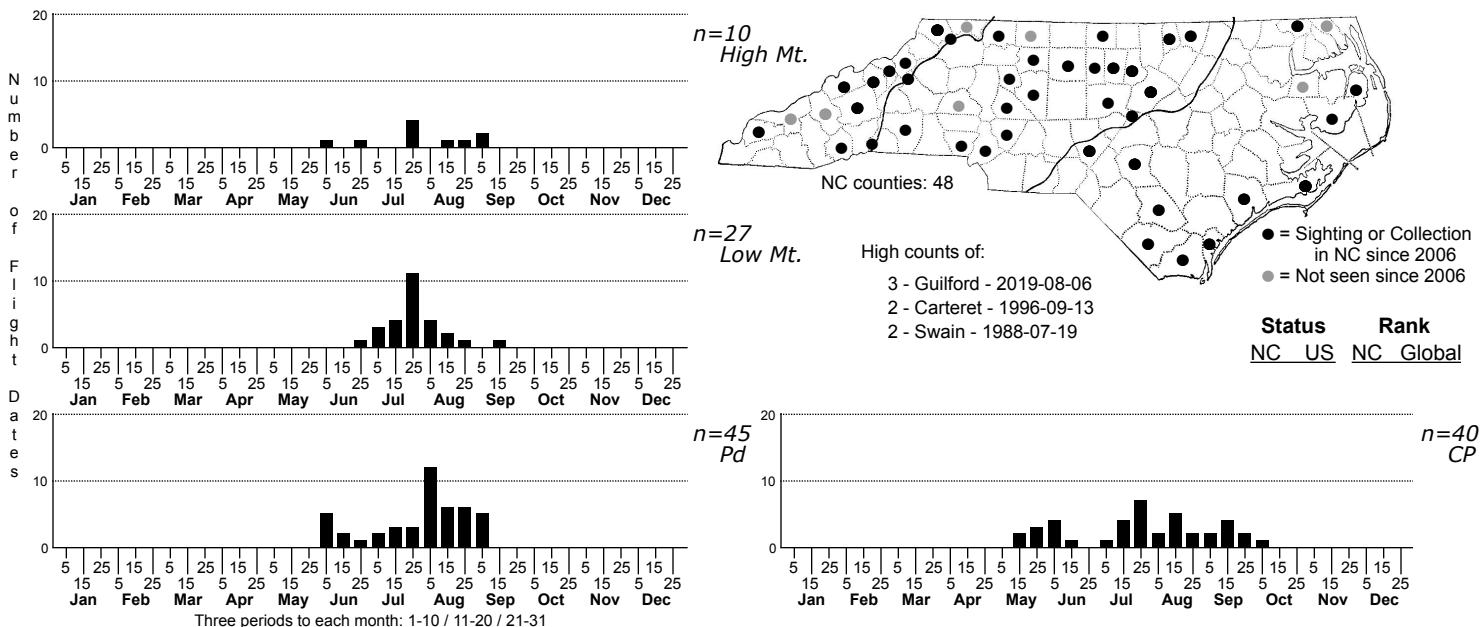


Eumorpha pandorus Pandorus Sphinx



FAMILY: Sphingidae SUBFAMILY: Macroglossinae TRIBE: Macroglossini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: This is largely a Neotropical genus but 12 species are recorded from the U.S. and 5 from North Carolina.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1948); Hodges (1971); Tuttle (2007)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Forbes (1948); Wagner (2005); Tuttle (2007)

ID COMMENTS: A moderately large Sphinx moth with a distinctive pattern of pale and dark green patches on its wings and body. Markings are similar to that of *Eumorpha intermedia*, which is typically shaded with brown or reddish but can also be olive green (see Covell, 1984, and Brou, 2011, for details). Sexes are similar.

DISTRIBUTION: Occurs statewide, including the Barrier Islands and High Mountains. Some records may represent migrants -- these robust moths are strong fliers and undoubtedly disperse over great distances.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Probably two broods.

HABITAT: The host plants used by *Eumorpha pandorus* occupy a wide range of habitats in North Carolina and we have larval records -- indicating resident populations -- from sites as different and far apart as Fort Macon on the Barrier Islands and New River State Park in the Mountains. We also have a large number of adult records from the Barrier Islands, Longleaf Pine and peatland habitats, all of which are fairly open. Most of our Mountain records come from mesic hardwood forests, including cove forests.

FOOD: Larvae are stenophagous, feeding on members of the grape family (Vitaceae), usually wild grapes and Virginia Creeper but will attack domestic grapes as well (Wagner, 2005). In North Carolina, larvae have been recorded on Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), non-native Porcelain-berry (*Ampelopsis glandulosa*), and an unknown species of grape. Based on the many larval records on iNaturalist, Virginia Creeper appears to be the primary host in our state.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Known to visit flowers but not found at bait. They are attracted to high intensity lights, including mercury-vapor, but come far less to 15 watt UV lights or incandescent porch lights; many of our records come from offices and other buildings with strong outdoor lighting. Larvae often found on Virginia Creeper.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S4S5]

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

COMMENTS: Its widespread occurrence across the state and use of a broad range of habitats makes this species relatively secure.