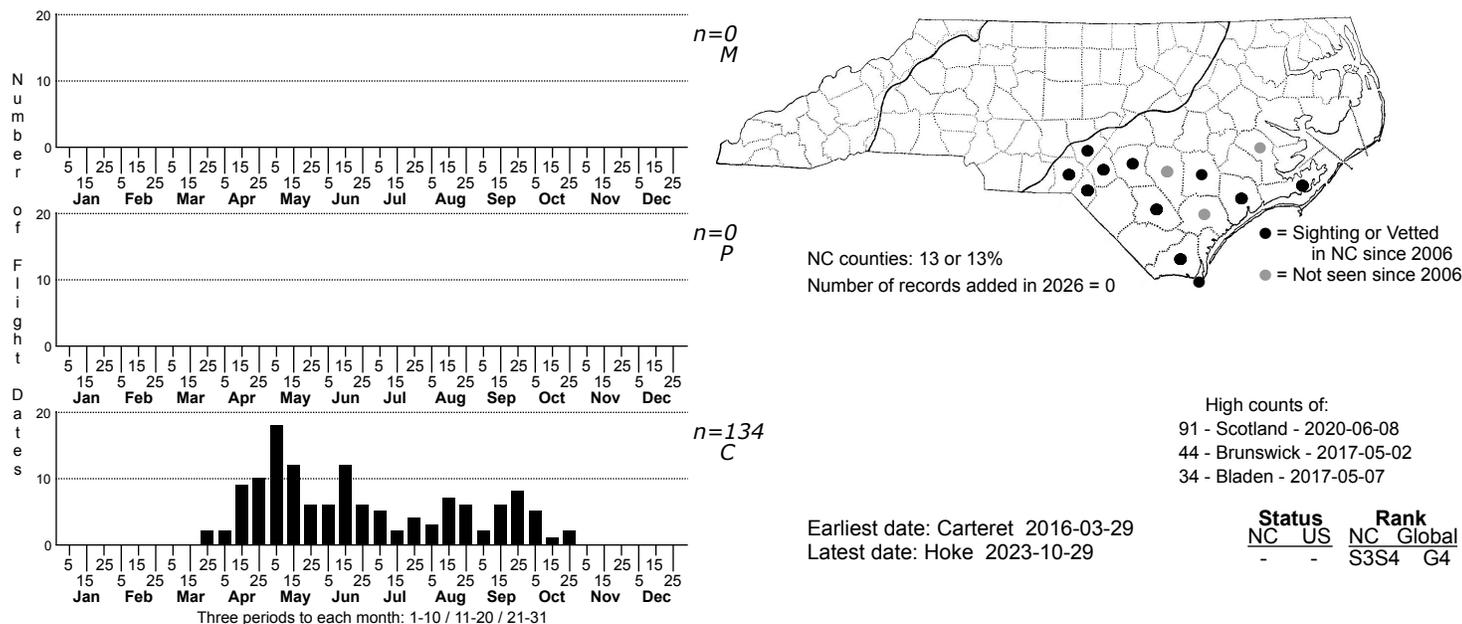


## *Enallagma concisum* Cherry Bluet



**DISTRIBUTION:** The southern third/half of the Coastal Plain only, north to Craven Sampson, Cumberland, and Moore counties. NC lies at the northeastern end of the species' range.

**ABUNDANCE:** Generally uncommon, but locally fairly common at a few sites, where several single-day counts of 25 or more individuals were made in 2017, and a very high count of 91 was made in 2020. One of our less numerous bluet species.

**FLIGHT:** The flight is quite extended, from very late March to late October. There is a real dip in numbers in midsummer, not a coverage bias, as much field work does occur in July. More easily found in May and June than later in the season.

**HABITAT:** Ponds or lakes with sandy bottoms, particularly where there is much emergent vegetation.

**BEHAVIOR:** Males perch on lily pads and other floating or emergent vegetation (such as twigs and grass blades), often well out from the shore.

**COMMENTS:** Several "holes" in the county range map were filled in 2021-22, with Hoke and Duplin counties added to the range map. Though it is given an S3S4 State Rank by the N.C. Natural Heritage Program, it might not quite warrant a Watch List status. There have been quite a few records for the species from 2017-2022, including several sizable counts. However, with just 13 counties known in the state, a rank of straight S3 might be more appropriate. The scarlet-red (not "cherry") and black banding pattern on the thorax of the adult male is very stunning! For whatever reason, many males of this species are infested with water mites, marring an otherwise beautiful photo!