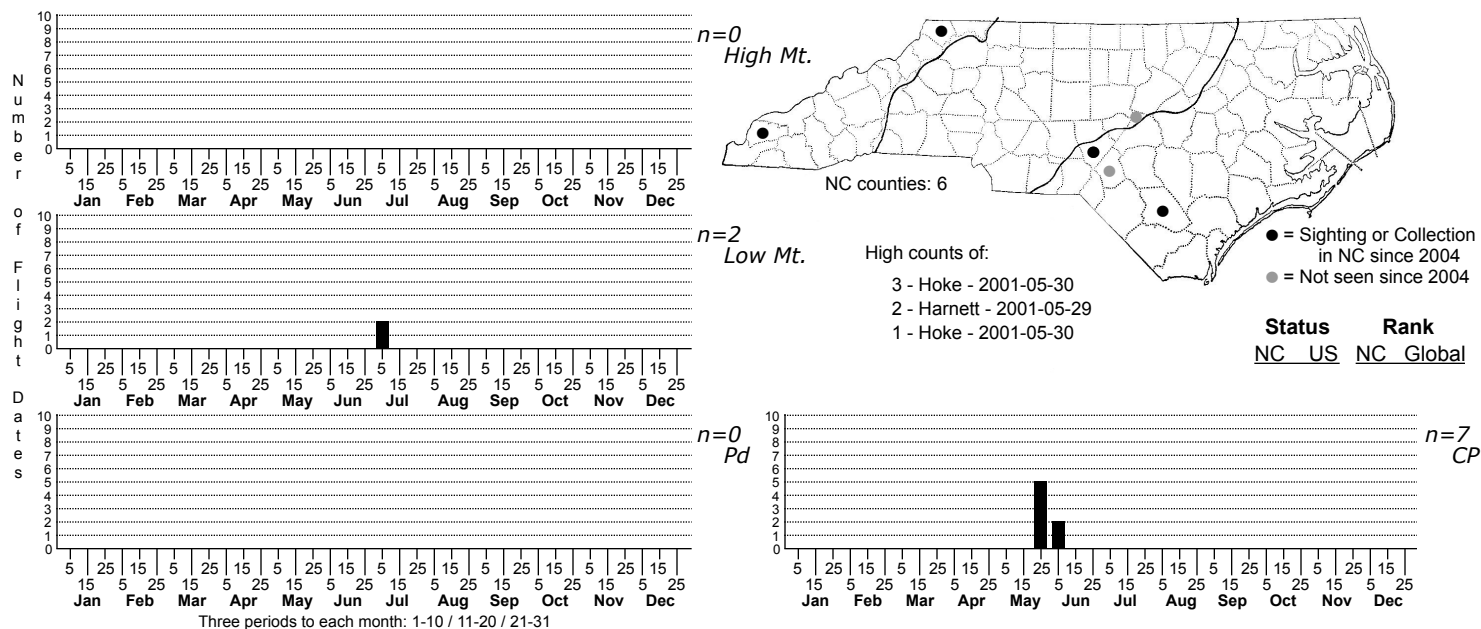


## *Haploa reversa* Reversed Haploa Moth



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Arctiinae TRIBE: Arctiini

TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS: One of six species currently recognized in North America, all of which occur in North Carolina. Forbes (1960) considered *H. reversa* to be just a form of *H. colona*, distinguished only by its all white hind-wings.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS: MPG, Bugguide, BAMONA

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1960)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Forbes (1960); Wagner (2005)

ID COMMENTS: One of four species of *Haploa* that have all white hindwings, but with the forewing pattern more similar to that of *H. colona*, which has orange hindwings: the forewings are white and outlined on all margins with black (usually interrupted at the wing angles). A long dark line runs diagonally from before the midpoint on the costal margin all the way to the anal angle, usually with two other dark lines running from the costa to the diagonal line, and two narrower lines running from the diagonal line to the outer margin, dividing the apex of the wing into several white spots. In other *Haploas* with all-white hindwings, lines (or spurs) starting before the midpoint of the costa run downward towards the inner margin well before its midpoint, not to the anal angle; other lines projecting from the costa start well beyond its midpoint. As long as both fore- and hindwings are shown, a photograph is usually sufficient to identify this species. All white forms exist, however, that may be indistinguishable from similar forms of the other species.

DISTRIBUTION: North Carolina records are currently limited to the Fall-line Sandhills and the Bladen Lakes area of the Inner Coastal Plain

FLIGHT COMMENT: Probably has a single, mid-summer flight

HABITAT: The majority of our records come from Longleaf Pine sandhills habitats, or from sandhill seepage slopes, i.e., wet boggy areas located where groundwater flows out onto the surface of otherwise dry sandhills. Mountain records also come from open wetland habitats.

FOOD: Probably polyphagous, feeding on many species of herbaceous and woody plants, but possibly preferring species in the Asteraceae and Boraginaceae (Forbes, 1960; Wagner, 2005)

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: Comes moderately well to blacklights, but none of our records come from bait; flushes easily during the day and appears to be at least partially diurnal

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 [S3]

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

COMMENTS: Appears to be a habitat specialist and confined to just a small region of the state. If true, then this species could be highly vulnerable to the effects of habitat reduction and fragmentation.