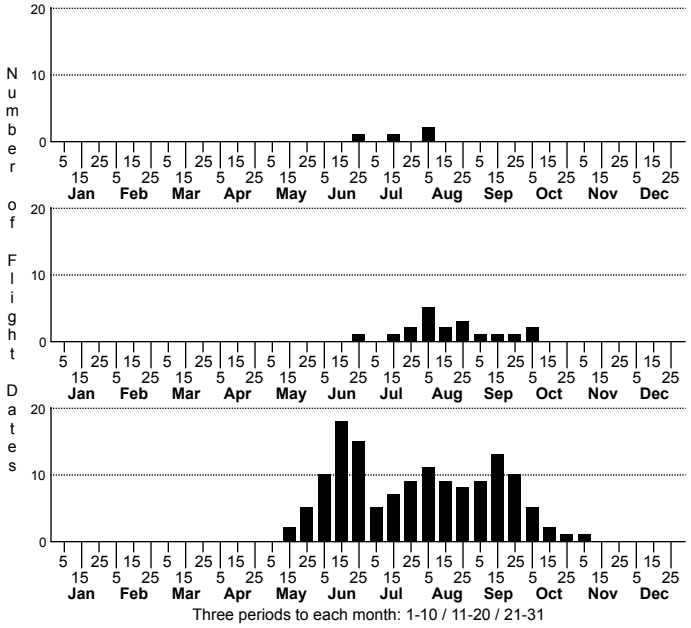
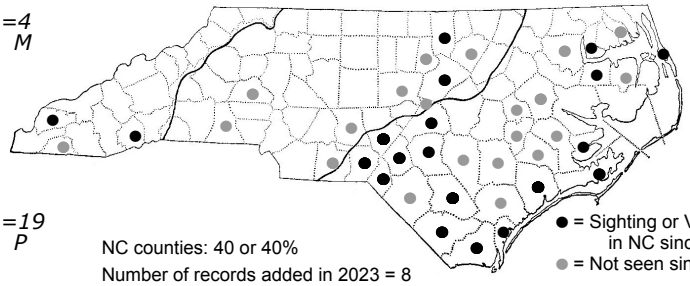
Celithemis bertha Red-veined Pennant





NC counties: 40 or 40%
Number of records added in 2023 = 8

Photo (vetted) in 2023: Transylvania

High counts of:
22 - Bladen - 2015-08-23
15 - Bladen - 2009-06-25
15 - Cumberland - 2012-09-05

Earliest date: Onslow 2016-05-14
Latest date: Bladen 2017-11-01

Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S4	G5

DISTRIBUTION: Scattered over nearly all of the Coastal Plain and eastern Piedmont; a few records for the southwestern Piedmont (Catawba and Cleveland counties), plus outliers in the southwestern mountains (Clay and Graham counties). Found primarily in the southern half of the Coastal Plain (sporadic north of Harnett and Pitt counties). NC lies at the northern edge of the species' range, but it has been recorded once in VA, in 2014 (as a stray?).

ABUNDANCE: Uncommon to locally fairly common in the southern half of the Coastal Plain; rare in the northern half of the Coastal Plain and the extreme eastern Piedmont; very rare farther west.

FLIGHT: In the Coastal Plain, the flight occurs from mid- or late May to mid-October; however, the earliest record for the Piedmont isn't until late June. The three mountain records with dates are from late June to early August.

HABITAT: Primarily at ponds and lakes with much emergent vegetation along the shore.

BEHAVIOR: Unlike most other Celithemis pennants, adults seldom stray far from ponds or small lakes, and may forage well out in the water and perch on logs and other material emerging from the water.

COMMENTS: Though a common species, apparently, in FL (Dunkle 2000), it is not common northward. Beaton (2007) calls it "Uncommon below the Fall Line" in GA, and as NC lies at the northern edge of the species' range, it is no more numerous here (unlike the Amanda's Pennant, which is more common in NC than in GA). Despite it having been found in nearly 40% of the counties in NC, including all in the southern Coastal Plain, it and the Double-ringed Pennant are the only ones (of seven species) in the genus that are not common (at least locally) in the state. It is most likely to be seen by working the margins of beaver ponds and man-made ponds in the Sandhills region, but males may perch on vegetation well out from shore (where binoculars or a telephoto lens may be needed for identification). A surprising count of 15, documented by several photos, was made in the northeastern Piedmont in Granville County, in 2013.