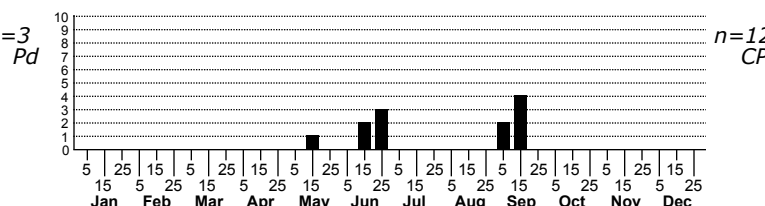
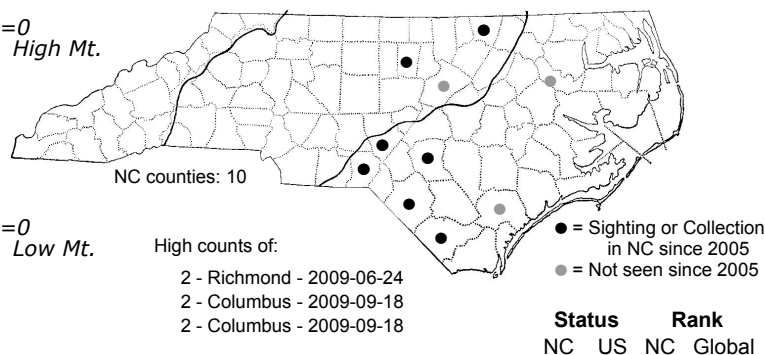
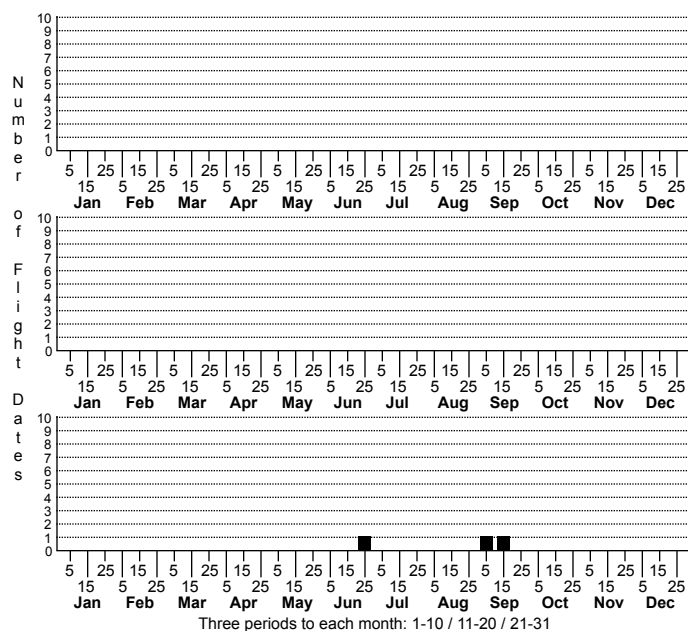


# *Cisthene kentuckiensis* Kentucky Lichen Moth



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Arctiinae TRIBE: Lithosiini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of twenty species in this genus that occur in North America, five of which have been recorded in North Carolina

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1960)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: (None)

ID COMMENTS: Blackish brown with a fairly broad orange line along the inner margin that is confluent with a similar line across the postmedian area of the forewing; hindwing is mainly pink with a dark apex. Similar to *C. tenuifascia* but the line along the inner margin in that species strongly narrows before it reaches the postmedian band.

DISTRIBUTION: Most of our records come from the Coastal Plain

FLIGHT COMMENT: Probably single brooded

HABITAT: Most records are from wet-to-mesic forests, including Longleaf Pine savannas, floodplain hardwoods, and forested lakeshores.

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

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: May come only poorly to blacklights and none of our records come from bait

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GU S3S4 [S3]

STATE PROTECTION: Has no legal protection, although permits are required to collect it on state parks and other public lands; included as a W3 species on the NHP Watchlist

COMMENTS: Appears to be uncommon to rare but with no clear evidence that it is habitat restricted. Its abundance, populations trends, and threats are all unknown