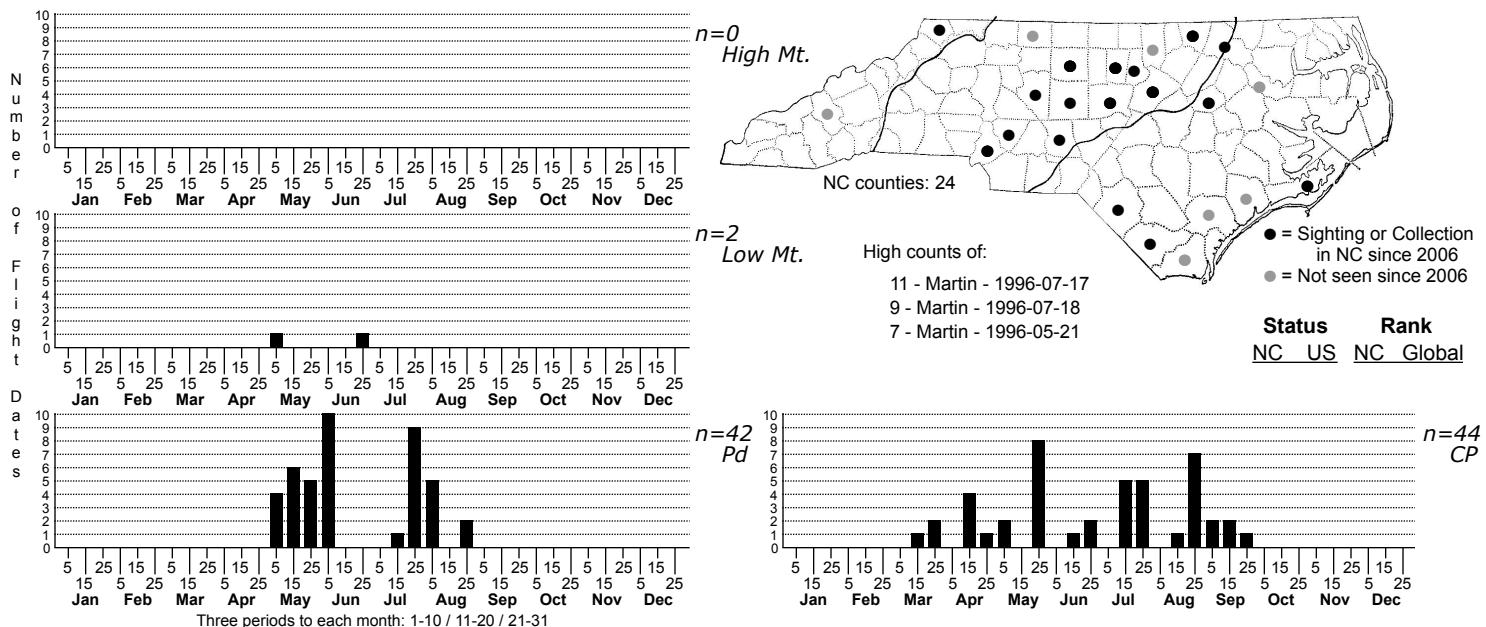


Acronicta vinnula Delightful Dagger



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Acronictinae TRIBE:

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of 74 species in this genus found in North America north of Mexico (Schmidt and Anweiler, 2020), 42 of which have been recorded in North Carolina. *Acronicta vinnula* is a member of Species Group II of Forbes (1954), which includes 17 additional species in North Carolina.

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

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Forbes (1954); Schmidt and Anweiler (2020)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS:

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: The majority of our records come from bottomland hardwoods and upland forests growing on mafic substrates, all where American and/or Slippery Elms are likely to occur. However, we also have records from blackwater bottomlands and adjoining ridges where neither American or Slippery Elms would be expected. Winged Elm may be a possibility in some of those areas but has not been recorded in some areas of the Outer Coastal Plain where the moth has been collected (e.g., Carteret and Pender; J.B. Sullivan, cited by Schmidt and Anweiler, 2020).

FOOD: Larvae feed on elms (*Ulmus* spp.), with American Elm (*U. americana*) probably the most used (Wagner et al., 2011). In North Carolina, the species has been observed feeding on Winged Elm (*U. alata*).

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: