

Argia translata Dusky Dancer

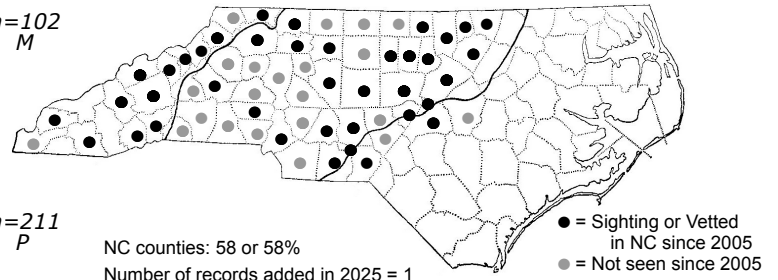
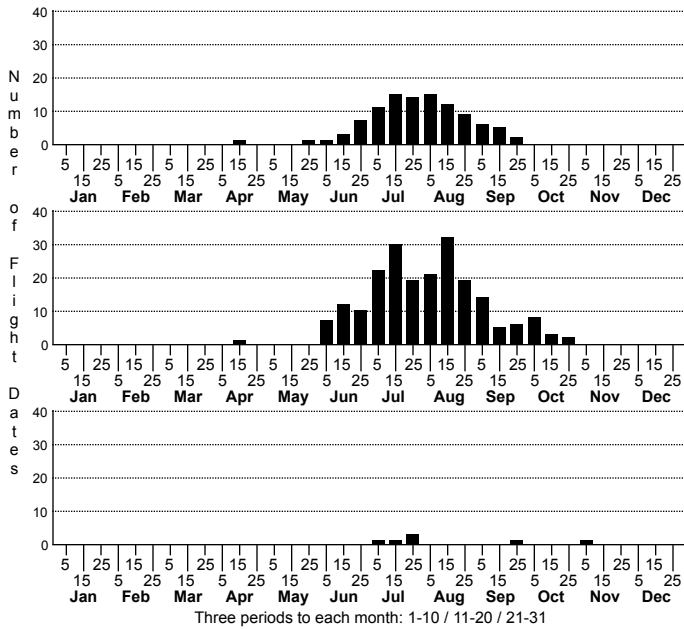


Photo (vetted) in 2025: Richmond; C

High counts of:
17 - Wilkes; P - 2021-07-17
16 - Chatham - 2021-06-27
15 - Wake - 2009-08-07

Earliest date: Buncombe 1989-04-14
Latest date: Richmond; C 2024-11-06

Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S4	G5

DISTRIBUTION: Throughout the mountains and Piedmont. Essentially absent from the Coastal Plain, though present along the Fall Line in a few such counties. Two previous reports from the Sandhills/Coastal Plain have now been deleted, as they are sight reports only and are believed to be in error. Oddly, the range map in Paulson (2011) shows it nearly "absent" in the Piedmont of both VA and SC.

ABUNDANCE: Fairly common in the Piedmont and mountains (at least locally); nowhere truly common, as the peak one-day count is just 17 individuals. Absent, or nearly absent, from the Coastal Plain (including the Sandhills), except near the Fall Line.

FLIGHT: In the mountains and Piedmont, mainly late May or early June to late October (Piedmont) and to late September (mountains). Each province has a very early record for mid-April. The few Coastal Plain records are from early July to late September only, meaningless for establishing a flight period at the upper edge of that province.

HABITAT: A variety of rivers and creeks; scarce at ponds or lakes. Often on rocks in the creek or river.

BEHAVIOR: Most other dancers are often found well away from creeks, rivers, or ponds. However, this species normally stays close to its shaded creek, perching on rocks or along vegetation along the shore -- where their dark coloration can make them much less conspicuous than other dancer species.

COMMENTS: The seeming near-absence of records from the VA and SC Piedmont is puzzling, considering that it not only has been found in nearly all such counties in NC, but that there are some single-day counts in double-digits. One must presume that it is being overlooked, especially in VA.