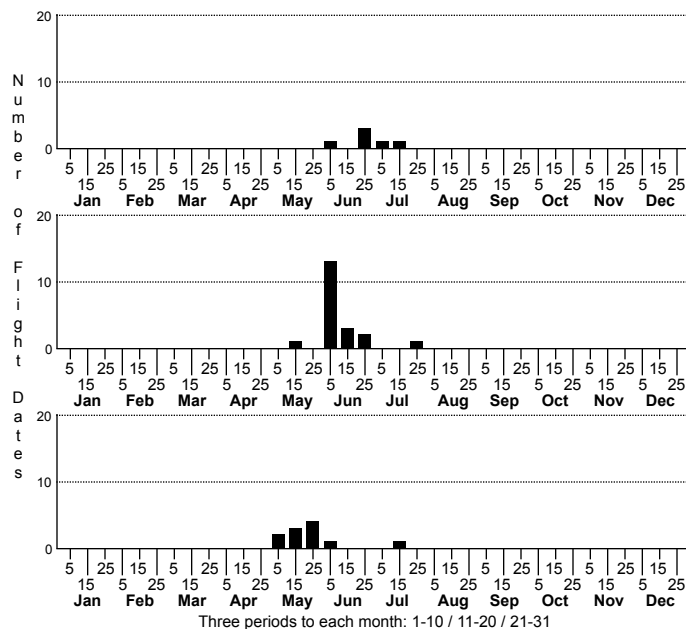


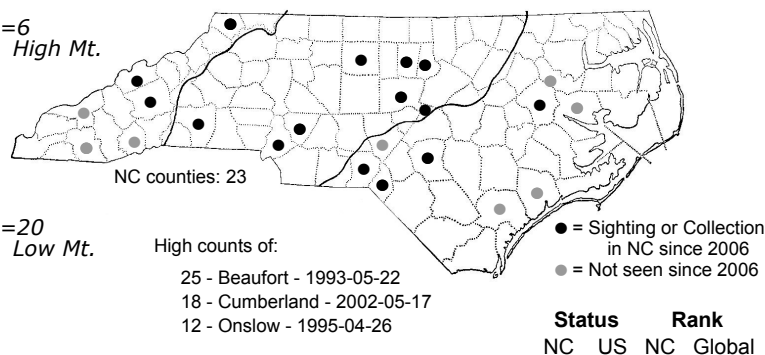
# *Meganola spodia* Ashy Meganola



n=6  
High Mt.

n=20  
Low Mt.

n=11  
Pd



n=25  
CP

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: 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 both Meganola phylla and minuscula, both of which are whitish or silvery gray, M. spodia has a browner tint, which is particularly evident on the darker hindwings (Franclemont, 1985). As in M. minuscula but not phylla, the lines are strongly marked, with the postmedian double rather than single. The mid-costal spot is rectangular in spodia rather than triangular, as it is in the other two species (Franclemont, 1985).

DISTRIBUTION: The species is widespread but relatively uncommon over much of the state, particularly the outer Coastal Plain and higher elevations in the Mountains.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Our records come from a wide range of oak-containing habitats, including maritime forests, bottomlands, sand ridge scrub, mesic slopes, and dry ridges.

FOOD: Larvae feed on oaks, including red and white oaks (Wagner et al., 2011). Reported hosts include White Oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>), Chestnut Oak (<i>Q. montana</i>), Northern Red Oak (<i>Q. rubra</i>), Post Oak (<i>Q. stellata</i>), and Black Oak (<i>Q. velutina</i>) (Robinson et al., 2010; Wagner et al., 2011). We do not have any feeding records in North Carolina.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S3S4]

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

COMMENTS: