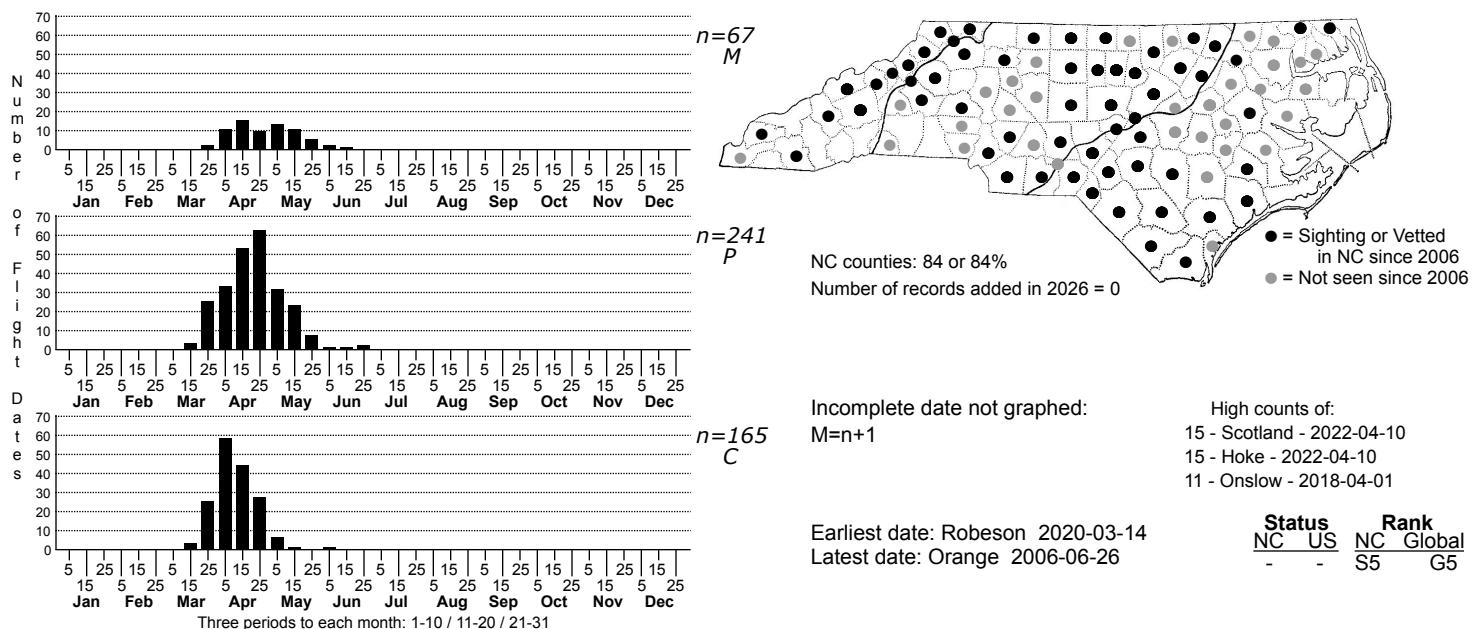


Basiaeschna janata Springtime Darner



DISTRIBUTION: Nearly statewide. Might be absent in a few of the extreme eastern counties (not recorded from Currituck southward to Carteret counties). Of spotty occurrence in the southern mountains, though likely occurs in all counties there.

ABUNDANCE: Widespread, but only uncommon to occasionally fairly common in most of the Piedmont and upper half of the Coastal Plain. Uncommon in the eastern Coastal Plain and mountains, and rare to locally absent near the northeastern and eastern coastal areas.

FLIGHT: Primarily mid-late March to late May in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain; several "fluke" records in mid- to late June in the Piedmont. Mainly late March to early June in the mountains. Peak numbers are in mid-April.

HABITAT: Breeds at streams, less often at ponds or lakes. More often seen along woodland borders or wide roads.

BEHAVIOR: Flies low along dirt roads and clearings in upland or mesic woods, perching frequently in an oblique manner on twigs. Relatively easy to identify, as it is not particularly wary when perched.

COMMENTS: The turquoise blue spots on the abdomen are quite stunning, especially in males. The species can often be identified in flight through binoculars, if the blue spots can be seen.