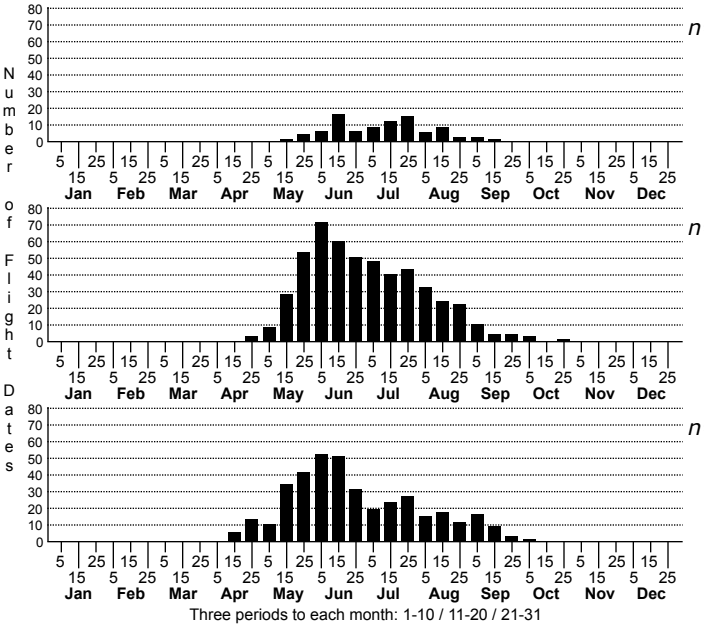
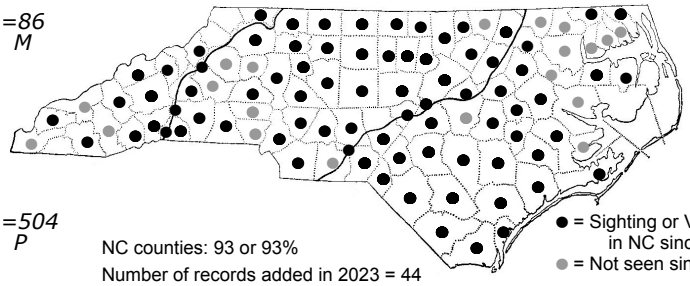
Argia tibialis Blue-tipped Dancer





● = Sighting or Vetted in NC since 2004
● = Not seen since 2004

NC counties: 93 or 93%
Number of records added in 2023 = 44

Sight (iNat) in 2023: Tyrrell

High counts of:
335 - Wake - 2013-05-31
235 - Pender - 2017-05-19
125 - Columbus - 2017-05-17

Earliest date: Brunswick 2017-04-12
Latest date: Wake 2012-10-25

Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S5	G5

DISTRIBUTION: Statewide, though possibly absent along the extreme northeastern coastal areas. Likely found in all mountain counties, though a few in the northern mountains lack records.

ABUNDANCE: Common to locally very common in the Piedmont and most of the Coastal Plain; fairly common to locally common in much of the mountains. Not common in the eastern part of the Coastal Plain, but at least uncommon to fairly common, except rare to absent in the extreme northeastern counties.

FLIGHT: Downstate, occurs from mid- or late April to late September (and probably later) in the Coastal Plain and to late October in the Piedmont. The mountain flight occurs between mid-May and mid-September.

HABITAT: Small and mainly wooded creeks/streams, typically with a few riffles. Less often along rivers or larger streams without riffles. Typically closer to forested creeks than other dancers.

BEHAVIOR: The species is seen frequently away from water at sunny patches along trails and dirt roads, especially females. Males are often found in shade along wooded creeks, but the bright abdomen tip is conspicuous when they fly around.

COMMENTS: This is still another dancer species that is common across most of the state and occurs in nearly all counties, but as with many, it is scarce or absent in the extreme northeastern part of the Coastal Plain. In GA, Beaton (2007) says it is "Often the most numerous dancer at any given site"; however, in NC, it shares abundance with a number of other dancer (Argia) species and does not seem quite as numerous as the Variable, Blue-fronted, Powdered, and Blue-ringed dancers, except in the southeastern Coastal Plain.