Catocala grynea (Cramer) in Louisiana

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In Louisiana, Catocala grynea (Cramer) (Fig. 1) is usually a very common species when encountered. Covell (1984), listed the range to include all of eastern United States, west to South Dakota and Texas.

The winglength is generally about 4-5 cm, forewings are dull greenish-gray in ground color, with black transverse markings. A band of brownish scales along inner margin abruptly extending upward to costal margin as postmedian band. Additional brown scales accompany the borders of median and antemedian lines. No basal dash evident. Hindwing deep orange with broad black outer margin band. U-shaped inner band, ends intersecting costal margin and wing base.

Both Sargent (1976) and Covell (1984) list the foodplants as: apple, hawthorn, and plum, and the flight periods encompassing June through September. In Louisiana the flight period begins end of April, peaking end of May, with population numbers trailing downward to mid-July (Fig. 2). C. grynea has been taken in: Ascension, Natchitoches, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany Parish, Webster, and Winn Parishes (Fig. 3).

Fig. 1. Catocala grynea (Cramer), Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

Fig. 2. C. grynea collected at sec. 24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi. NE Abita Springs, Louisiana, 1984 - 1992. n = 2383

Fig. 3. Parish records for C. grynea captured in Louisiana based on this author’s records.

Literature Cited