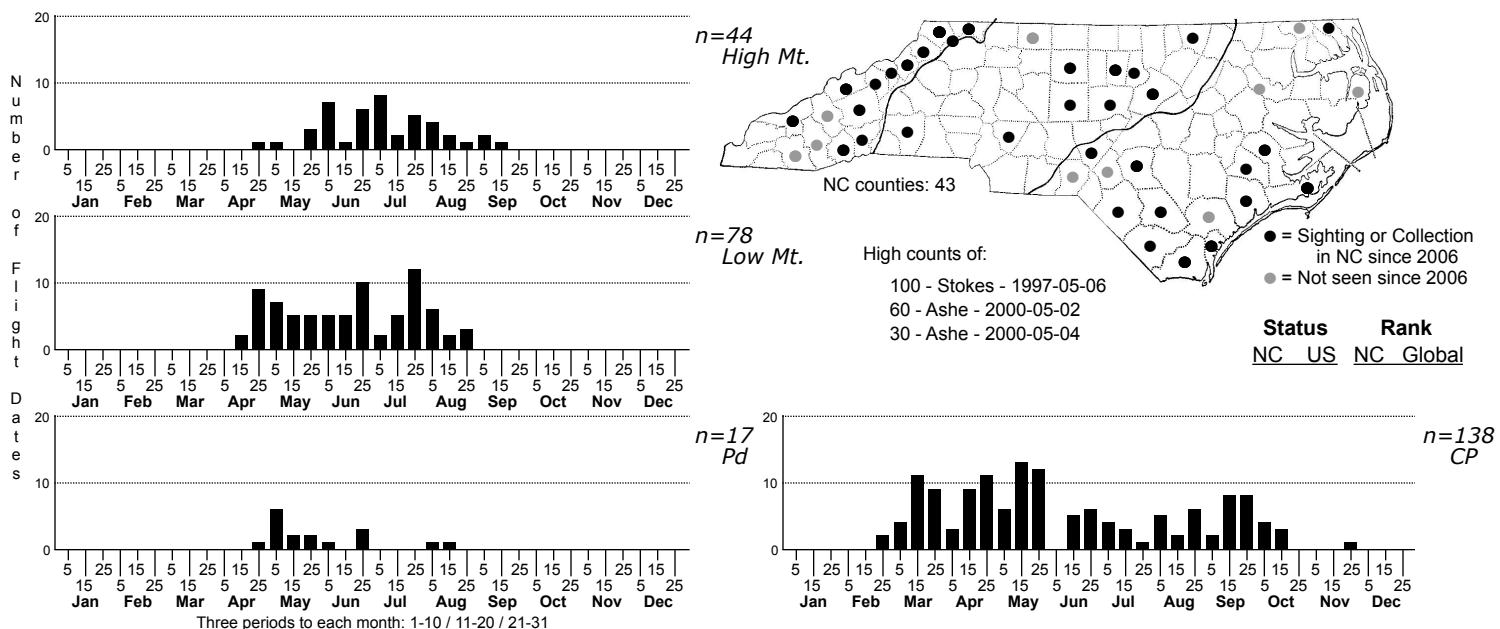


Meganola minuscula Confused Meganola



FAMILY: Nolidae SUBFAMILY: Nolinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of eight described species in this genus that occur in North America, three of which are found in North Carolina.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

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

ID COMMENTS: All three of our *Meganola* species are relatively small gray moths with similar markings. Compared to *Meganola phylla*, *M. minuscula* has a relatively weak spot at the center of the costa and weak shading at the base of the costa, but comparatively stronger lines, with the postmedian double rather than single opposite the cell (Dyar, 1898; Forbes, 1948). Compared to *Meganola spodia*, *M. minuscula* is a lighter, whitish or silvery gray without a brown tint, as is particularly evident on the hindwing, which is much darker in *M. spodia*. The costal spot on the forewing is also triangular in *minuscula* rather than rectangular as it is in *spodia* (Franclemont, 1985).

DISTRIBUTION: Occurs statewide in North Carolina.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Our records come primarily from upland stands of Oak-Hickory Forests, ranging from dry to mesic.

FOOD: Larvae feed on oaks (*Quercus*) (Wagner et al., 2011), and have also been reported on willow (*Salix*) (Tietz, 1972; Covell, 1984). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G4 SNR [S5]

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

COMMENTS: