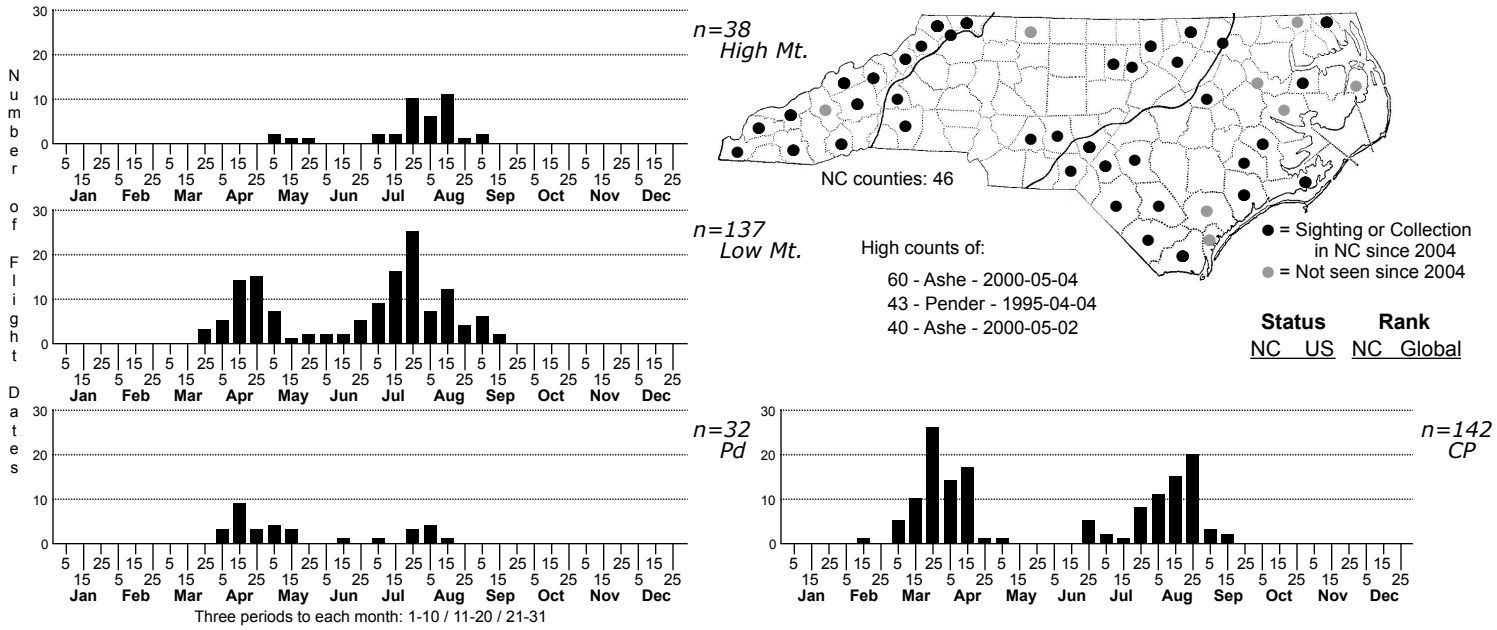
Pero ancetaria Hubner's Pero Moth



FAMILY: Geometridae SUBFAMILY: Ennominae TRIBE: Azelinini
TAXONOMIC_COMMENTS: One of nineteen species in this genus that occur in North America north of Mexico (Poole, 1987; Pohl et al., 2016), four of which have been recorded in North Carolina

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984; as Pero hubneraria)
ONLINE PHOTOS:
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:
TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: In both sexes, the ground color of the forewings is dark, maroon brown; the subterminal area is pale but often mottled with darker patches; many specimens show at least a dark smudge located within the medial indentation of the postmedian line. The postmedian line appears to be more undulating in ancetaria than in honestaria, but the details need to be confirmed based on specimens confirmed by dissection. Brown individuals of Pero honestaria are similar, but lack the mottling in the subterminal area (Poole, 1987). Individuals of Pero morrisonia are also similar, possessing mottled subterminal areas, but show a contrast in the median area of the forewings between the light brown costa and the darker inner area (Poole, 1987). Some specimens may need to be dissected (or the eighth sternite brushed in males) in order to determine the species.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Associated with forests, woodlands, and wooded swamps (Wagner et al., 2001). North Carolina records come from maritime forests, Longleaf Pine flatwoods and savannas, riverine and non-riverine swamp forests, peatlands, dry sand ridges, mesic hardwood forests, cove forests, and high elevation forests.

FOOD: Polyphagous on hardwood trees and shrubs, including alder, birch, and willow (Wagner et al., 2001)

OBSERVATION_METHODS:

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM RANKS: G5 S5

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

COMMENTS: