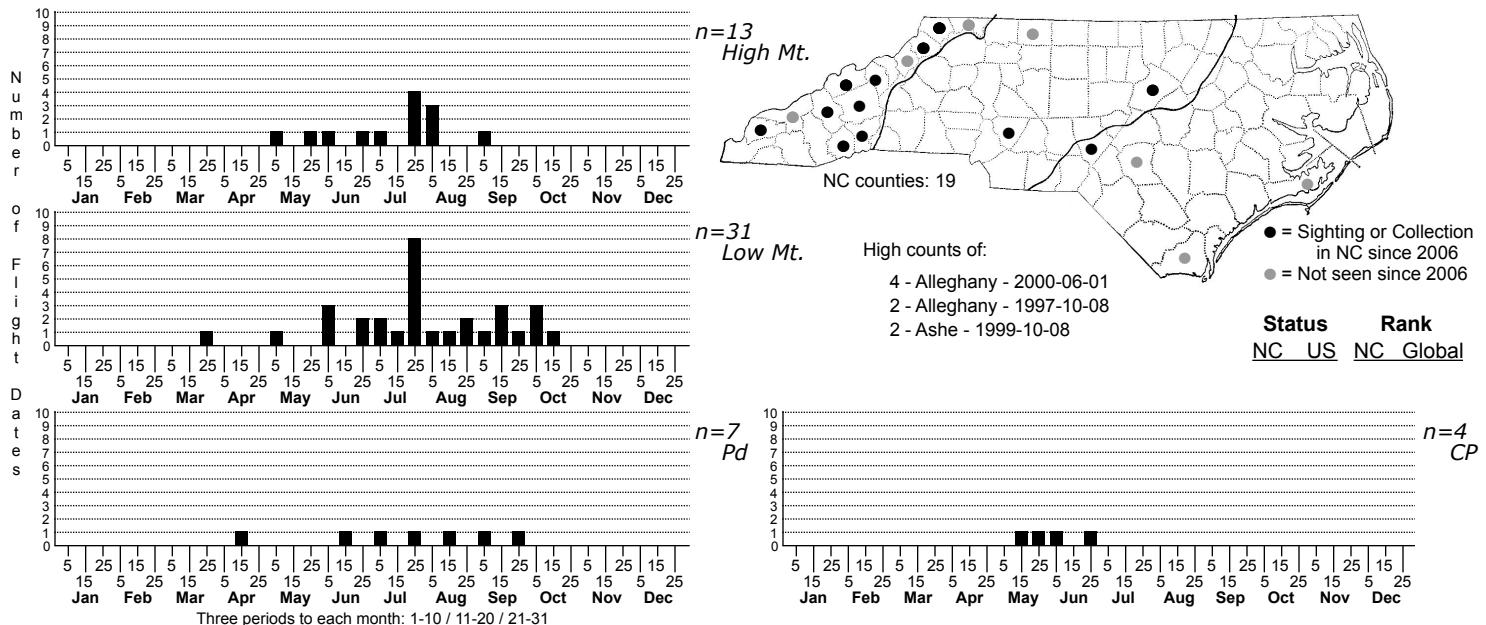


# *Caenurgina crassiuscula* Clover Looper Moth



FAMILY: Erebidae SUBFAMILY: Erebinae TRIBE: Eucliini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954)

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

ID COMMENTS: This species and males of *Caenurgina erechtea* are very similar in appearance and males may need to be dissected in order to definitely identify them. Both sexes of *crassiuscula* and males of *erechtea* have two dark bars crossing the forewing. In *crassiuscula*, both bars are relatively diffuse and usually only partly outlined; the upper bar, when complete, forms a wide loop that either joins or nearly touches the lower bar near the inner margin (Forbes, 1954). In males of *erechtea*, the lower portions of the bars are more completely edged and the upper bar is usually well separated from the lower bar and may also be separated from the inner margin by the pale edging. The ground color in *crassiuscula* is usually brown but grayer in *erechtea* (Forbes, 1954). Sexes are similar in this species, although the bars in the females may be only vaguely indicated.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Wagner et al. (2011) list pastures, fields, and roadsides as primary habitat. Our records also include woodlands but probably mainly along edges or herbaceous openings.

FOOD: Larvae feed on both grasses and legumes but appear to prefer grasses (Wagner et al, 2011). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S4]

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

COMMENTS: