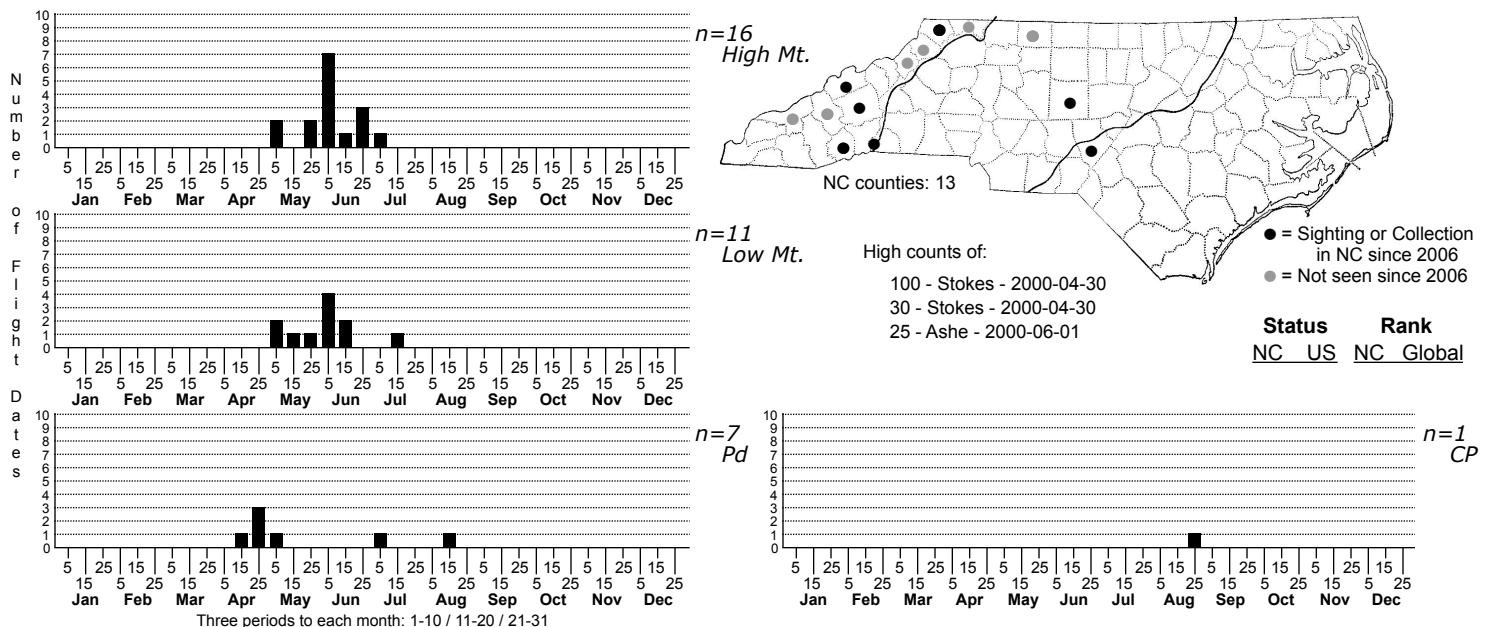


Elaphria alapallida Pale-winged Midget



FAMILY: Noctuidae SUBFAMILY: Noctuinae TRIBE: Elaphriini

TAXONOMIC COMMENTS: One of fourteen species in this genus that occur in North America north of Mexico (Lafontaine and Schmidt, 2010), nine of which have been recorded in North Carolina

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS: Pogue and Sullivan (2003)

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: This is a late spring-summer-flying, primarily montane species in North Carolina. The wing pattern is similar to those of the other members of this complex but is brighter-appearing particularly compared to *festivoides* due to the presence of patches of rufous and white scales (Pogue and Sullivan, 2003). The hindwings in this species are white rather than the fuscous found in *cornutinus* or *festivoides*. Compared to *festivoides*, the markings are also more distinct. In particular, the claviform spot is usually well-developed in *alapallida* but indistinct or missing in *festivoides*.

DISTRIBUTION: This species is primarily northern in its distribution. It is nearly restricted to the Blue Ridge in North Carolina, but with records from both the Sauratown and Uwharrie Mountains, two complexes of monadnocks in the Piedmont.

FLIGHT COMMENT: *Alapallida* is single-brooded. In North Carolina, it flies from late April to the end of June (Pogue and Sullivan, 2003).

HABITAT: Our records come mainly from wet-mesic forests in the Mountains, including riparian forests, mountain bogs, and high elevation hardwoods. Piedmont records all come from monadnocks with extensive mesic slopes.

FOOD: Larval host plants appear to be unknown (Wagner et al., 2011)

OBSERVATION METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 SNR [S2S3]

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

COMMENTS: