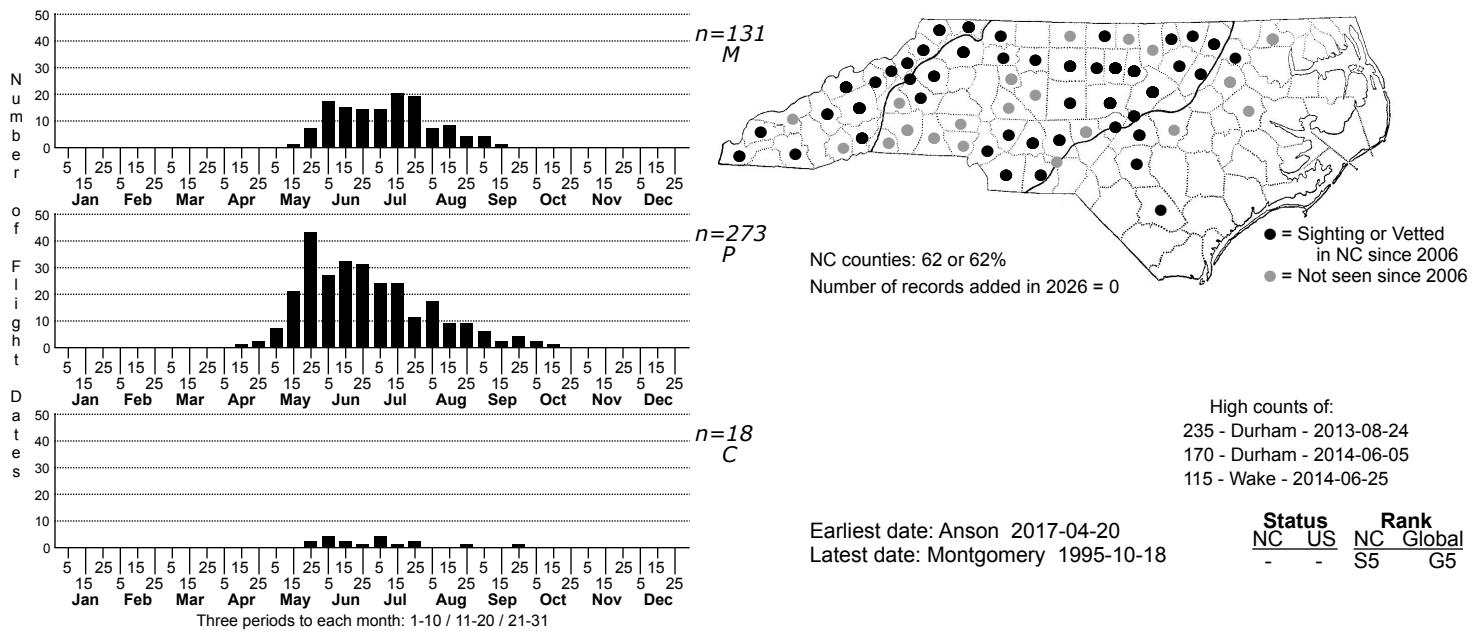


## *Enallagma exsulans* Stream Bluet



**DISTRIBUTION:** Throughout the mountains and Piedmont; also in the upper Coastal Plain, east to Hertford, Pitt, and Cumberland counties.

**ABUNDANCE:** Common, at least locally, in the mountains and Piedmont; rare in the Coastal Plain portion of the range. Several counts of at least 100 individuals in a day have been made in the eastern Piedmont.

**FLIGHT:** Late April to mid-October in the Piedmont, and mid-May to at least mid-September in the mountains. The relatively few dates from the Coastal Plain fall between late May and late September, though the flight ought to be similar to that in the Piedmont.

**HABITAT:** A wide variety of creeks and rivers, with slow to moderate current. Unlike most other bluets, it seldom occurs at ponds and lakes.

**BEHAVIOR:** The bluet most often and easily seen along flowing, semi-shaded waters in the mountains and Piedmont. It often perches off the water on broad leaves of shrubs or trees, but it also can perch on snags barely above the water.

**COMMENTS:** It seems to be one of the few bluets that observers in the Piedmont bother to photograph in recent years, perhaps as most people there are looking at creeks and rivers for clubtails and other dragonflies, and not looking around pond and lake margins for those many damselfly species that favor lentic conditions (versus lotic conditions of flowing waters). This is especially the case in the western half of the Piedmont.