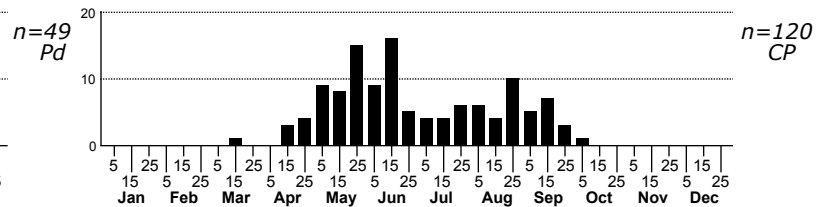
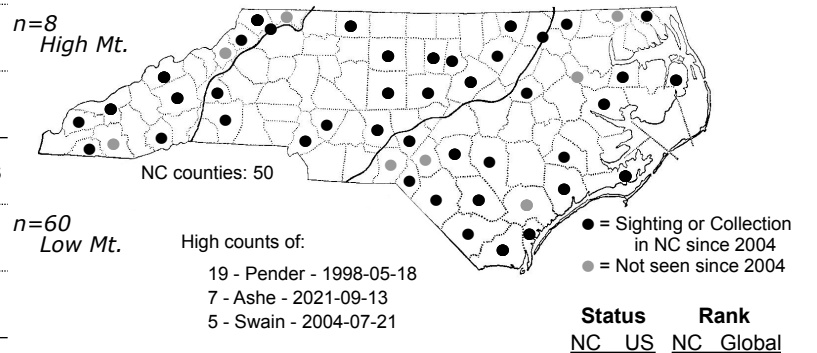
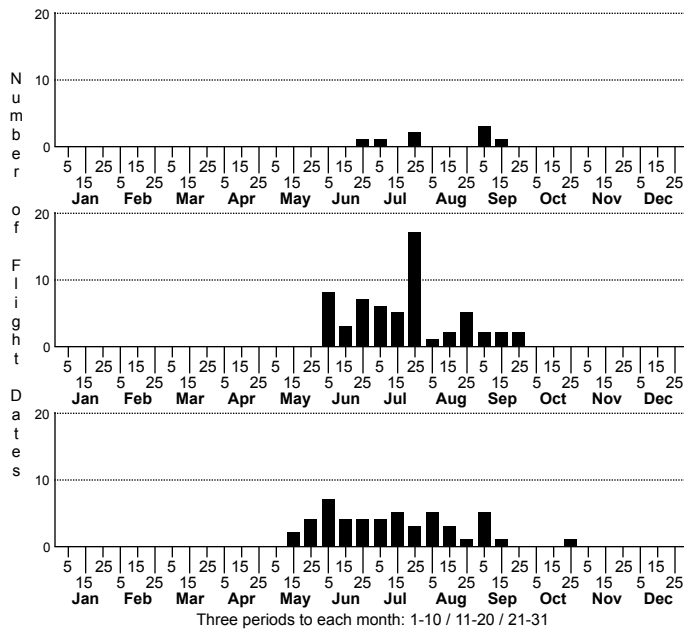


## *Metalectra discalis* Common Fungus Moth



FAMILY: Erebiidae SUBFAMILY: Boletobiinae TRIBE:  
TAXONOMIC\_COMMENTS:

FIELD GUIDE DESCRIPTIONS: Covell (1984); Beadle and Leckie (2012)

ONLINE PHOTOS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, ADULTS:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION, IMMATURE STAGES:

ID COMMENTS: The ground color is umber, strongly mottled with slate gray, brown, black, red, and luteous (Forbes, 1954). The antemedian is double and luteous, with a brown center. Its course is somewhat excurved and waved. The postmedian is single and black, following a sinuous but even course. It is followed by yellowish patch at the costa and by a series of black and luteous dots over the inner portion. A similar series of black and luteous dots occur along the veins in the subterminal area. The strongest line is the median, which is black, fairly broad, and often extending across the width of the wing. The reniform is also black, often followed by a luteous bar. Hindwings are similar in coloration and pattern to the forewings.

*Metalectra quadrisignata* is similar but often has a more extensive area of gray, often with a purplish sheen or rose shading. The luteous dots are sometimes absent and the median bar is usually narrower than in *discalis*, more undulating or incomplete. In males, the structural tufts of hair pencils on the legs are often more useful than the wing pattern and coloration. In relatively fresh specimens, the pair of tufts on the second abdominal segment are also diagnostic.

DISTRIBUTION: Please refer to the dot map.

FLIGHT COMMENT: Please refer to the flight charts.

HABITAT: Wagner et al. (2011) list woodlands and forests as habitat. Our records come areas where hardwoods are present, from both dry and wet sites

FOOD: Larvae feed on Bracket fungus and other fungi. Larvae have also been reared on algae (Wagner et al., 2011)

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: