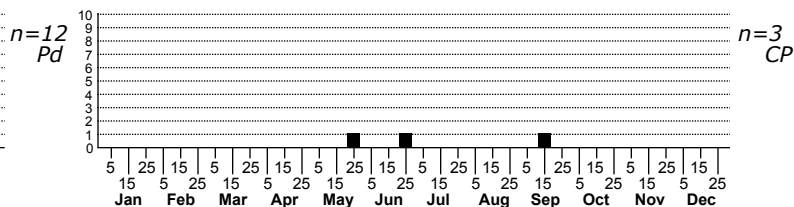
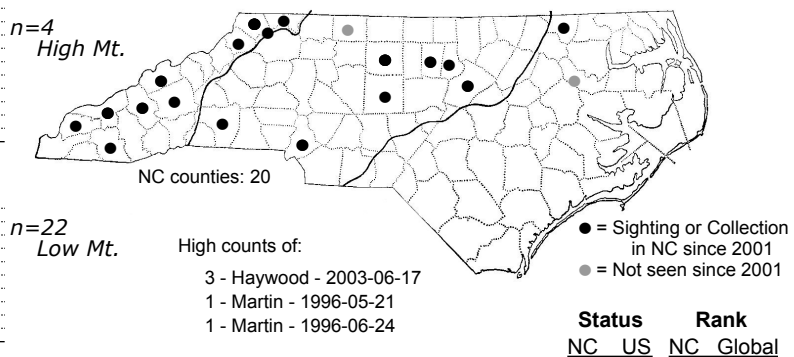
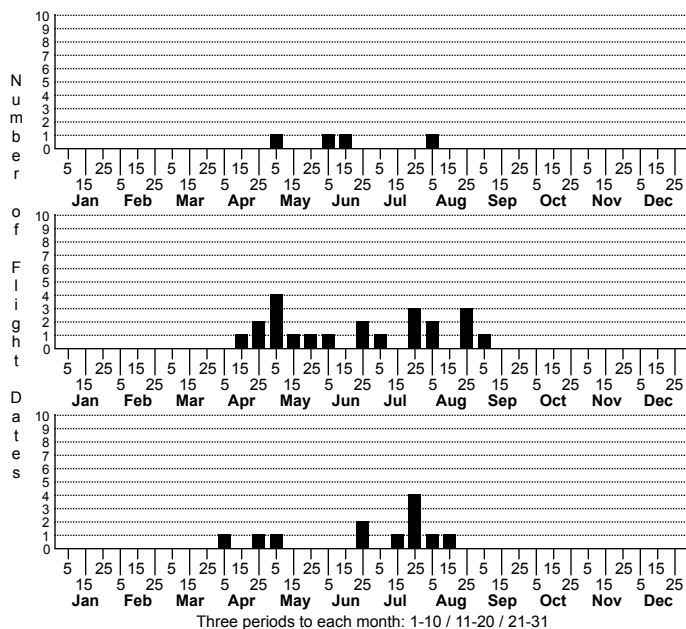


Acronicta interrupta Interrupted Dagger



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. This species is placed in subgenus *Agriopodes* by Schmidt and Anweiler, and in the *Hasta* Species Group. Other members of this group in North Carolina include *hamamelis*, *lithospila*, *innotata*, *betulae*, *radcliffei*, *hasta*, *laetifica*, *spingigera*, *superans*, *morula*, and *lobeliae*.

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: In the Coastal Plain, we have records only from brownwater river bottomland forests, where Elm may be the most likely host plant. In the Piedmont, records also come from rich habitats, including some fairly dry upland sites with mafic rock formations. The same is true in the Mountains, where there are a number of records from the Amphibolite Mountains and from rich cove forests elsewhere. A few records come from high elevation forests, where Pin Cherry and Mountain Ash are common.

FOOD: Larvae feed on a wide range of hardwood species (Wagner et al., 2011; Schmidt and Anweiler, 2020). Prentence (1962) found larvae most commonly on Elm, but also on Fire (=Pin) Cherry, Mountain Ash, Hop Hornbeam, and Birches. Wagner et al. report that captive larvae show a preference for Fire Cherry and Apple over Black Cherry.

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 S3S4

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

COMMENTS: