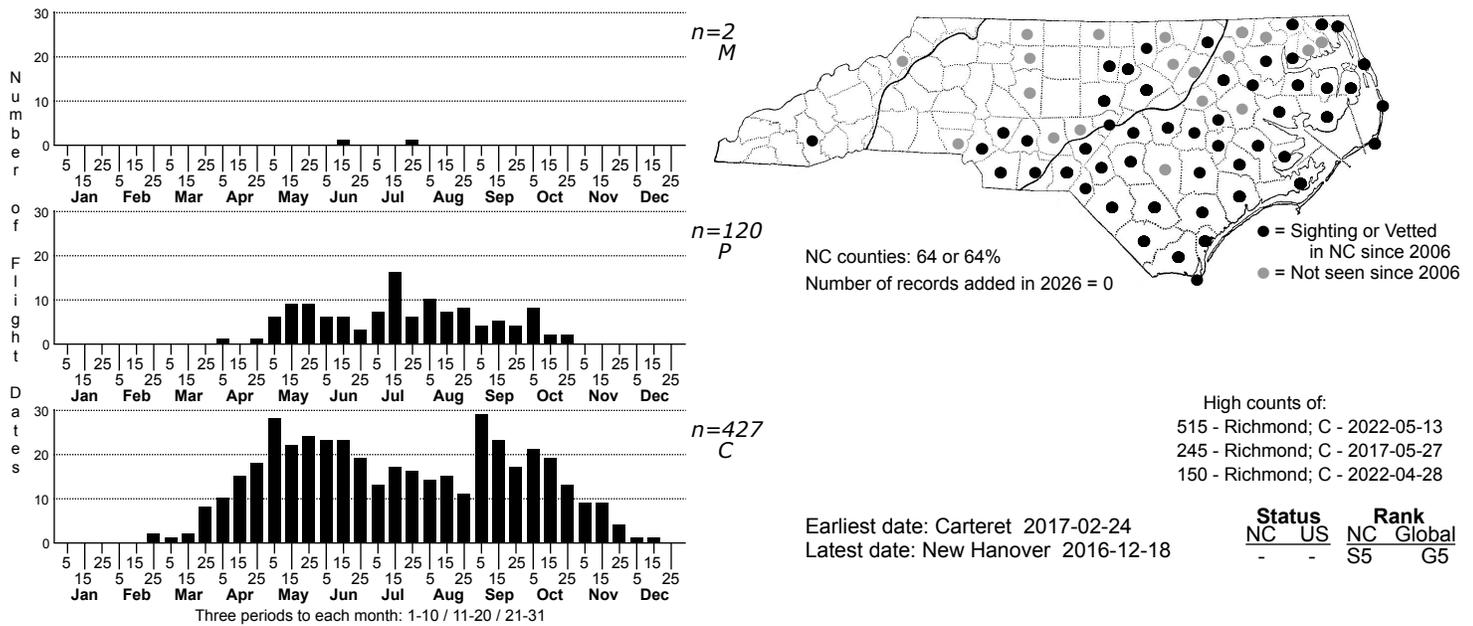


Ischnura ramburii Rambur's Forktail



DISTRIBUTION: Occupies the eastern 60% of the state, with scattered records in the western Piedmont; only two county records (Avery and Jackson) for the mountains. Thus, it is unclear if it occurs statewide, though it certainly is very scarce in the western third of the state.

ABUNDANCE: Common to locally very common in the lower Coastal Plain, particularly around brackish pools along the coast. Generally common elsewhere in the Coastal Plain, but locally abundant in the Sandhills (such as at the McKinney Lake fish hatchery). Uncommon to locally common in the eastern and southeastern Piedmont, rare in the central Piedmont, and very rare farther westward.

FLIGHT: The flight is from mid-March into late November, at least in the Coastal Plain, sparingly from late February and to mid-December. In the Piedmont, the flight begins in early April, and ends by late October. The two mountain flight dates are in mid-June and late July.

HABITAT: Bay lakes, haline pools and shores, and heavily vegetated ponds.

BEHAVIOR: Tends to perch on low vegetation in the open, where easily seen.

COMMENTS: This is one of the few damselflies that is quite common along and near the immediate coast. The range in the western half of the state still needs much elucidation, especially as there is just one recent record west of Orange and Mecklenburg counties, for Jackson County.