

***Libellula axilena* Westwood**

**Bar-winged Skimmer**

**30 May - 23 Aug**

**Uncommon**

**48-62 mm (1.9-2.4 in.)**

**Large**

**MALE:** Face: black. Body: dark pale-gray. Wings: black streak basal, spot in middle, bar/spot on front margin of outer half. HW: white spot basal. Legs: black. Appendages: blackish.

**FEMALE:** Eyes: red-brown. Abdomen brown or lightly pruinose; S8 expanded laterally, usually brownish. Wings: some lack black basal streaks (only a tiny spot may be present mid-wing); some have smoky-brown color on tips.

**JUVENILE:** Similar to *L. vibrans* (Great Blue S.) Face: brownish. Thorax: yellow w/ brown triangular marking on the side basal of FW; lateral pale pattern resembles a cartoon wolf. Abdomen: middorsal/lateral brown stripes w/ yellow between.

**Habitat:** Temporary pools, marshy edges of ponds. More often in forested habitats than other *Libellula*.

**Reproduction:** Mate perched on weed or bush. Female oviposits alone while male guards.

**Similar Species:** Female *L. axilena*, *L. incesta* (Slaty S.), *L. vibrans* (Great Blue S.)

**Locations:** Big Branch, Coca Cola Drive, David Force, Dunteachin Farm, Elkhorn, Farm Ponds, Font Hill, Guilford - GV, Hipsley Mill, Kindler - P, Long Corner - P, Milk Plant, Mission, MPEA - P4, Pigtail, Stevens - E/W.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)