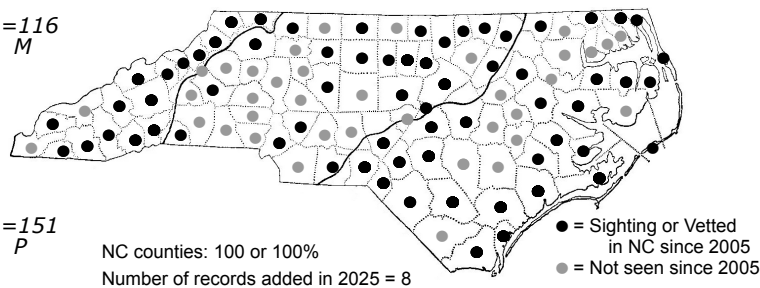
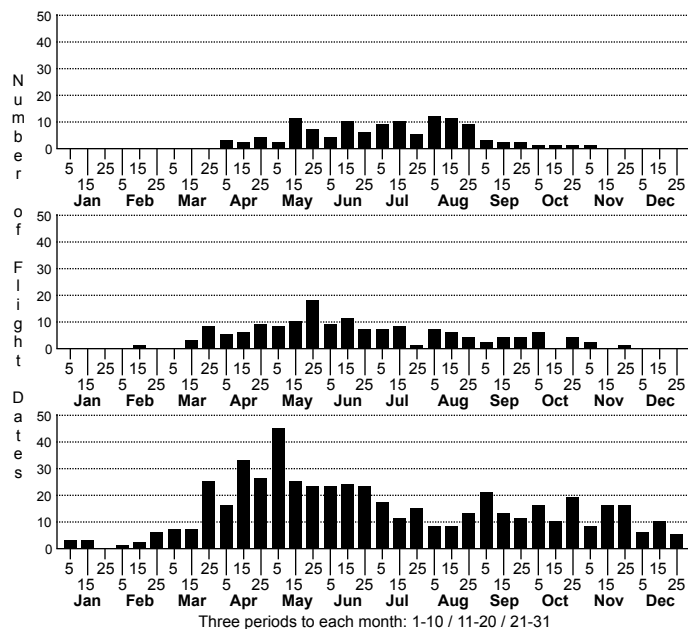


# *Ischnura hastata* Citrine Forktail



Incomplete date not graphed:  
P=n+1

Earliest date: Pender 2019-01-01  
Latest date: Onslow 2015-12-30

High counts of:  
1000 - Scotland - 2007-06-16  
1000 - Scotland - 2007-06-24  
600 - Carteret - 2021-04-12

Status		Rank	
NC	US	NC	Global
-	-	S5	G5

**DISTRIBUTION:** Statewide, found in all 100 counties.

**ABUNDANCE:** Very common to locally abundant in the Coastal Plain, and common westward. There are several counts of 1,000 individuals in a day, and others with over 100 individuals; most of these are in the Sandhills region of the Coastal Plain, but there are now several triple-digit counts for a coastal county (Carteret).

**FLIGHT:** A very long flight period. Primarily late February to mid-January in the Coastal Plain, but has been recorded in all months in the province. The Piedmont flight is from mid-March to late November, whereas in the mountains the flight is from early April to late October or early November. There is also a record for mid-February in the Piedmont.

**HABITAT:** Lakes or ponds with much grassy vegetation around the margins; bogs, marshes. May also be found along slow-moving rivers.

**BEHAVIOR:** Perching low within vegetation, this tiny damselfly can be difficult to spot, though the bright colors of mature males and immature females are helpful. Typically flies in a slow, hovering manner keeping within vegetation. Both sexes and all ages often occur together.

**COMMENTS:** This is certainly one of the most abundant odonates (not just damselflies) in NC, from the coast to the mountains. As all forketails are very small (barely an inch long if that), they can be easily passed over unless you carefully inspect the grasses and sedges along the shoreline.