

***Ischnura posita posita* (Hagen)**

**Fragile Forktail**

**3 Apr - 7 Nov**

**Abundant**

**MALE: 21.5-28 mm (0.9-1.1 in.) FEMALE: 21-29 (0.8-1.1)**

**Small**

**MALE:** Occiput: greenish postocular spots. Face: yellow or yellow-green. Thorax: green markings, black front w/ 2 interrupted pale stripes like a pair of upside-down exclamation marks. Abdomen: greenish-yellow; no blue; each seg has a narrow basal yellow ring; S9 dark. Stigmas: brown. Appendages: pale.

**FEMALE:** Young: blue markings. Older: covered w/ blue-purple pruinosity, including frontal thoracic stripes. Abdomen: S9 like M. Stigmas: like M.

**JUVENILE:** Female marked w/ brown for about 2 days, then marked w/ blue, including pair of dots on top of head/sides of thorax.

**Habitat:** Various aquatic habitats, still or slowly moving waters, partially shaded areas w/ thick vegetation. Tolerant of low oxygen levels.

**Reproduction:** Female oviposits alone in plant stems from water to 4" above it.

**Notes:** Often perches in partial shade of trees or emergent plants. Frequently found w/ *Ischnura verticalis* (Eastern F.). Flies sluggishly through shoreline vegetation, low to the water

Similar Species Female *I. hastata* (Citrine F.) is similar but its shoulders are olive-green to brown, not black; Citrine F. does not become pruinose nor is it ever marked w/ blue. Sprites have S10 blue.

**Locations:** Alpha Ridge, APL - BP, Big Branch, Browns Bridge, Carmax, Centennial - L/S/VP/WD, Cent HS, Corridor, Country Meadows, David Force, Deep Run, Dorsey Hall, Dunteachin Farm, Elkhorn - L/FB, Coca Cola Drive - BEL/ES, Farm Ponds, Font Hill, Forest Ridge, Fox Chase, Frederick Road, Gateway - AE/DR/JM/RF/SM, Guilford GV/Park, Henryton, Hipsely Mill, Homespun, Hugg-Thomas #1/#2, Jackson Pond, Kindler - D/P, Kittamaqundi, Lark Brown, Long Corner - P/PR, Lynn Buff, Manor Woods, Mayfield Woods - P/GG, Marriottsville, Meadowbrook, MPEA - P1/P4, Milk Plant - FP/Schools, Murray Hill, Old Frederick, Plum Tree, PRSP, River Hill HS, Rockburn, Savage Park, Schooley Mill, Scott's Cove, Sewell's Orchard, Stevens - E/W, Trinity, Vantage Point - S, VFW Pond, Warfield's Pond, Wesley Lane, Western Regional, Wilde Lake, Wincopin, Woodstock.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)