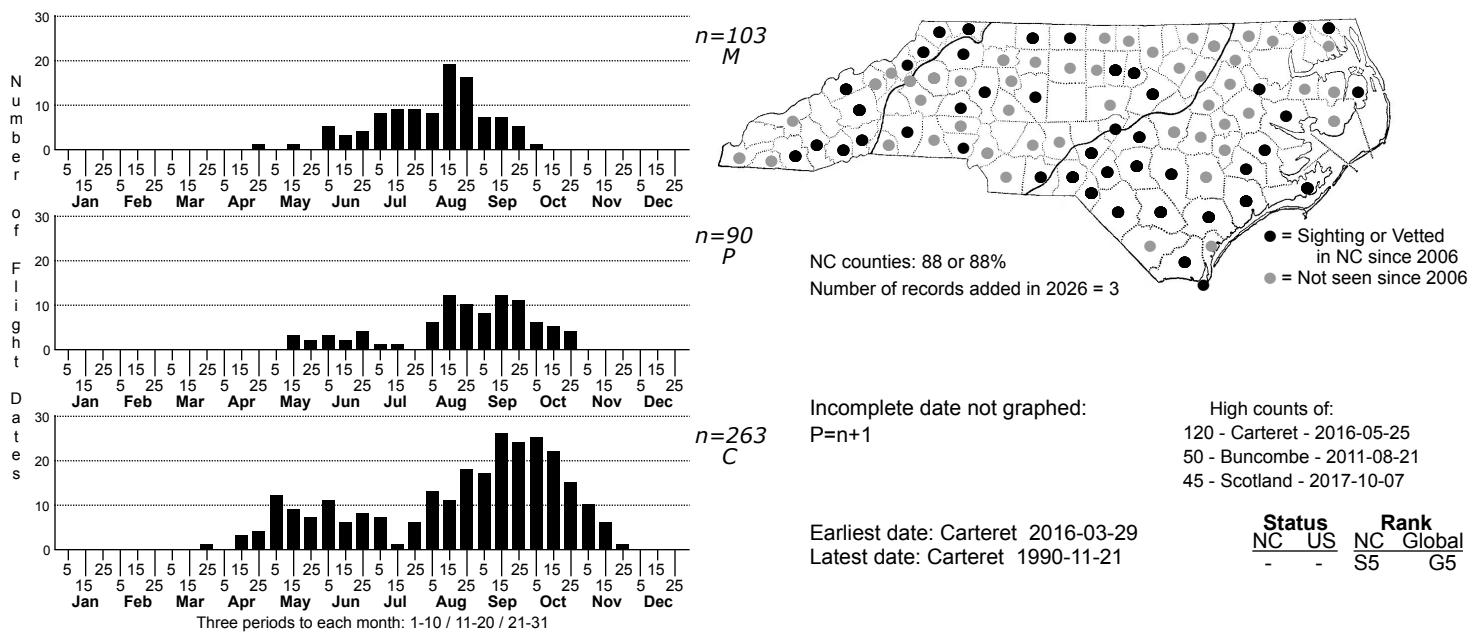


Lestes vigilax Swamp Spreadwing



DISTRIBUTION: Statewide, being recorded from over 85 counties, with "absences" in scattered counties across the state. Presumed to occur in all 100 counties.

ABUNDANCE: Fairly common to common in the mountains, and locally very common in parts of the Coastal Plain. Oddly, appears to be less numerous (i.e., uncommon) in the intervening Piedmont, as there are slightly fewer records there than in the mountains, which has a much smaller geographic range and many fewer observers than in the Piedmont. There are single-party counts of at least 20 individuals in each of the three provinces; one count surpasses 100 individuals in the lower Coastal Plain.

FLIGHT: A wide flight period, extending to late autumn. In the Coastal Plain, it occurs from mid-April to late November. Piedmont records fall between mid-May (and should occur by late April) and late October; mountain records fall between late April and early October. There is a very early state date of 29 March for the lower Coastal Plain.

HABITAT: Ponds and lakes in somewhat wooded country, especially where shrubs grow in the water; or where marshy vegetation grows along the margins of such waters.

BEHAVIOR: Despite being one of the more widespread and numerous spreadwings, they can be difficult to spot in the shade or partial shade of their often-semi-forested pond and lake margins.

COMMENTS: This is another reasonably common spreadwing across the state, with large numbers of records in all three provinces. Mark Shields has added many dozens of records in the past several years from the southern coastal area.