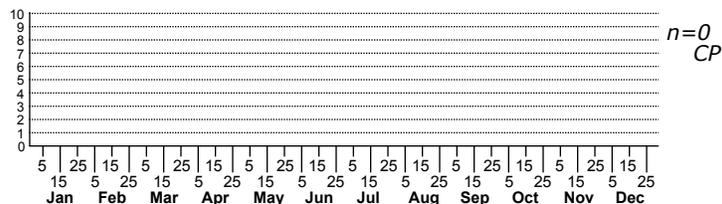
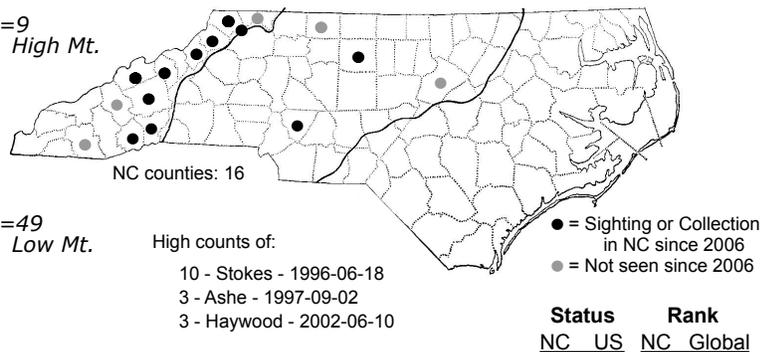
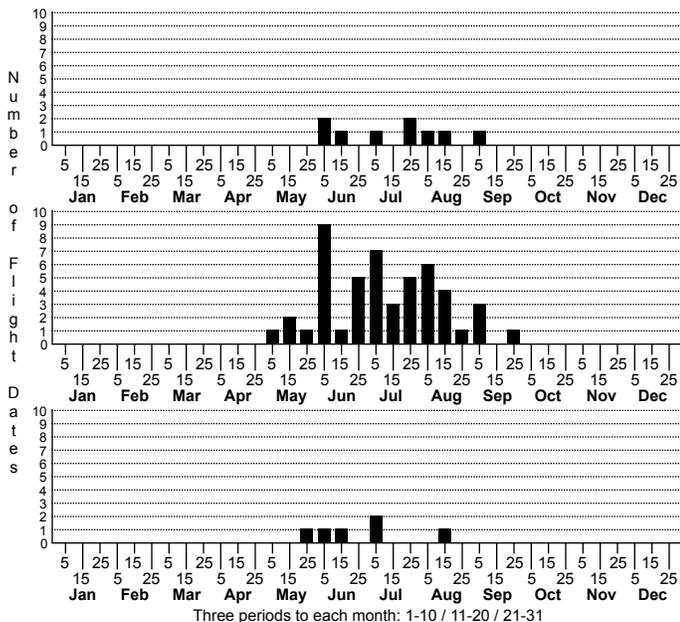


Ponometia erastrioides Small Bird-dropping Moth



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: Covell (1984; as *Tarachidia erastrioides*); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS:

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Our records come mainly from open habitats, including old fields and disturbed areas in the Piedmont, and open woodlands and balds in the Mountains.

FOOD: Larvae feed on ragweed (*Ambrosia* spp.) (Wagner et al., 2011). There are multiple BugGuide records from outside North Carolina of larvae feeding on Giant Ragweed (*A. trifida*).

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: