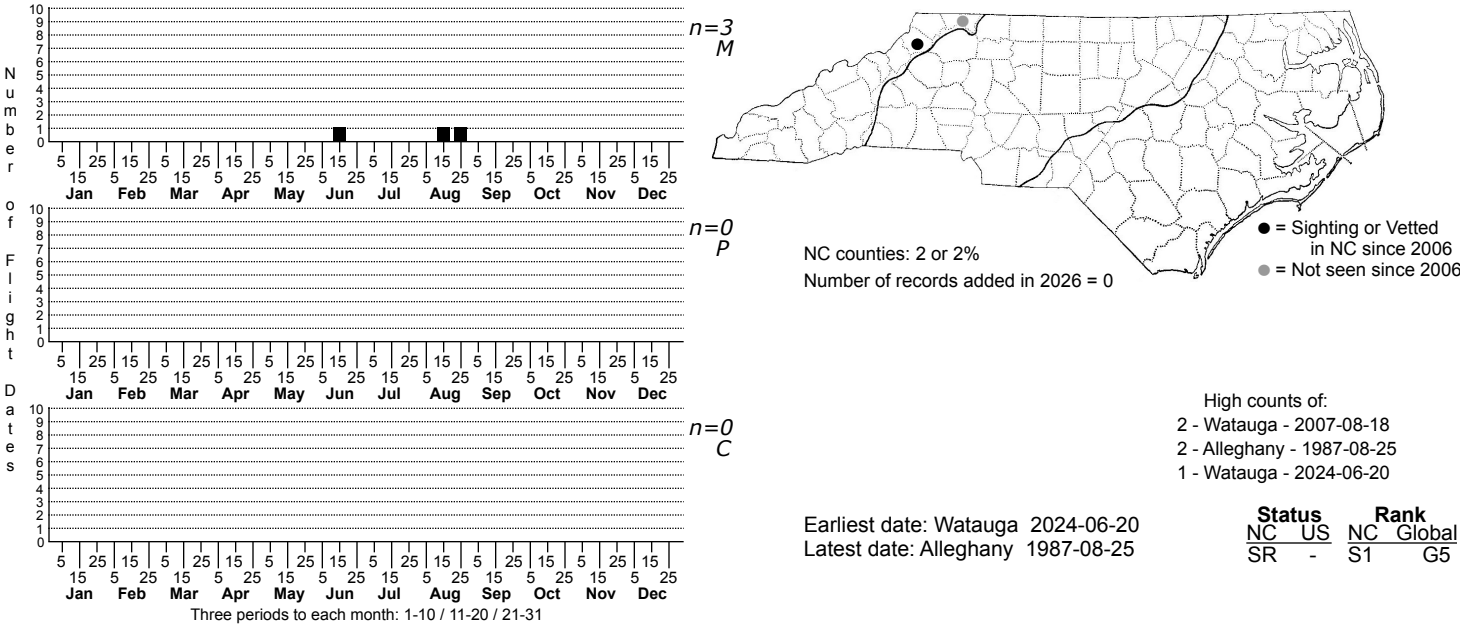


Lestes congener Spotted Spreadwing



DISTRIBUTION: Currently the northwestern mountains only. NC is near the southeastern edge of the range of this widespread species.

ABUNDANCE: Males can be abundant in good habitat within at least part of the range. It is possible that the species is not actually rare in the northwestern corner of the state, just poorly surveyed for. However, as we are aware of just two records, it must be considered to be very rare in the state, south only to Watauga County.

FLIGHT: Paulson (2011) lists flight dates from May to October over the range. Ted Wilcox reported two individuals on 18 August from Watauga County, and there is a collection record of two individuals on 25 August from Alleghany County.

HABITAT: Lakes and ponds, with some emergent vegetation around the margins. Roosts in woody vegetation, to a height of 10 feet.

BEHAVIOR: Behavior of this rare species in NC is poorly known. Reportedly can perch well up into trees, perhaps also explaining the few NC records -- though it is at the very southeastern edge of the range here.

COMMENTS: The species is obviously poorly known in the state. Additional surveys should be conducted in the northern mountain counties, particularly around alder thickets.