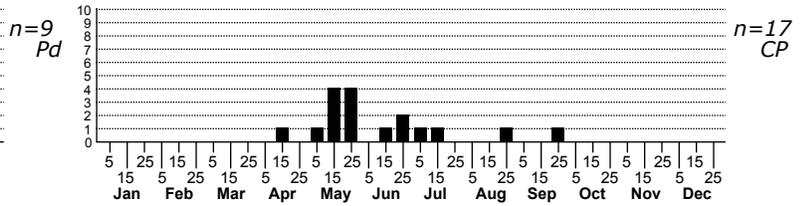
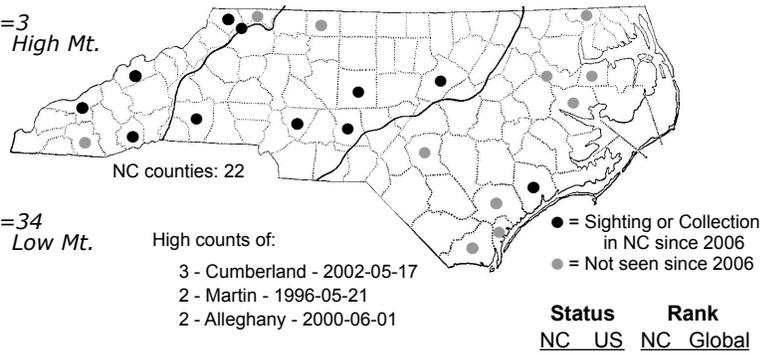
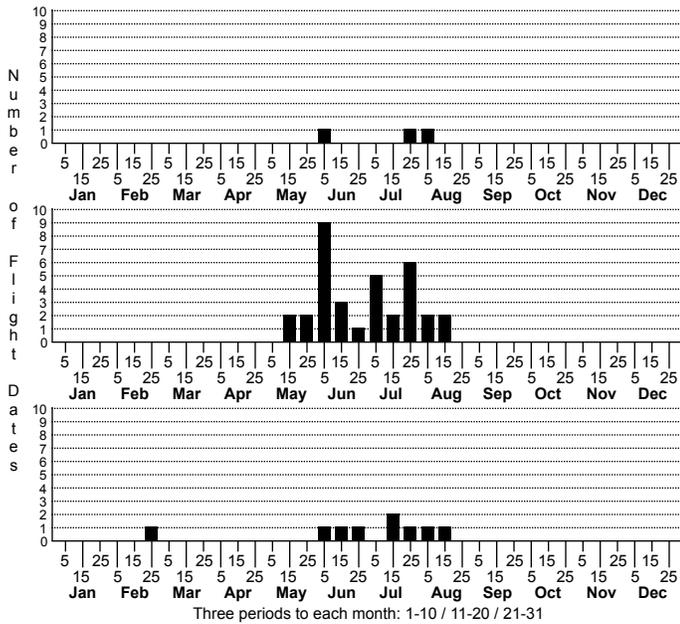


Paectes pygmaea Pygmy Paectes



FAMILY: Euteliidae SUBFAMILY: Euteliinae TRIBE:
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS:

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

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

ID COMMENTS: The ground color is blackish when fresh but fades to dull brown (Forbes, 1954). The antemedian and postmedian are black and doubled. The antemedian is deeply scalloped, with three loops. The middle loop is the largest and borders a basal spot that ranges from fuscous to pale tan. The postmedian is overlain with a blackish shade and runs out to a sharp cusp or tooth at the cell and is then smoothly incurved to the inner margin. The orbicular is small or obscure but the reniform is a narrow pale lunule with a dark center. The hindwings are black with a white outer margin.

This species is similar to *P. abrostoloides* but is much smaller and lacks the small tooth on the inner curve of the postmedian that is possessed by that species. The overall effect is that the double PM line of *P. abrostoloides* is represented as two arcs that connect, with the inner one being the larger. In contrast, *P. pygmaea* has a single, broad arc that spans the entire length between the posterior tooth and the inner margin.

DISTRIBUTION: We have scattered records from across the state, but the species seems to be most common in the Mountains, and uncommon in the Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT:

FOOD: The larvae were thought to specialize on Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), but are known to commonly use Winged Sumac (*Rhus copallinum*; Forbes, 1954; Wagner, 2005; BugGuide).

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S4S5]

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

COMMENTS: