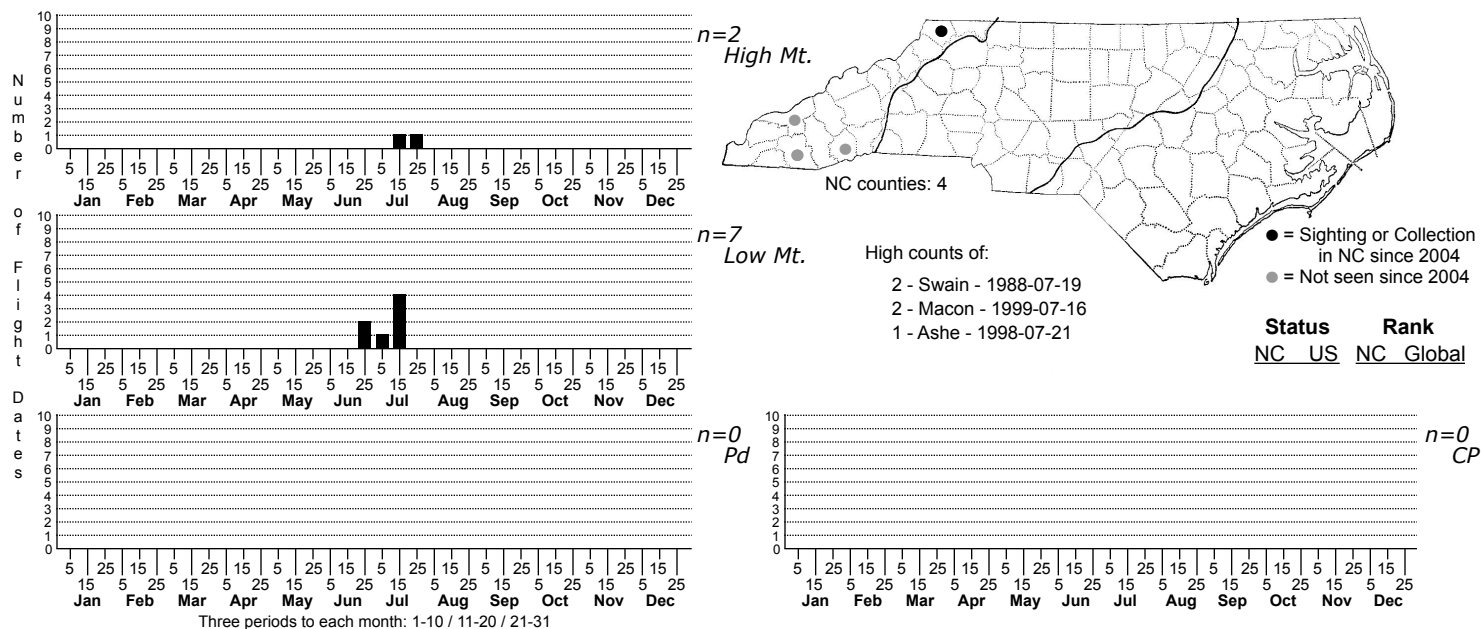


Haploa confusa Confused Haploa Moth



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Arctiinae TRIBE: Arctiini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: One of six species currently recognized in North America, all of which occur in North Carolina

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

ONLINE PHOTOS: MPG, Bugguide, BAMONA

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1960)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Wagner (2005)

ID COMMENTS: The smallest and most heavily-marked species of *Haploa*, the forewing is primarily brown with the white areas reduced to spots. The pattern on the forewing is similar to the darkest forms of *lecontei*: all margins are outlined with black (usually interrupted at the wing angles), an antemedian line runs from the costa to the inner margin, a postmedian line runs from beyond the midpoint of the costa to the inner margin just above the anal angle, and a diagonal line runs from the outer margin just below the apex to the inner margin, where it forms a large blotch with the terminus of the postmedian line. Characteristically, a white spot is located in the middle of that blotch, unlike *lecontei*, where the blotch is usually a solid black; there may also be dark blotches or spurs projecting from the diagonal lines forward into the median area.

DISTRIBUTION: A northern species, *confusa* appears to be confined to the Mountains in North Carolina

FLIGHT COMMENT: Appears to have a single, mid-season flight

HABITAT: All of our records come from slopes and ridges, probably mostly in association with hardwood forests

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

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 [SU]

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to be uncommon to rare montane disjunct in North Carolina but not enough is known about its overall distribution in the Mountains, its abundance, and its habitat associations to estimate its conservation status in the state