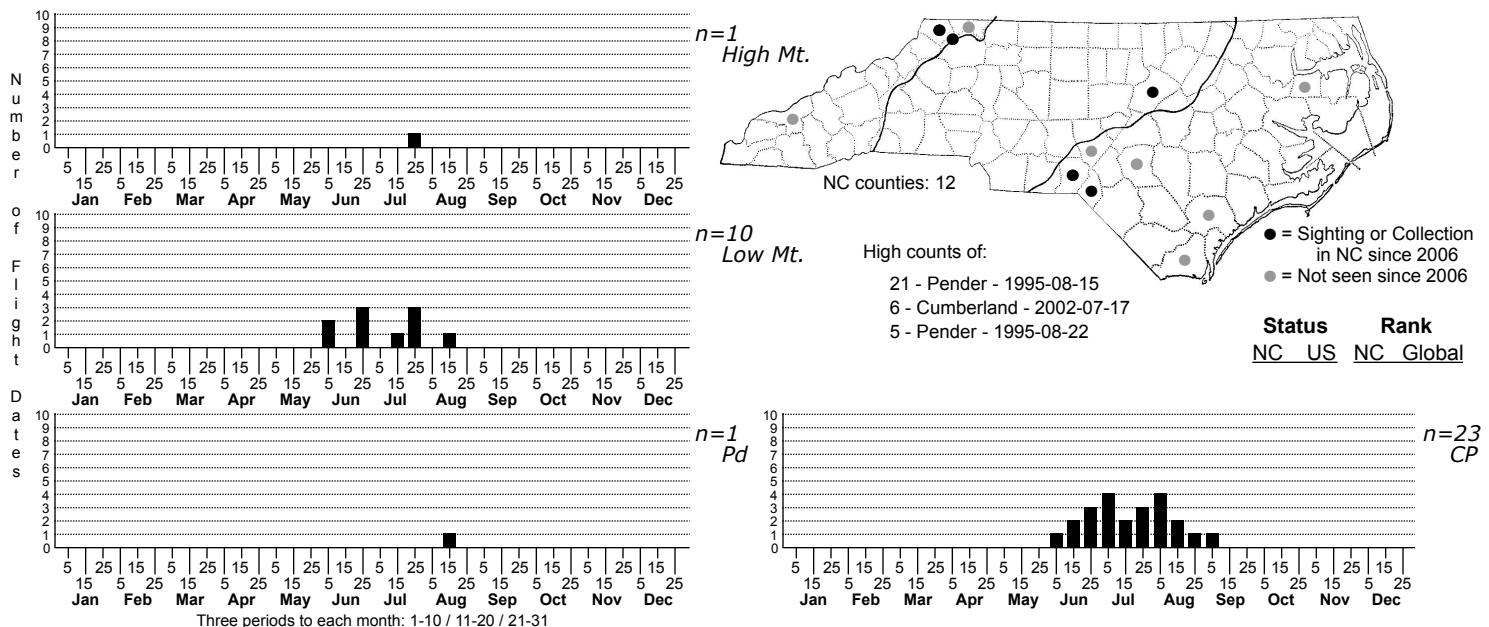


Gabara subnivosella Snowy Gabara



FAMILY: Erebidae SUBFAMILY: Scolecampinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of seven species in this genus that occurs in North American north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010). Three of these species have been recorded in North Carolina (one historic record for *G. obscura* needs to be confirmed). One undescribed species also appears to exist.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: Highly variable, with the ground color ranging from light and nearly immaculate to dark lead gray (Richards, 1942; Forbes, 1954 regarded the dark form as aberrant). Forbes describes the black orbicular and reniform as almost always distinct, with a fuscous streak frequently present from the base to the middle of the outer margin, or with a even, fuscous postmedian line that is sharply curved on the upper part of the wing and then obliquely angled to the inner margin. Richards describes all of these markings as either present or absent. Individuals of *G. distema humeralis* can be similar to *G. bipuncta* but usually have a slight yellowish tint (Forbes, 1954).

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Forbes describes this species as common on dry, acidic hill barrens in the Northeast but elsewhere more common in marshy areas.

FOOD: Members of this genus feed on grasses (Robinson et al., 2012). Forbes (1954) presumed that sedges or coarse grasses were the larval foods but that they possibly feed on dead material.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Forbes (1954) noted that this species was easily flushed during the day.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G4 SNR [S3S4]

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

COMMENTS: