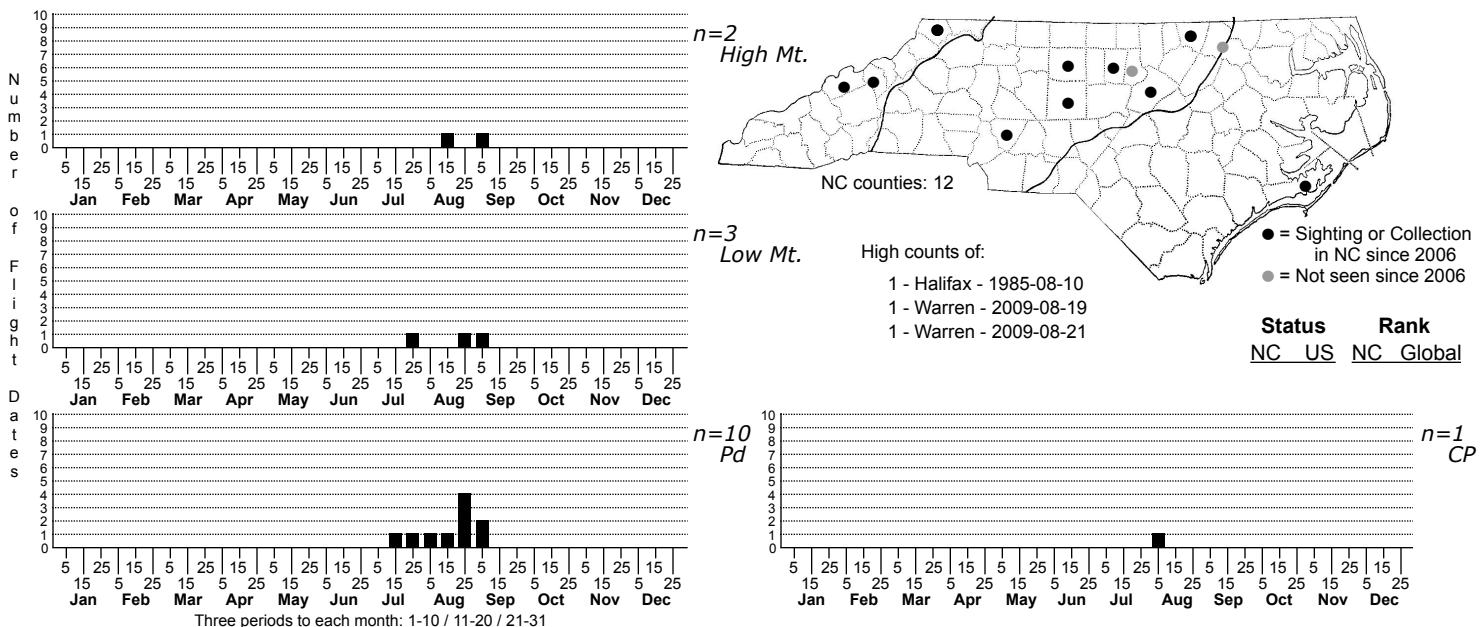


Catocala angusi Angus's Underwing



FAMILY: Erebidae **SUBFAMILY:** Erebinae **TRIBE:** Catocalini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 103 species in this genus that occur in North America (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010, 2015), 67 of which have been recorded in North Carolina. Included by Barnes and McDunnough (1918) in their Group V (also adopted by Forbes, 1954). This group comprises 10 species, all of which feed on Hickories or Walnuts (Juglandaceae). In addition to *angusi*, other members of this group that occur in North Carolina include *habilis*, *serena*, *robinsonii*, *judith*, *lebilis*, *obscura*, *residua*, and *sappho*.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954); Sargent 1976

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES: Forbes (1954); Wagner et al. (2011)

ID COMMENTS: A large, polymorphic Underwing with black hindwings. The typical form is pale gray with the lower loop of the postmedian shaded with black and with a dark shade extending downward from that line to the inner margin; a somewhat darkened subapical dash may also be present and females may possess a dark basal dash. In form *lucetta*, a dark band extends obliquely from the base of the forewing to the outer margin. A melanic form also exists. In all of these forms, the hindwings are black with a fuscous fringe. The dark hindwing fringe and dark patch on the lower forewing postmedian distinguishes *angusi* from the *robinsonii* and *myristica*, including their banded forms. The larger size, paler forewing ground color and dark hindwing fringe distinguishes form *lucetta* from *lebilis*.

DISTRIBUTION: Recorded in North Carolina primarily in the Piedmont and Lower Mountains; only one sight record exists from the lower Roanoke River floodplain in the Inner Coastal Plain

FLIGHT COMMENT: Univoltine, our records come from late July to early September

HABITAT: In North Carolina, our records come from stands of hardwoods growing on rich soils, including the nutrient-rich alluvial forests along the Roanoke River, a stand of dry-basic hardwood forest in the central Piedmont, and rich cove forests in the Mountains.

FOOD: Larvae are stenophagous, feeding primarily on shagbark hickories (Wagner et al., 2011). Based on our records, it appears to feed on both Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*) and Southern Shagbark Hickory (*C. carolinae-septentrionalis*). Wagner et al. also mention that it has been reared on Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Comes to lights to some extent; like other underwings, it probably comes to bait.

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: This is an uncommon species that appears to be a strong habitat specialist. More information is needed on its distribution, abundance, and habitat associations in North Carolina before its conservation status can be accurately determined.