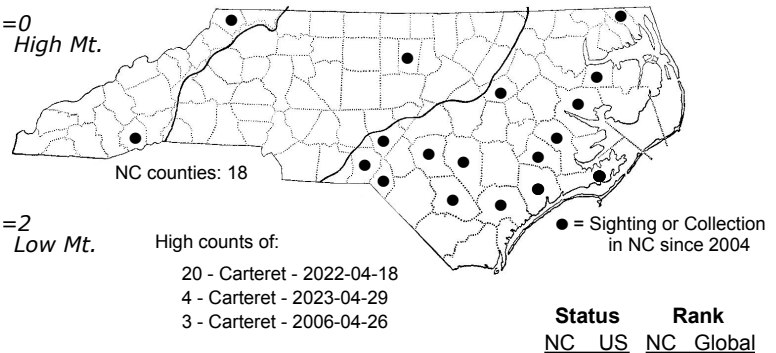
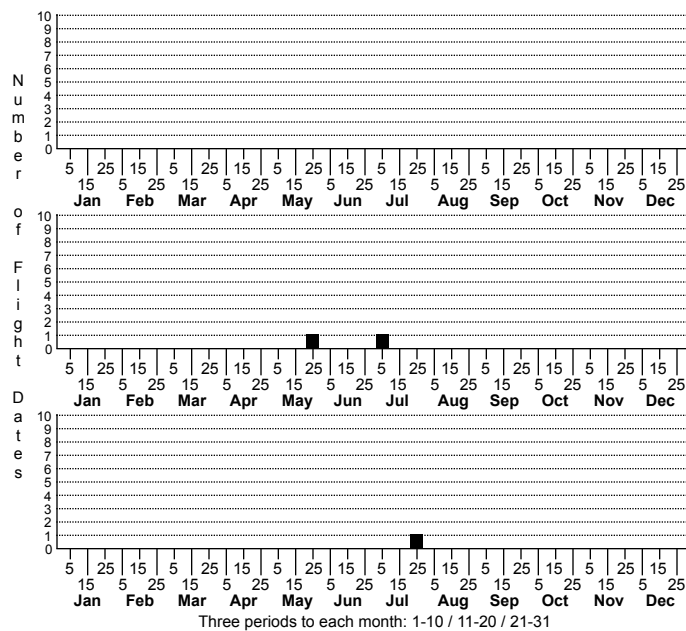


# Apogeshna stenialis Checkered Apogeshna Moth



FAMILY: Crambidae SUBFAMILY: Pyraustinae TRIBE: Spilomelini  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS:

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: In this species the yellow ground color prevails on the basal two-thirds of the forewing and hindwing, while the terminal third is heavily shaded with brown. The orbicular, claviform, and reniform spots are usually evident on the forewing, and have thick brown margins and yellow centers. The antemedial and postmedial lines are both wide and dark brown, with the postmedial having a thin margin of yellow on the outer side. A short median line extends from the inner margin and terminates before reaching the reniform spot. A dark and somewhat diffuse terminal line is present, along with a thinner dark line along the base of the fringe. The hindwing has coloration and shading that is similar to the forewing. The antemedial line sometimes forks just before reaching the costa, while the postmedial line often joins adjoining shaded regions to form a circle with a yellow center. The terminal line and fringe are similar to those of the forewing. The abdomen has a mixture of brown and yellow banding, and there are prominent dark brown spots on the thorax and at the extreme base of the wings.

<i>Apogeshna stenialis</i> and <i>Anageshna primordialis</i> have similar markings, but the region before the postmedial line is predominantly yellow rather than brown as seen in <i>A. primordialis</i>. In addition, the orbicular and claviform spots are usually evident in <i>A. stenialis</i> and the thorax is yellow with two brown spots near the middle.

DISTRIBUTION: <i>Apogeshna stenialis</i> is found in southern Canada (Ontario; Quebec) and throughout the eastern U.S. from Maine southward to southern Florida, and westward to central Texas, Central Oklahoma, eastern Kansas, eastern Nebraska and eastern Minnesota. We have records from all three physiographic provinces, with the majority from the Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT COMMENT: The adults have been observed from January through October in the southern part of the range, and from April through August farther North. As of 2023, our records range from early April through early August, with local populations in the Coastal Plain appearing to have two generations per year.

HABITAT: Many of our records are from xeric pinelands in the Sandhills and the outer Coastal Plain, with a few from more mesic residential neighborhoods.

FOOD: The plant hosts (if any) are undocumented.

OBSERVATION\_METHODS: The adults are attracted to lights.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: GNR S4S5

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

COMMENTS: This species appears to be common and secure throughout the Coastal Plain.