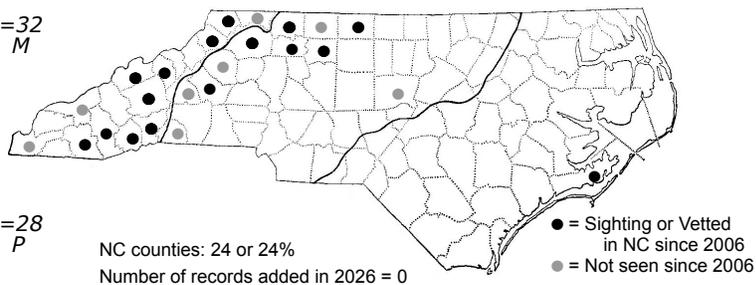
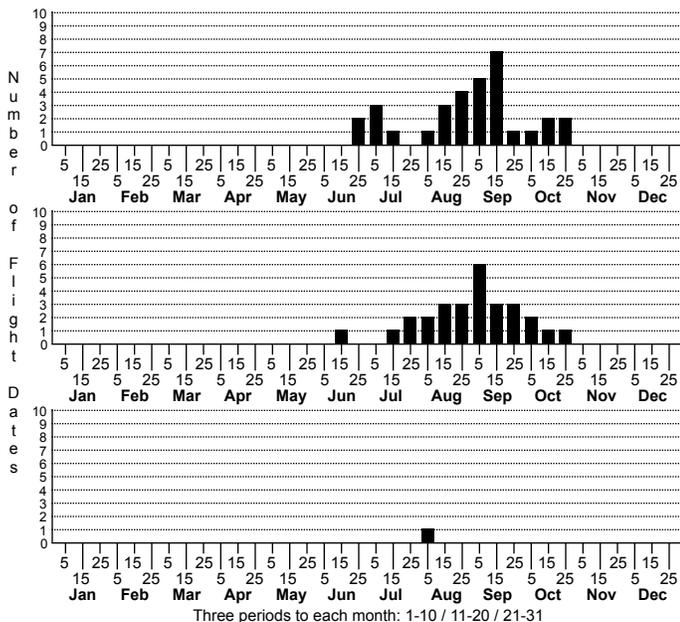


Stylurus spiniceps Arrow Clubtail



High counts of:
6 - Wilkes; P - 1962-08-26
5 - Ashe - 1970-09-13
5 - McDowell; P - 1998-09-10

Earliest date: Chatham 1957-06-14
Latest date: Watauga 2016-10-25

Status	Rank		
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S3S4	G5
[S3]			

DISTRIBUTION: Essentially throughout the mountains and Piedmont foothills, and in the northern Piedmont east to Rockingham County. A record for Chatham County, far to the east and southeast of other records, might be of a stray. A 2020 photo record from the immediate coast in Carteret County was a shock, and certainly was of a stray individual.

ABUNDANCE: Rare to locally uncommon in the mountains and foothills. Rare into the north-central Piedmont, at least away from the foothills.

FLIGHT: Mainly in late summer and fall, but many dates starting in early summer. Flight is from mid- or late June to late October; generally from mid-August into early October.

HABITAT: Large rivers, less so at large streams or at lakes. Favors sandy bottoms.

BEHAVIOR: Males are very strong fliers and may forage a long distance from water, in fields and other places. As with other *Stylurus* species, males in particular may perch on a leaf and hang vertically on it as the leaf bends under the weight of the insect. They also forage in long flights over water.

COMMENTS: This large species has an unusually long (and slender) abdomen, giving rise to the common name, as it does resemble an arrow in some respects. It is not one of the rarer clubtails in the mountains and foothills; however, because it flies mostly in very late summer and autumn, after much of the odonate field work is done, records have been somewhat slow to accumulate. There are still less than 30 records for the mountain province, though we do have a number of recent photographs.

A re-evaluation of records of the species, and with the fact that there were no state records at all in 2019, suggest that the State Rank should best be moved up to a less numerous S3, instead of S3S4. However, the State Rank remains at S3S4 for now. At least, there were a gratifying six records for it in 2020, but just two in 2022.