

DRAGONFLIES - 2003

Banded Demoiselle *Calopteryx splendens*

More commonly recorded along streams and rivers but small numbers are now regularly seen along the canal since the first on July 6, 1987. The only record away from the canal was at Fly Pool on August 20 1993.

Emerald Damselfly *Lestes sponsa*

This is a common species especially where there is emergent vegetation amongst which it is well camouflaged. Most frequent from July to August.

Large Red Damselfly *Pyrrhosoma nymphula*

Frequently the first species to be recorded in the spring. Small numbers can be found at most sites usually from mid-May to early August.

Red-eyed Damselfly *Erythromma najas*

A regionally scarce species that is locally common during June and July on the canals of the Brownhills and Pelsall area and at Marklew's Pond on Brownhills Common. It has been recorded once at Chasewater on the Nine Foot Pool.

Azure Damselfly *Coenagrion puella*

A fairly common species mainly recorded from the well vegetated smaller pools from late May to the end of July.

Common Blue Damselfly *Enallagma cyathigerum*

Probably the most abundant species and it can often be seen flying low over open water from late May to early September.

Blue-tailed Damselfly *Ischnura elegans*

A very common species to be found in good numbers from late May to the end of August. Colour variant females are occasionally noted.

Common Hawker *Aeshna juncea*

Essentially a heathland species that can usually be seen around the North Marsh and the Eastern Heath in August and September.

Migrant Hawker *Aeshna mixta*

A relatively recent coloniser of South Staffordshire with Chasewater's first record being on September 27, 1990. Up to four can now be seen together at many sites from mid-August to early October.

Southern Hawker *Aeshna cyanea*

This species is frequently noted from late July to the end of September.

Brown Hawker *Aeshna grandis*

The commonest hawker dragonfly, easily identified by its brownish wings. Most are seen from mid-July to mid-September.

One at Cranebrook Heath on June 14th and at Norton Bog on the 22nd.

Emperor Dragonfly *Anax imperator*

An increasingly frequent dragonfly especially around Fly Pool, Biddulph's Pool and Plant Swag from mid-June to early August.

Males present on the north shore, Slurry Pool, Church Street and No Man's Bank on June 15th and on Chasetown Brook filter pool, Norton Bog and the Slurry Pool on the 22nd.

Four-spotted Chaser *Libellula quadrimaculata*

Usually recorded in June and July at the more boggy or well vegetated pools where it can be common.

Good numbers were present during June with six on the Chasetown Brook settling pool on the 7th, 25 on the Bog Cotton Pool on the 14th, 10 in the north marsh, 20 on the Slurry Pool and 20 at No Man's Bank on the 15th.

Broad-bodied Chaser *Libellula depressa*

Mainly recorded from mid-May to early July although it does tend to disperse very quickly after emerging. Seen to be ovipositing at the Great Crested Newt ditch on the Raceway Heath in early June.

The British List

Beautiful Demoiselle	<i><u>Calopteryx virgo</u></i>	Locally abundant. Mostly found west of a line between Liverpool and Folkestone and in southern Ireland
Banded Demoiselle	<i><u>Calopteryx splendens</u></i>	Common. Most of England, Wales and Ireland
Emerald Damselfly	<i><u>Lestes sponsa</u></i>	Locally common throughout Britain and Ireland
Scarce Emerald Damselfly	<i><u>Lestes dryas</u></i>	Rare. Thames basin, Suffolk and mid-west Ireland
White-legged Damselfly	<i><u>Platycnemis pennipes</u></i>	Uncommon, though can be locally abundant on rivers and canals in southern central England and in Devon
Large Red Damselfly	<i><u>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</u></i>	Widespread and common in Britain and Ireland
Red-eyed Damselfly	<i><u>Erythromma najas</u></i>	Locally common in southern England and the Welsh Borders
Small Red-eyed Damselfly	<i><u>Erythromma viridulum</u></i>	Very recently established (1999) and verified as breeding in southern England
Southern Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion mercuriale</u></i>	Rare and protected by EU legislation. Hampshire, Pembrokeshire and a few other isolated pockets
Dainty Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion scitulum</u></i>	Extinct (Essex 1953)
Northern Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion hastulatum</u></i>	Very rare. Scottish Highlands
Irish Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion lunulatum</u></i>	Rare. Northern Ireland and the northern counties of the Irish Republic
Norfolk Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion armatum</u></i>	Extinct (Norfolk 1957)
Azure Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion puella</u></i>	Very common throughout the British Isles except the northern half of Scotland
Variable Damselfly	<i><u>Coenagrion pulchellum</u></i>	Scattered and uncommon in mainland Britain but widespread and common in Ireland
Common Blue Damselfly	<i><u>Enallagma cyathigerum</u></i>	Abundant throughout the British Isles
Scarce Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i><u>Ischnura pumilio</u></i>	Uncommon. Scattered populations in southern England, Wales and Ireland
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i><u>Ischnura elegans</u></i>	Abundant throughout the British Isles
Small Red Damselfly	<i><u>Ceriagrion tenellum</u></i>	Rare. Restricted to southern England and west Wales
Azure Hawker	<i><u>Aeshna caerulea</u></i>	Scotland only. Widespread in the Highlands but rarely abundant
Common Hawker	<i><u>Aeshna juncea</u></i>	Common. Western England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland
Migrant Hawker	<i><u>Aeshna mixta</u></i>	Common and increasing its range. Southern England, south coast of Wales
Southern Hawker	<i><u>Aeshna cyanea</u></i>	Very common in southern England and Wales, more local elsewhere
Brown Hawker	<i><u>Aeshna grandis</u></i>	Common and widespread. Southern and eastern England and the Welsh Borders
Norfolk Hawker	<i><u>Anaciaeschna isosceles</u></i>	Endangered (Red Data Book Category 1), listed in Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

		A few reserves in Norfolk and Suffolk only
Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>	Widespread in southern England and southern Wales
Lesser Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	Rare migrant. First record 1996, Gloucestershire
Green Darner	<i>Anax junius</i>	Very rare migrant. First records 1998, Scilly Isles and Cornwall
Vagrant Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Hemianax ephippiger</i>	Rare migrant
Hairy Dragonfly	<i>Brachytron pratense</i>	Uncommon but increasing its range. Local populations in southern mainland Britain but widely distributed in central Ireland
Club-tailed Dragonfly	<i>Gomphus vulgatissimus</i>	Very local. Some rivers in southern England and Wales
Golden-ringed Dragonfly	<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>	Common. A riverine species of southern England, Wales, Lake District and western Scotland
Downy Emerald	<i>Cordulia aenea</i>	Local. Mainly south of the Thames but with scattered populations elsewhere in the British Isles
Brilliant Emerald	<i>Somatochlora metallica</i>	Rare. South-east England and Scottish Highlands
Northern Emerald	<i>Somatochlora arctica</i>	Uncommon. Restricted to north-west Scotland and south-west Ireland
Orange-spotted Emerald	<i>Oxygastra curtisii</i>	Extinct (Dorset 1957)
Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	Common throughout British Isles
Scarce Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>	Scarce. Colonies in southern and eastern England
Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	Widespread and common throughout southern England and Wales
Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	Fairly common. Southern England, parts of Wales and Ireland
Keeled Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum coerulescens</i>	Locally common. Patchy distribution, mainly western Britain and Ireland
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	Abundant in England, Wales and Ireland. Less common in Scotland
Highland Darter	<i>Sympetrum nigrescens</i>	Restricted to north-west Scotland and western Ireland. May be a melanic form of <i>S. striolatum</i>
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	Frequent migrant to south-west England
Yellow-winged Darter	<i>Sympetrum flaveolum</i>	Infrequent visitor but may occur in large numbers (last influx was 1995). May have bred but not established
Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	Resident in south-east England and central Ireland but increasing its range
Black Darter	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>	Widespread and can be abundant, especially in the north. Local in southern Ireland and eastern and central England
Vagrant Darter	<i>Sympetrum vulgatum</i>	Rare migrant
Banded Darter	<i>Sympetrum pedemontanum</i>	Very rare migrant. First recorded in 1995
Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Very rare migrant. First recorded in 1995
Globe Skimmer	<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	Very rare migrant. Last recorded from Kent in 1989

White-faced Darter

Leucorrhinia dubia

Rare. Cheshire, north-west Highlands and a few other pockets only