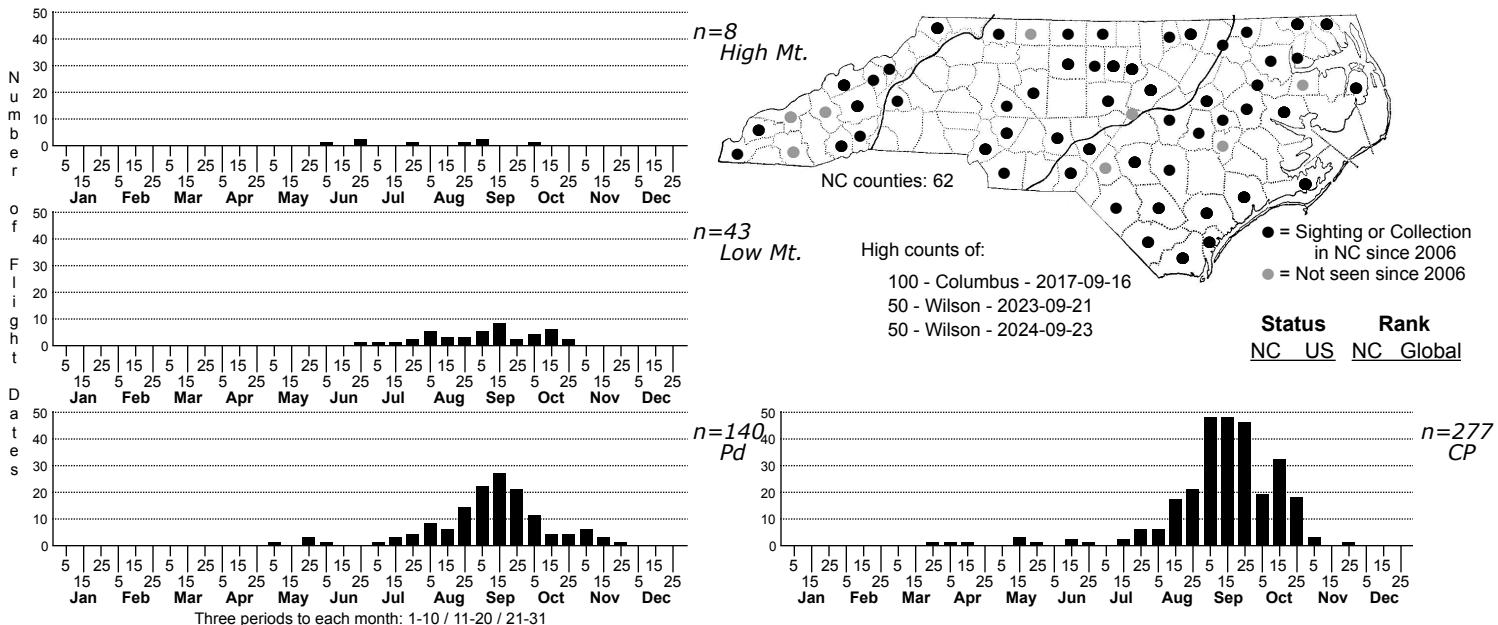


Chrysodeixis includens Soybean Looper Moth



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Plusiinae TRIBE: Argyrogrammatini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984; as *Pseudoplusia includens*); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954, as *Plusia includens*); Lafontaine and Poole (1991)

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

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, dark brown Looper, with some areas of the forewing having a bronzy luster. The silvery stigma is the most conspicuous mark, composed of an open loop followed by solid silver spot that may be separate or partially joined to the loop. *Chrysodeixis includens* and *Autographa precationis* are similar in size, pattern, and coloration. In *C. includens*, the stigma is rounded and U-shaped whereas it is a more pointed V-shape in *A. precationis*. *C. includens* also has two dark wedges that are absent in *A. precationis*, one projecting outward from the basal line and one located in the terminal area (see Forbes, 1954, for details).

DISTRIBUTION: Occurs essentially statewide in North Carolina, but is most common in the Coastal Plain and eastern Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Wagner et al. (2011) list fields, gardens, greenhouses, agricultural fields, waste places, and other open and early successional fields as habitats used by this species.

FOOD: Larvae are polyphagous on herbaceous plants, including many crop species (Wagner et al., 2011). In North Carolina, we have records for larvae feeding on Wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*) and New York Ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*).

OBSERVATION METHODS: Frequently seen at dusk or after dark nectaring on flowers. The presence of pollinia on some specimens indicate that they visit milkweed flowers.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S5]

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

COMMENTS: