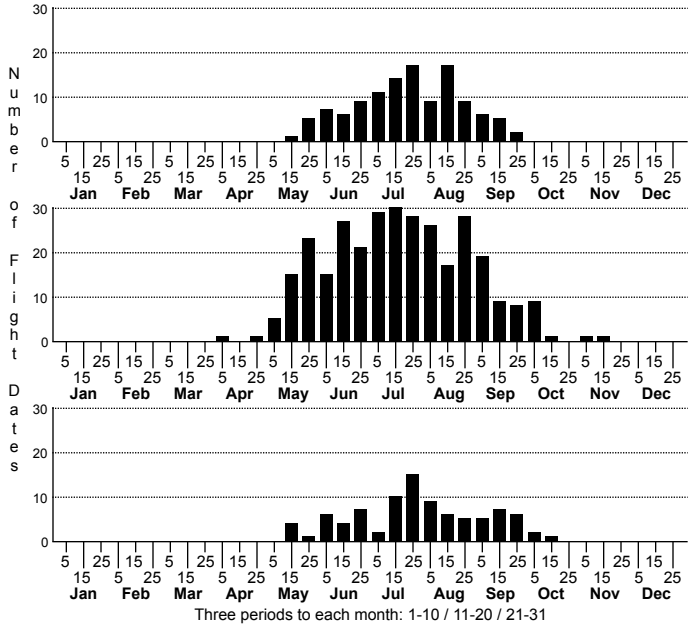
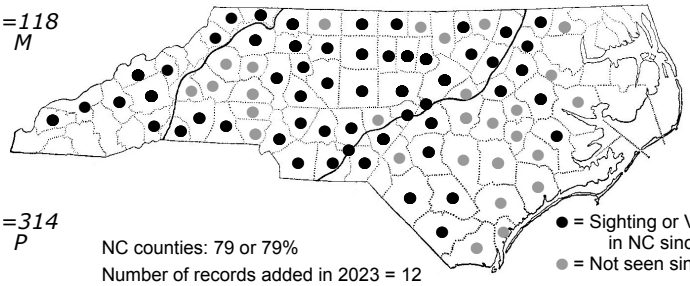
Argia sedula Blue-ringed Dancer





NC counties: 79 or 79%
Number of records added in 2023 = 12

Sight (iNat) in 2024: Swain

High counts of:
1220 - Wake - 2012-09-27
769 - Wake - 2012-10-06
331 - Wake - 2013-08-31

Earliest date: Orange 2017-04-02
Latest date: Wake 2014-11-11

Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S5	G5

DISTRIBUTION: Occurs over most of the state, but apparently absent in the eastern third or quarter of the Coastal Plain (i.e., the Tidewater areas near Albemarle and Pamlico sounds). Probably present over all of the mountains, but just one record for the southwestern counties.

ABUNDANCE: Common to locally abundant (at least near the Fall Line) in the Piedmont; fairly common in the western Coastal Plain, but likely uncommon to locally fairly common in the remainder of the Coastal Plain part of the range. Uncommon to locally fairly common in the mountains, but apparently rare (though likely not absent) in the southwestern counties. Presumed absent in the Tidewater zone, from Pamlico Sound to the VA border.

FLIGHT: The Piedmont flight occurs from late April to mid-October, sparingly to mid-November. The mountain flight is from mid-May to late September, whereas the Coastal Plain flight occurs from mid-May to mid-October.

HABITAT: Streams and rivers, typically where somewhat rocky, and usually where there is some herbaceous vegetation along the water. Sometimes around shores of lakes and ponds, and can be found along roads and other corridors away from water.

BEHAVIOR: Males can perch higher off the water than for other dancers, at times several feet. Females and at times males can often be found well away from water, on dirt tracks.

COMMENTS: There have been a few remarkably high counts for the species along the Neuse River below the Falls Lake dam. This is another of the common species of dancers, normally easily found in most parts of the state. The absence of records for the extreme southwestern mountains seems puzzling, considering that range maps include most of the Southeastern states.