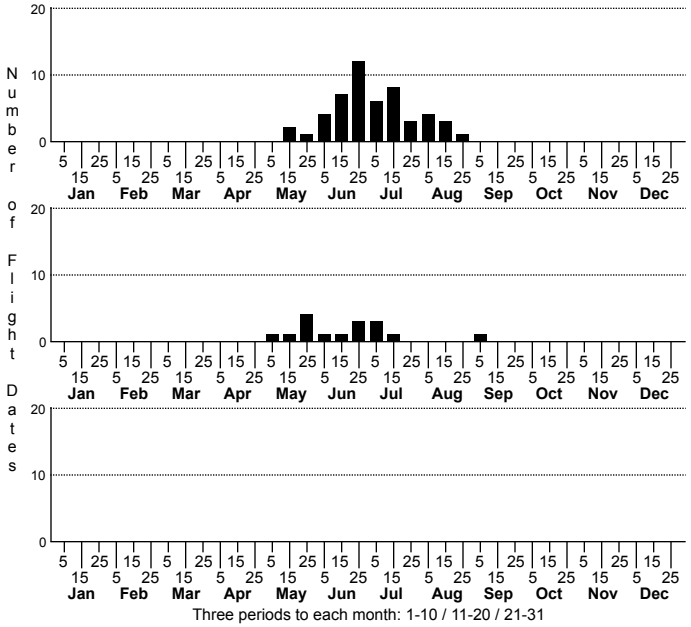
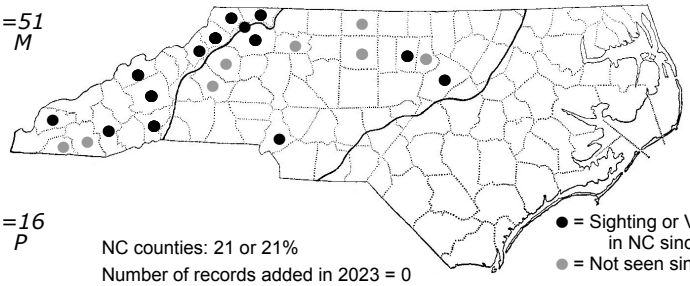
# ***Lestes eurinus*** Amber-winged Spreadwing




NC counties: 21 or 21%
Number of records added in 2023 = 0

Incomplete dates not graphed:
M=n+2
P=n+2

Earliest date: Guilford 1966-05-01
Latest date: Guilford 1987-09-09

High counts of:
30 - Jackson - 2018-06-25
20 - Watauga - 2021-07-17
12 - Alleghany - 1988-08-01

| Status | | Rank | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NC | US | NC | Global |
| W | - | S3 | G5 |

DISTRIBUTION: Scattered throughout the mountains and the northern Piedmont. The only record for the southern half of the Piedmont is for Mecklenburg County. This is a northern species nearing the southeastern extent of its range in the state; there are records from South Carolina and western Georgia.

ABUNDANCE: Uncommon and local in the mountains, but it can be numerous at a few ponds; seemingly quite rare in some areas of the mountains. Rare in the Piedmont portion of the range. There are only a few daily counts of more than 8 individuals; the highest known daily count of adults is 30 individuals, at a pond in Jackson County.

FLIGHT: In the mountains, from mid-May to late August. The relatively few Piedmont records fall between early May and early September.

HABITAT: Mainly in ponds and lakes, even small wetlands, but with some emergent vegetation along the shores.

BEHAVIOR: This species is more active along pond margins than other spreadwings. With its large size, it is easier for an observer to spot along the edges -- especially given the notable amounts of light blue on the male's thorax and abdomen tip.

COMMENTS: Considering the potential to occur in most Piedmont counties, we have only a few recent records from the province, possibly suggesting a decline in this region. Thankfully, there have been a moderate number of recent records, many documented with photos, for the mountains. The N.C. Natural Heritage Program put the species on its Watch List in late 2012.