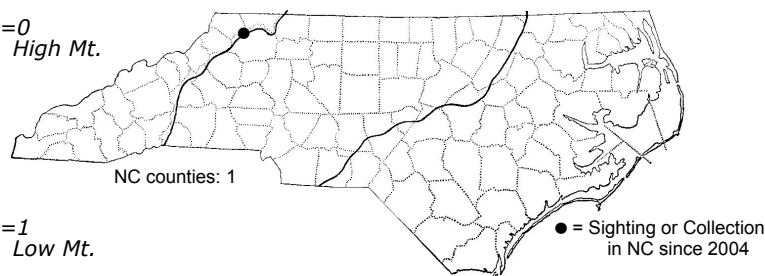
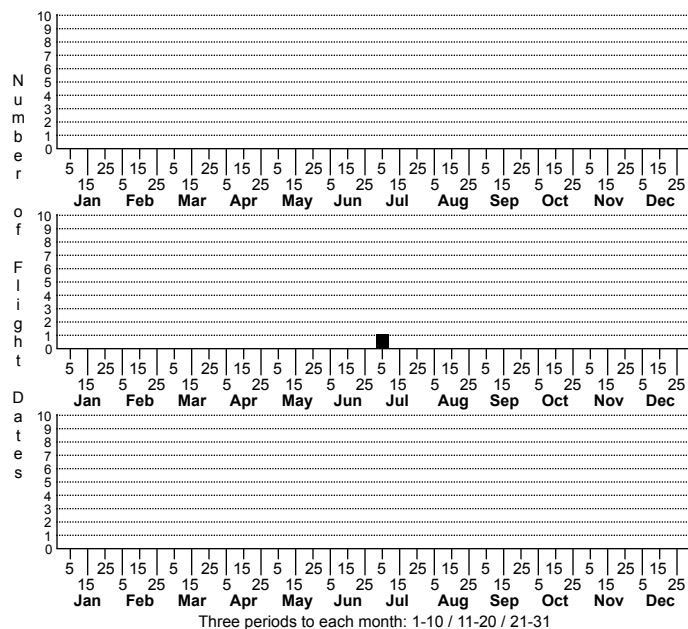
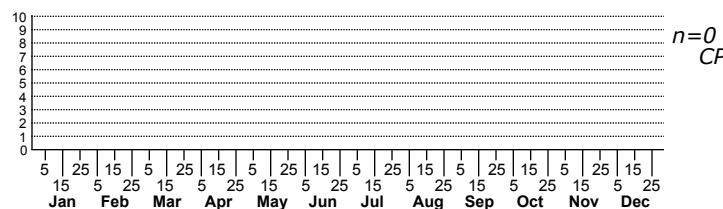


## *Crambidia cephalica* Yellow-headed Lichen Moth



Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Arctiinae TRIBE: Lithosiini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: One of ten named species in this genus that occur in North America, of which six been recorded in North Carolina (several others are still undescribed).

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1960)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: (None)

ID COMMENTS: All white except for yellow shading on the head, which easily separates it from the two other white Crambidias, casta and pura, which have completely white heads.

DISTRIBUTION: Recorded in all three geographic regions of the state but without a clear distributional pattern. It does not appear to overlap, however, with pura in the southern portion of the Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Too few records exist to detect a clear pattern.

HABITAT: Our records from the Piedmont come from mafic glades and from lakeshores. In the Mountains, records come from cove forests.

FOOD: Like most Lithosiines, probably feeds on lichens, bark algae, and Cyanobacteria (Covell, 1984; Wagner, 2005).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Comes abundantly to blacklights but has not been recorded at bait

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G4 [SU]

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

COMMENTS: It is not clear if any of the populations we have in North Carolina represent true cephalica or if all represent the same undescribed species found in other areas (i.e., *Crambidia* sp. 3 nr. cephalica). Although it appears to be uncommon-to-rare within the state, no determination can be made of the conservation status of this complex until the taxonomic issues have been resolved and more is known about the distribution, abundance, and habitat associations of the exact species.