: This species (Ferguson, 1955) was previously placed in the genus *Hydria* (Hodges et al. 1983), then later in *Rheumaptera*, before being returned to *Hydria* (Hausmann and Viidalepp 2012). The latest 2023 checklist of North American has returned it to *Rheumaptera* (Pohl and. Nanz, 2023).

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984; as *Hydria prunivorata*); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Ferguson (1955)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: *Rheumaptera undulata* and *R. prunivorata* are two cryptic species that can only be reliably separated using genitalia. In western North Carolina they tend to separate to some extent elevationally, with *R. undulata* rarely occurring below 3,500' and *R. prunivorata* extending from the lower valleys to higher elevations where it overlaps elevationally with *R. undulata*. Thus, specimens from the lower valleys can generally be assigned to *R. prunivorata* with high confidence.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Woodland edges, overgrown fields, and hedgerows (Wagner et al., 2001). We have records from maritime dunes and forests and mesic hardwood forests in the Coastal Plain. In the Mountains, our records come from cove forests, riparian forests, and high elevation forests. Our few records from the Piedmont come from wet hardwoods and lakeshores.

FOOD: Larvae feed on Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) (Wagner, 2005), which has been confirmed as a host in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S3S4]

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

COMMENTS: