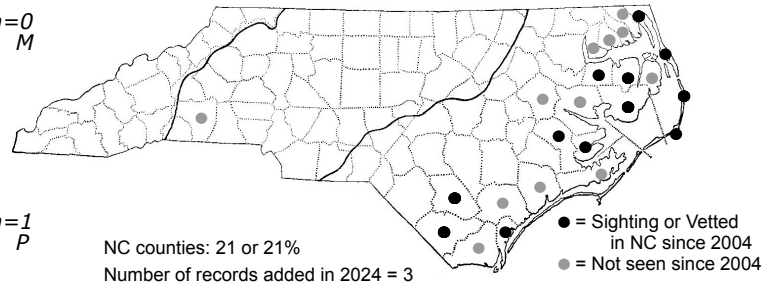
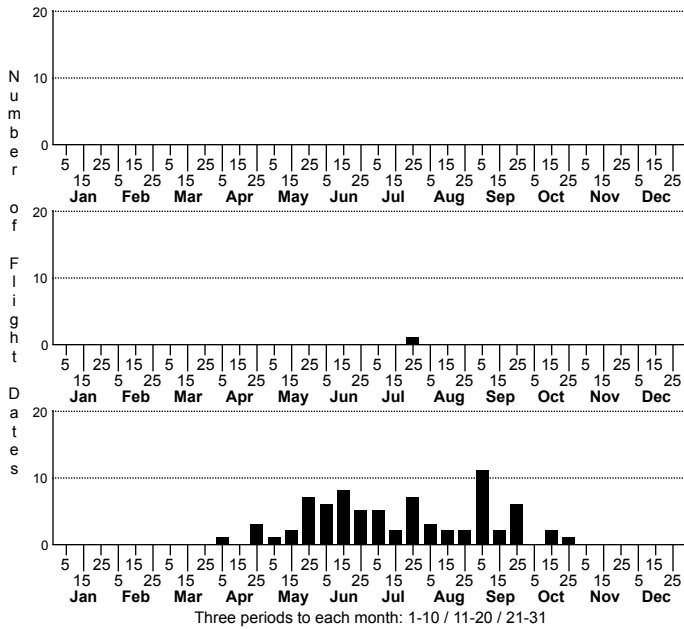


## *Enallagma durum* Big Bluet



High counts of:  
217 - Hyde - 2016-06-19  
70 - Dare; OBM - 2018-09-08  
45 - Bladen - 2023-07-07

Earliest date: Columbus 2022-04-09  
Latest date: Columbus 2012-10-23

Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S4	G5

**DISTRIBUTION:** Essentially just the eastern half of the Coastal Plain; absent from the western half of the Coastal Plain counties, including the Sandhills. Absent in the mountains and Piedmont, except for a specimen record from Rutherford County (correct?). As would be expected from the NC range, this species' US range is mainly limited to tidal and estuarine areas, north to ME, though it does occur over most of peninsular FL. In addition, the Odonata Central range map shows scattered records for TN, northeastern AL, and north-central GA; thus the record for Rutherford County may well be legitimate.

**ABUNDANCE:** Locally fairly common in coastal counties and those in the Tidewater zone, as there are several one-day counts of at least 30 individuals (plus an excellent count of 217 individuals from Hyde County). Rare to uncommon farther inland (such as in Bladen County).

**FLIGHT:** The flight occurs from late April (rarely early April) to late October. The Rutherford County record is for late July.

**HABITAT:** Unusual for most damselflies -- mainly along the lower portions of large rivers near or at estuaries, including the vicinity of brackish marshes. Also at large lakes with sandy bottoms, such as Lake Waccamaw, as well as coastal impoundments.

**BEHAVIOR:** Often perches low on emergent vegetation, though often in sun and thus not one of the harder bluets to find, if you are able to reach its habitats.

**COMMENTS:** This species has a range in NC like no other damselfly, but quite a bit like several dragonflies, particularly Needham's Skimmer, Four-spotted Pennant, and Seaside Dragonlet. It is certainly one of the very few damselflies that can be locally numerous in coastal marshes and other wetlands along the coast, such as at Lake Mattamuskeet in Hyde County. The species had been given a State Rank of S4S5 for a number of years, but the N.C. Natural Heritage Program moved it to a more reasonable S4 rank in late 2020.