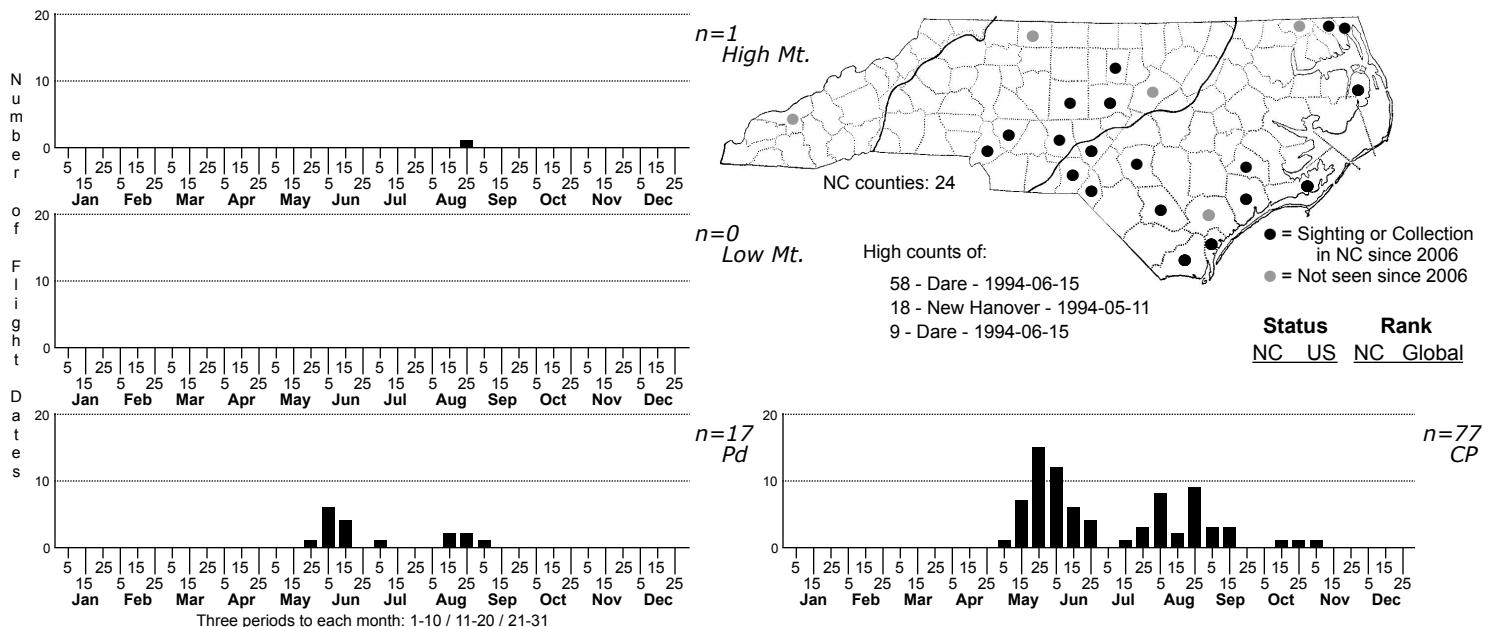


Abablemma brimleyana Brimley's Halfling



FAMILY: Erebidae SUBFAMILY: Scleocampinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: Placed in the Hypenodinae by Wagner et al. (2011) based on larval characteristics and diet.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes, 1923-60; Pogue, 2012

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Wagner et al., 2011

ID COMMENTS: *Melanomma auricinctaria* is similar in size and also has a conspicuous dark reniform spot. It differs in possessing a gold band that borders the outside of the reniform and a "pupil" of the same color located within the reniform. *A. brimleyana* also has a pattern of fine dark striations over the middle and basal portions of its forewing which is missing in *A. auricinctaria*.

DISTRIBUTION: Most of our records come from the Coastal Plain and southeastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Local populations appear to have both a spring and late-summer brood. As of 2022, our records are from late-April through early-May and from mid-August to mid-September.

HABITAT: Sometimes common in dry to xeric woodlands (Wagner et al., 2011). In NC, this species has been recorded in very xeric sandhills, as well as maritime forests and Piedmont monadnock forests. However, it has also been recorded in wet-to-mesic peatlands and longleaf pine savannas.

FOOD: Larvae reportedly feed on lichens and algae, and have been reared in captivity on *Protococcus* (Wagner et al., 2011). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Typically only a few specimens are collected on any one night in 15 w UV bucket traps, although 51 were collected in a sample from a white cedar stand in Dare County.

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: