

Ischnura verticalis* (Say)*Eastern Forktail****8 Apr - 30 Oct****Abundant****MALE: 20-33 mm (0.8-1.3 in.) FEMALE: 24.5-33 (1.0-1.3)****Small**

MALE: Head: dark w/ tiny round postocular bright green spots. Face: yellow-green/blue-green. eyes: black above, green below. Thorax: black w/ shoulder stripes bright lime-green (infrequently broken like *I. posita*). Abdomen: metallic green, S1-7 dorsal black; ventral S1-3 yellow-green, S4-7 yellowish; S8-9 sky blue above w/ lateral variable black marks. Legs: pale w/ black stripes. Stigmas: FW dark edged w/ orange-brown, HW tan. Appendages: black/dark.

FEMALE: Darkens quickly from juvenile, then becomes covered w/ gray-blue pruinosity. Several color forms (heterochromatic), often changing dramatically as they mature. Sternum of S8 w/ distinct posterior spine (before ovipositor).

JUVENILE: Female is red or orange. Occiput: orange "spectacles." Thorax: orange w/ middorsal/thin shoulder stripes black. Abdomen: black/yellow rings separate segs; S1 and most of S2 orange.

Habitat: Widespread on ponds and slow-moving streams w/ abundant emergent vegetation. Adults perch in the shelter of shoreline vegetation or on floating plants. Open sunny areas.

Reproduction: Female oviposits alone (usually) into submerged or standing plant stems. Larvae needs >48 days to develop.

Notes: Old name: Common Forktail. One of the first damselflies in the spring. Has long flight period.

Similar species: *I. ramburii* (Rambur's F.) may be found in the same locations.

Locations: Alpha Ridge - M, APL - BP, Benson, Branch, Big Branch, Brown's Bridge, Carmax, Centennial - L/S/VP/WD, Cent HS, Corridor, David Force, Dunteachin Farm, Elkhorn - FB/L, Coca Cola Drive - ES, Farm Ponds, Font Hill, Fox Chase, Frederick Road, Gateway - AE/DR/RF/SM, Guilford GV/Park, Henryton, Hipsely Mill, Hugg-Thomas #1/#2, Jackson Pond, Kindler - D/P, Kittamaqundi, Long Corner - P, Lynn Buff, Manor Woods, Marriottsville, Mayfield Woods - GG, Meadowbrook, MPEA - P1/P3/P4, Milk Plant - FP/LP/Schools, Murray Hill, Old Frederick, Pigtail, Plum Tree, River Hill HS, Rockburn, Savage Park, Schooley Mill, Scott's Cove, Sewell's Orchard, Stanford, Stevens - W, UMD CF - S, Vantage Point - S, VFW Pond, Warfield's Pond, Wesley Lane, West Friendship, Western Regional, Wilde Lake, Woodstock.

MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
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