No photo available

**Identification:** Adult: The yellow brachycercus is a small mayfly; * elongated body, very soft; hold wings together and above body; 2-3 hairs extend behind abdomen; very small antennae. Juvenile: dully colored, posses wings, pubescent. Larvae: Cylindrical, gills resemble leaves; 2-3 hairs extend behind abdomen (like a tail).

**Measurements:** Adults are typically 15 mm in length.

**Taxonomic comments:** No recognized recognized.

**Status:** Global rank is G4 and state rank is S1. This species was identified as extinct in the Center for Biological Diversity’s 2001 report.

**Habitat:** Clear creeks or medium rivers.

**Range:** The range of this species is not fully understood. It has been recorded in Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Texas.

**Food habits:** Larvae eat aquatic organisms and organic debris. Adult do not feed.

**Life expectancy:** Adults live a few days.

**Reproduction:** Mayfly larvae metamorphose into an intermediate stage called subimago which rest on the surface of the water. These “juveniles” molt before becoming adults. All adults emerge at a single time during the year to mate. Swarms move together and leave eggs attached to rocks in the water.

**Reason for decline:** Mayflies are very sensitive to the quality of their freshwater ecosystems. Anything contributing to habitat degradation, especially pollution, can threaten mayfly populations.

**Interesting facts:** 1) Mayflies are an important link in the food chain because they are a substantial part of the diet for many species of fish. Many flies used in fly-fishing are modeled after various species of mayflies. 2) There are 585 recognized species of mayflies in North America.

*Indicates generalized information on mayflies as a result of a lack of information specific to this species.
Known distribution in Louisiana:

Dates of documented observations are: 1917, 1975, 1991, and 1992

References


