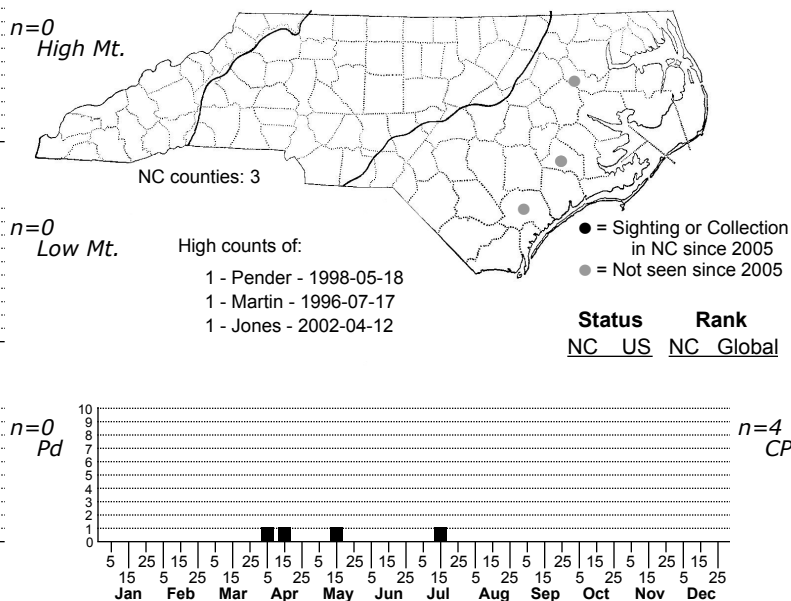


Properigea tapeta None



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Xylenini

TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: This North American genus contains some 10 described species, of which 2 reach North Carolina.

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Not in either field guide

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The size is similar to Elaphria or most Lacinipolia. The forewing is orange-red with a darker median band and white reniform; the wing pattern should suffice to identify this species. Sexes are similar.

DISTRIBUTION: All of our records come from the Outer Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Has a fairly extended flight period, from late March to July. There are not yet enough records to determine if there are separate flights.

HABITAT: Our records come mainly from riparian forests or mesic hardwoods on slopes adjoining floodplains in the Coastal Plain. One record also exists from sandhills habitat but located close to a river floodplain and slopes.

FOOD: Host plants are apparently unrecorded but western species in this genus feed on ferns (Lafontaine, pers. comm. to JBS, based on information from T. McCabe).

OBSERVATION_METHODS: Known only from light trap studies. Response to bait (possible) and flowers (unlikely) unknown.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR SU

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

COMMENTS: We have only a few records for this species, which is more common in Florida and the Gulf Coast. Currently too little is known about its distribution, abundance, host plants, and habitat associations in North Carolina to be sure about its status as a resident species, let alone determine its conservation needs.