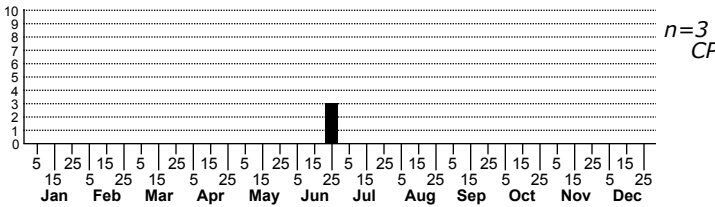
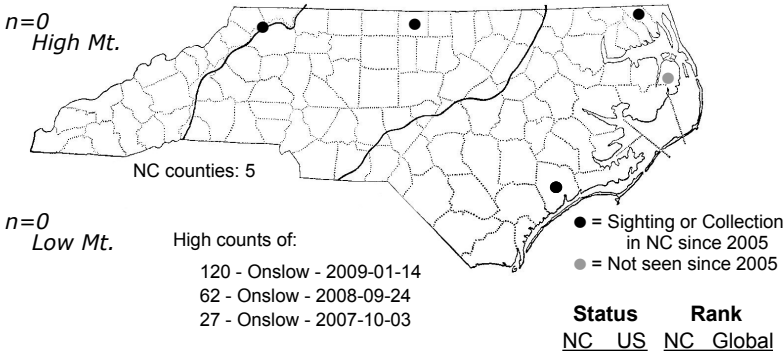
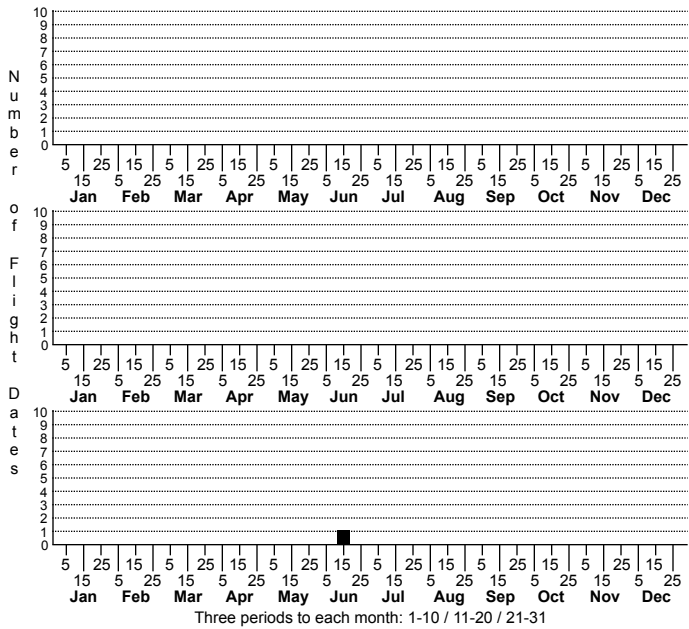


Lymantria dispar Spongy Moth



FAMILY: Erebidæ SUBFAMILY: Lymantriinae TRIBE: Lymantriini  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)  
ONLINE PHOTOS:  
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1948); Ferguson (1978)  
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS:

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: Larvae are widely polyphagous on trees and shrubs, with hundreds of documented hosts. They have become a destructive invasive species since their introduction in the Northeastern United States, defoliating millions of acres of forest. Fortunately, North Carolina has largely been spared their destruction, partly due to efforts to halt their advance from the north and stamp out accidental introductions on the coast. Click the View link to see the more than 100 native trees that might serve as potential hosts if *L. dispar* becomes established in our state.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNA SNR [SNA]

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

COMMENTS: