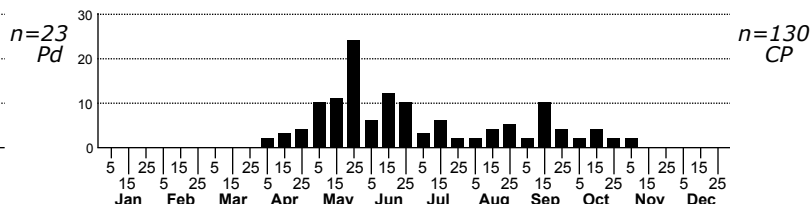
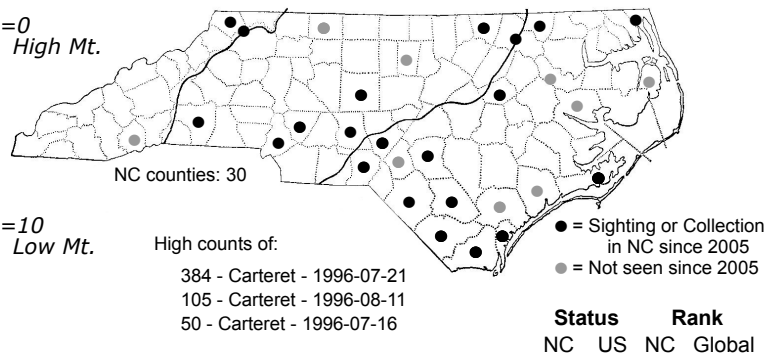
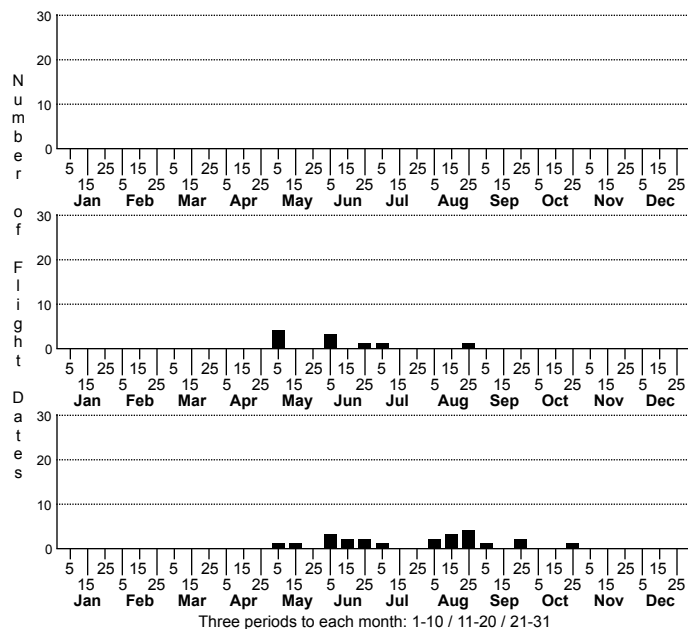


Bleptina inferior Inferior Owlet Moth



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Herminiinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: One of seven species in this genus that occur in North America (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010); three have been recorded in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The ground color is a dull, dark grayish brown, with a violet sheen in fresh specimens (Forbes, 1954, described as *Bleptina medialis*). The antemedian and postmedian lines are obscure but the subterminal line is usually evident. The filling of this line is luteous, but less strongly contrasting than in *caradrinalis*. The course of this line is more strongly waved than in *caradrinalis*. The orbicular is usually minute and often has an orange filling. The reniform is usually dark but not contrasting.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: This species appears to strongly favor dry to xeric habitats, including both woodlands and open barrens. We have a large number of records from maritime dune grasslands on the barrier islands and on xeric sandhills and bay rims in the interior of the Coastal Plain. In the Piedmont records come mainly from dry open woodlands growing on monadnocks and other dry, rocky woodlands. The same is true for our few records for this species from the Mountains. Records from wet to mesic habitats or from open, old field habitats, conversely, are nearly absent.

FOOD: Apparently not recorded but larvae presumably feed on dead leaves and other detritus.

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S4S5]

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

COMMENTS: