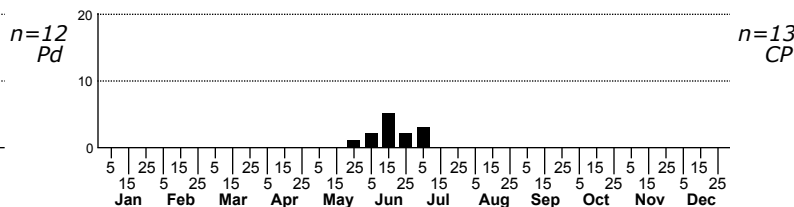
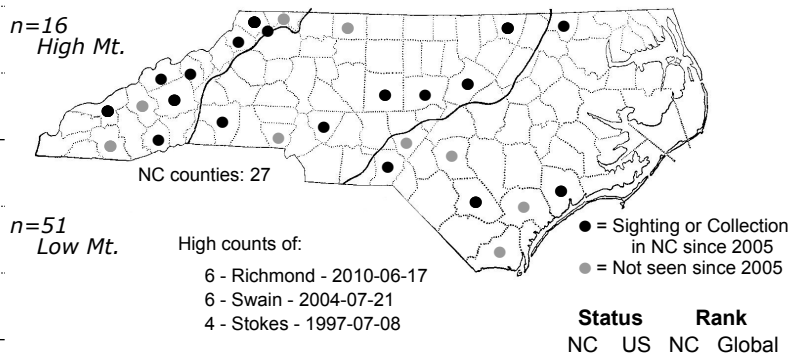
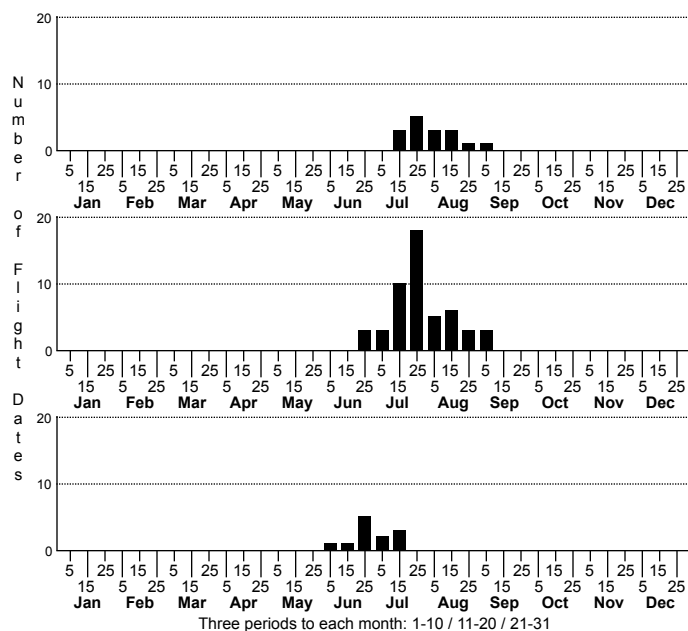


## *Catocala andromedae* Andromeda Underwing



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Erebinae TRIBE: Catocalini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 103 species in this genus that occur in North America (Gall and Hawks, 2010; Kons and Borth, 2015a,b), 67 of which have been recorded in North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

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

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The ground color of the forewings is pale bluish-gray. A distinctive black band runs from the dark thorax along the inner margin to the apex. The antemedian is black and often incomplete, but with a conspicuous black trapezoidal spot located between the antemedian and the white subreniform spot. The postmedian is crenulate, narrow and black, followed by white. The subterminal band is white and scalloped. The hindwing is solidly black with a distinctive short white bar located at the apex. The fringe is otherwise mainly black.

*Catocala gracilis* is similar in forewing color and pattern, including the dark line along the inner margin but lacks the dark trapezoidal mark and has a narrow basal dash that is missing in *andromedae*; the hindwings of *gracilis* are also banded in orange and black rather than being solidly black.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Most of our records come from dry, rocky ridges and summits in the Mountains but we also have several from flatwoods or possibly pocosin habitats.

FOOD: Larvae are apparently oligophagous, feeding on azaleas (*Rhododendron*) and blueberry (*Vaccinium*), including Sparkleberry (*V. arboreum*) (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: