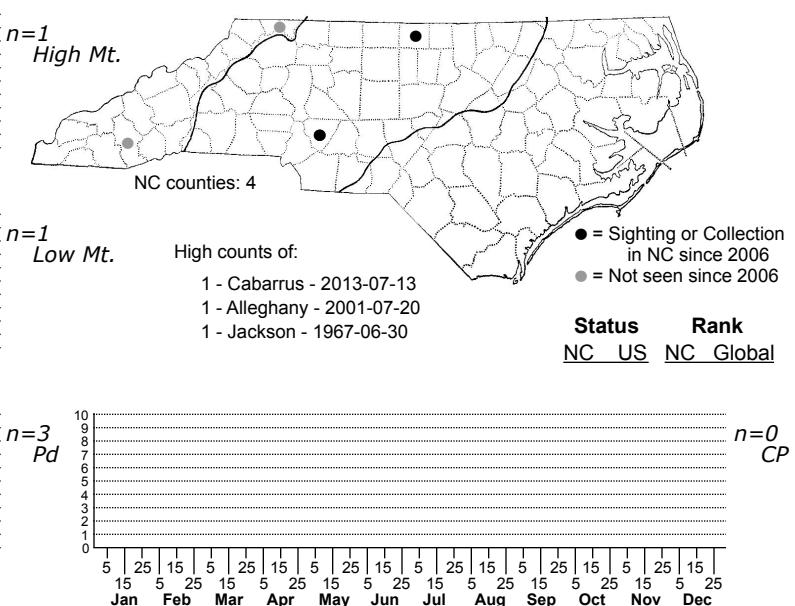
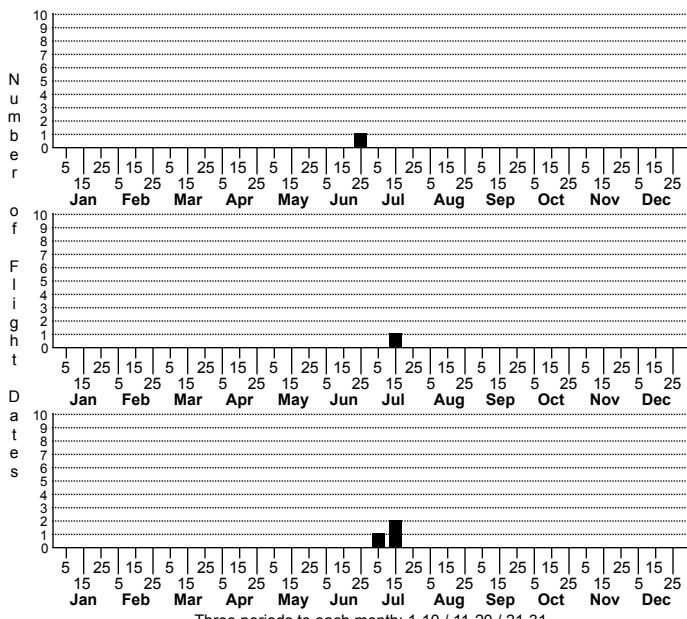


Apamea quinteri None



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Apameini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: A Holarctic genus of about 140 species, with 63 recorded in North America, mostly from boreal or montane habitats (Mikkola et al., 2009). Seventeen species occur in North Carolina with the majority of records coming from the mountains.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Mikkola et al. (2009)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: A medium-sized, dark grayish-brown Noctuid, with females possessing a paler, yellowish basal area. The ground color is brownish gray. The antemedian and postmedian lines are double and filled with a somewhat paler gray, as are the orbicular and reniform spots. A blackish basal dash is present along with similar streaks in the fold in the medial, subterminal and terminal areas. The subterminal line is pale and irregular and lacks the sharply defined w-mark that is frequently found in members of this genus. The hindwings are darker fuscous (Mikkola et al., 2009). *Apamea cariosa* is similar in size, coloration, and pattern, but has a stronger w-mark in the subterminal area and a more sharply defined medial dash; females in *cariosa* are more uniformly colored than in *quinteri*, lacking the pale basal patch.

DISTRIBUTION: Recorded in the southern and northern Mountains of North Carolina, as well as the western Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Our records come from June and July.

HABITAT: Mikkola et al. (2009) state that *quinteri* is associated with prairie remnants, at least in some parts of its range. In North Carolina, however, one record comes from a stand of Spruce-Fir Forest located above 6,000 ft in elevation, another from a riparian area located below 3,000 ft, and a site in the western Piedmont not known to have any prairie remnants located nearby.

FOOD: Larval hosts are unknown, but members of this genus generally feed on grasses.

OBSERVATION METHODS: Comes to lights but to what extent is not clear

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SNR [S1S2]

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

COMMENTS: This is a poorly known moth throughout its range. In North Carolina, too little is known about its residency status, distribution, host plants and habitat affinities to estimate its conservation status.