

RACKET-TAILED EMERALD

Dorocordulia libera Dor oh kor dule ee ah • lib er ah • family Corduliidae

HINDWING
1.0" – 1.2" (26-31 mm)

HABITAT
Acidic kettle lake bogs

FLIGHT PERIOD
May 24 to July 15

AREA OF OHIO
Known historically from a single boggy pond in Geauga County, but not seen there since 1924. An apparently healthy population was discovered in 1999 at Singer Lake Bog in Summit County and a smaller population was found in 2002 near the historic site in Geauga County.

Color indicates counties with recorded species collection*



*Reflects historic and modern records

DISCUSSION racket-tailed emerald

This small, hairy emerald is distinctive with its almost clubtail-like swollen tip of the abdomen that provides its common name. At Singer Lake Bog they are easy to approach and observe. It was fortuitous that this species was discovered at Singer as the Cleveland Museum of Natural History has acquired and protected most of this wetland.

THREATS racket-tailed emerald

Since the racket-tailed emerald seems confined to boggy pond and lake edges, the draining of wetlands likely caused significant loss of this species. Ninety-eight percent of Ohio's original bogs have been destroyed, and these are where this species would have occurred. However, there remain wetlands in Ohio that seem to be appropriate habitat, but which lack this species. There are likely other yet unidentified threats to this species in Ohio.

LENGTH racket-tailed emerald

1.5" – 1.7" (37-43 mm)
Species' length (shown to scale)

1.5" (37 mm)

1.7" (43 mm)



PHOTO BY: GRC GLOTZHOBER