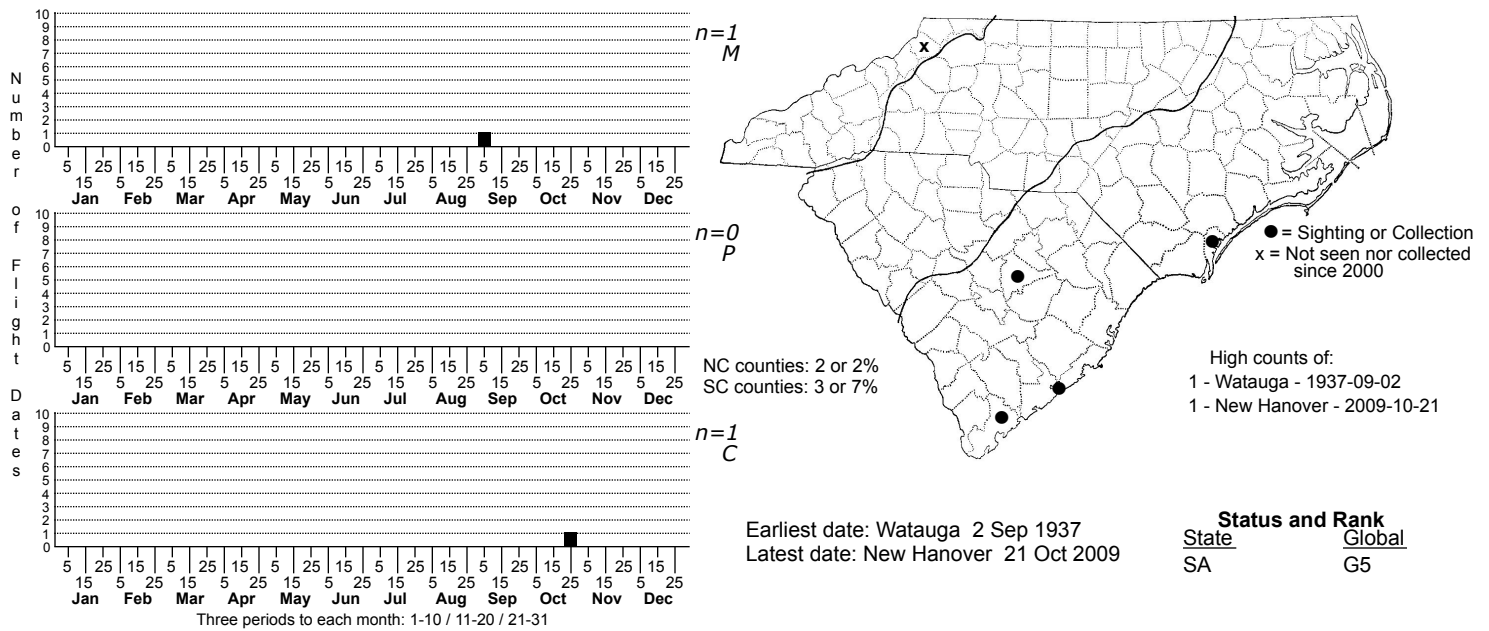


# Orange-barred Sulphur *Phoebis philea*



**DISTRIBUTION:** An accidental migrant only; recorded only in NC from one Mountain county (Watauga) and one along the coast (New Hanover). Resident in some Gulf Coast states, but primarily in FL.

**ABUNDANCE:** Accidental; just two state records.

**FLIGHT PERIOD:** The NC records are for September 2 and October 21.

**HABITAT:** Presumably open country such as fields, gardens, etc.

**FOOD AND NECTAR PLANTS:** Sennas (*Senna* spp.) are foodplants. Nectar plants are not known for NC.

**COMMENTS:** This species is noticeably larger than the Cloudless Sulphur, but the orange color on the wings might be difficult to spot unless the butterflies are perched. SC had its first state records in 1999. A female seen in Sumter in the summer laid eggs, and Evelyn Dabbs photographed all four stages of the life cycle, including adults of the next brood! Dennis Forsythe observed a female in Charleston County on October 18.

Brimley (1938) gives the first state record as being a specimen taken at Grandfather Mountain, at 4000 feet, on September 2, 1937. Oddly, this would seem to be about the last place a tropical butterfly species would be found in the state! Finally, a more "typical" report came in 2009, when Derb Carter observed a male in flight and perched at a golf course, along the coast at Wilmington, on October 21.