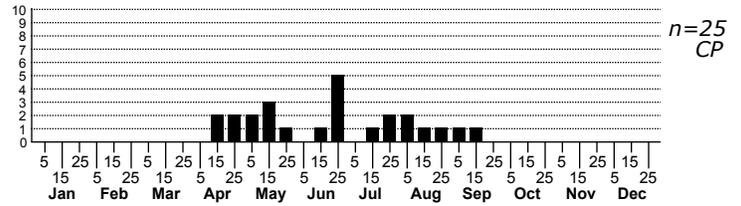
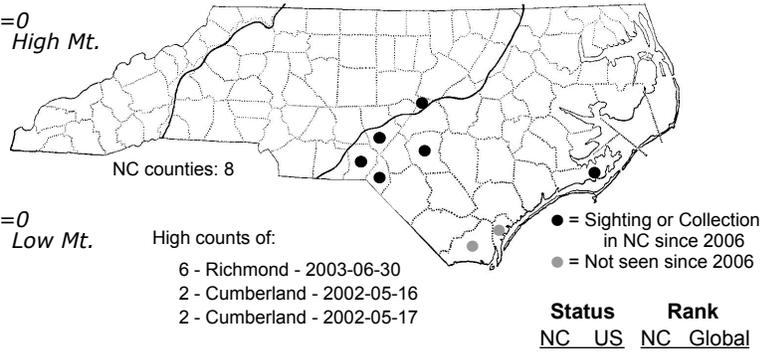
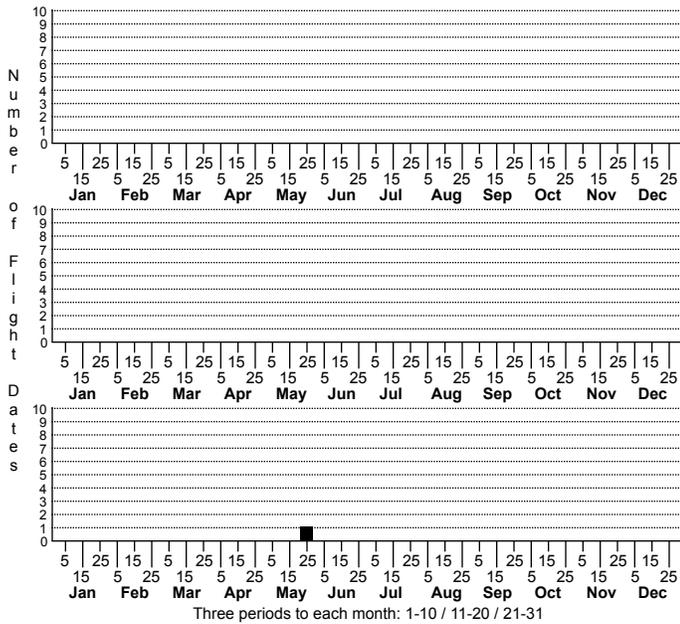


*Ponometia parvula* None



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Acontiinae TRIBE: Acontiini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 34 species in this genus that occur in North America north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010), six of which have been recorded in North Carolina

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Hampson (1910); Poole (2016)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-small, yellow Acontiine. The ground color of the forewings is ochraceous-yellow, shaded with rufous, particular a subapical triangle extending inward from the outer margin to the reniform (Hampson, 1910). The transverse lines are absent and the only markings are a small, black orbicular and a smaller, less distinct brownish ring representing the reniform. The fringe are dark, lead colored. The hindwing is whitish but suffused with reddish to yellowish-brown. The thorax is ochraceous-yellow and the abdomen is "gilded-cinereous" (Walker, 1865). *Ponometia torticina* is similar in size and appearance but lacks the rufous subapical triangle (Hampson, 1910); its range is also western and does not apparently overlap with *parvula* (Poole, 2016). More likely to be confused with *parvula* is *Marimatha nigrofimbria*, whose ranges overlap. *Nigrofimbria*, however, is a brighter yellow and again lacks the rufous subapical triangle.

DISTRIBUTION: This species appears to be restricted to the southern Atlantic Coastal Plain and Florida (Poole, 2016). In North Carolina, our records all come from the southern half of the Coastal Plain, including the Fall-line Sandhills

FLIGHT COMMENT: Our records extend over most of the growing season, from April to September; we do not yet have enough records to determine if there are separate flights

HABITAT: Almost all of our records come from open, wet habitats, including Longleaf Pine Savannas, Sandhill Seeps, and sedgy habitats associated with filled-in beaver ponds. Only one of our records comes from dry Pine-Scrub Oak Sandhill habitat, with the nearest open, herb-dominated wetland located approximately 250 meters away.

FOOD: Larval host plants are apparently unknown but six other members of this genus for which host plants have been identified all feed on the flowers of composites (Asteraceae) (Wagner et al., 2011). At Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall, where many of our records come from, members of the Asteraceae that are found in the same habitats include Southern Swamp Aster (*Eurybia paludosa*), which has a range closely coinciding with *P. parvula*, as well as several species of *Eupatorium*, whose ranges do not match as closely (see Hall, 2004).

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: All of our records come from blacklight traps.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S2S3

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

COMMENTS: We have few records for this apparently globally restricted species. It also appears to be specialized on wet, Longleaf-pine habitats, but we still do not have enough information about its host plants or habitat associations to be able to give an accurate assessment of its conservation status.