

# A list of the Odonata of Honduras

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**SUMMARY.** The 147 species of dragonflies and damselflies known from Honduras are listed, along with their distribution by political department. Of these records, 54 are new for Honduras, including 9 which extend known ranges of species northward or southward.

**RESUMEN.** Las 147 especies de libélulas conocidas en Honduras son mencionados junto con su distribución por departamento. De esta cifra, 54 especies son nuevas en Honduras. Nueve especies han ampliado sus límites geográficos llegando a este país por el sur y por el norte.

Very little has been written about the Odonata of Honduras. Williamson (1905) gave some notes on collecting in Cortes Department, mostly near San Pedro Sula, but did not name the species taken. Williamson (1923b) briefly discussed the habitat of 4 species of *Hetaerina* collected near San Pedro Sula. Paulson (1982) in his table of Odonata occurrences in Central American countries listed 94 species from Honduras. *Argia difficilis* Selys has been deleted from the Honduran list because it is thought not to occur in Central America, and was confused with *A. oculata* Hagen (R. W. Garrison, pers. comm.). The list below includes 54 more species for a total of 147. Of the new records, 5 extend the known ranges of species southward and 4 extend ranges northward. Paulson (1982) listed 54 other species which occur both north and south of Honduras, and therefore can be expected in that country.

While the records of Odonata given here are of interest for purely scientific reasons, they should also be of interest as base line

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data for agriculturists. All Odonata are predators as both winged adults and aquatic larvae, and they devour many insect pests of humans and of their crops and livestock. While no one has quantified the importance of Odonata in natural pest control, or used them in an integrated plant pest management program, surely they are a factor of considerable force in agroecosystems, particularly those near ponds, lakes, or rivers. Of special importance must be those species resistant to agricultural water pollution. I noted on the Escuela Agricola Panamericana campus at Zamorano that certain species were common during the dry season at irrigation ponds. In order of abundance these were *Ichnura capreola*, *I. ramburii*, and *Micrathyria aequalis*, and in lesser numbers *Perithemis mooma*, *Argia pulla*, *Enallagma civile*, and *Miathyria marcella*. It might prove beneficial to construct a small pond in the middle of each agricultural field, without fish but with shore vegetation, as breeding habitat for odonates. The major source of food for many Odonata in such a situation would have to be the insects associated with crop plants. It would also be to a grower's advantage to pollute water bodies as little as possible, and to maintain a permanent buffer zone of forest along rivers and streams, thus increasing the abundance of odonates in his croplands.

Collections examined to produce data for the following list include: 1) The author's collection, including mostly specimens taken 9-19 December 1987 in central Honduras. 2) Escuela Agricola Panamericana collection, containing mostly specimens collected on the campus at Zamorano, Francisco Morazán Department. 3) Florida State Collection of Anthropods, Gainesville, Florida. Many of the specimens in this large collection were taken by C. W. Cook near Brus Lagoon, Gracias a Dios Department (but specimen labels say Colon Dept.), and by W. H. Cross near Punta Patuca, Gracias a Dios Department. Both of these localities are on the northeastern Caribbean coast. 4) International Odonata Research Institute collection at Gainesville, Florida. Other collections were kindly examined by colleagues: 5) Carl Cook collection, Center, Kentucky. 6) Thomas W. Donnelly collection, Binghamton, New York. 7) Rosser W. Garrison collection, Azusa, California. 8) Dennis R. Paulson collection, Seattle, Washington.

The distribution of Odonata within Honduras is poorly understood. A list of the Honduran political departments and the number of odonates known from each is given in Table 1. The low

**Table 1. Number of Odonata species known from each Honduran Department. Departments are listed approximately from northwest to southeast.**

Department	Number of Species	Department	Number of Species
1. Ocotepeque	0	10. Atlántida	26
2. Copán	7	11. Valle	2
3. Lempira	0	12. Francisco Morazán	72
4. Santa Bárbara	1	13. Choluteca	9
5. Cortés	83	14. El Paraíso	28
6. Intibucá	0	15. Olancho	37
7. La Paz	0	16. Colón	2
8. Comayagua	33	17. Islas de la Bahía	3
9. Yoro	4	18. Gracias a Dios	31

number of species known from some departments indicates insufficient collecting and indicates where future collecting efforts would best be spent. Some department records were extracted from monographs of genera and descriptions of new species, as stated in the list of species below.

### LIST OF SPECIES

This list of Honduran Odonata includes 65 Zygoptera (damselflies) and 82 Anisoptera (dragonflies). Species not designated as new Honduras records with an asterisk (\*) were listed by Paulson (1982). Other genus or species names given in parentheses are names that have been changed since Paulson's list. The Department(s) from which each species has been recorded is given by the numbers from Table 1. An indication of the principal habitat in Honduras follows each entry. Pond species are commonly found at stream pools, especially in the dry season.

### ZYGOPTERA

#### POLYTHORIDAE

\**Cora marina* Selys—5, 10. Streams

#### CALOPTERYGIDAE

*Hetaerina americana* (Fabricius)—5 (Williamson, 1923b), 8, 12, 14, 15. Streams

*H. cruentata* (Rambur)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 8, 10, 12, 14. Streams

*H. miniata* Selys—5. Streams

*H. occisa* Hagen in Selys (= *H. macropus* Selys)—5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15. Streams

- H. smaragdalis* De Marmels (= *H. capitalis* Selys, in part)—5, 8. Streams  
*H. titia* (Drury)—5, 10, 12, 13, 15. Streams  
 \**H. vulnerata* Hagen—12. Southern Range Extension. Mountain Streams

#### AMPHIPTERYGIDAE

- Amphipteryx agrioides* Selys—8. Streams

#### LESTIDAE

- Archilestes grandis* (Rambur)—5, 10, 12, 13. Stream Pools  
*A. latialatus* Donnelly—5 (Donnelly, 1981). Stream Pools  
*Lestes alacer* Hagen—8, 12. Ponds.  
*L. forficula* Rambur—5, 15. Ponds  
 \**L. scalaris* Gundlach (= *L. tikalus* Kormondy, SWD opinion)—15. Ponds  
 \**L. tenuatus* Rambur—2. Ponds

#### MEGAPODAGRIONIDAE

- \**Heteragrion alienum* Williamson—5, 8, 10. Forest streams  
*H. eboratum* Donnelly—5, 8. Mountain Streams  
 \**Philogenia* n. sp.—5. Forest Streams?

#### PSEUDOSTIGMATIDAE

- Mecistogaster ornata* Rambur—2, 5 (Calvert, 1901). Tree Holes  
*Megaloprepus caerulatus* (Drury)—5 (Calvert, 1901). Tree Holes  
*Pseudostigma aberrans* Selys—"Honduras" (Calvert, 1901). Bromeliads?  
*P. accedens* Selys-5. Bromeliads?

#### PLATYSTICTIDAE

- Palaemnema angelina* Selys—5, 10. Forest Streams  
*P. domina* Calvert—5, 12. Forest Streams  
*P. nathalia* Selys—2, 4, 5. Forest Streams  
*P. paulina* (Drury)—5, 10. Forest Streams  
 \**P. n. sp.*—5, 10. Streams

#### PROTONEURIDAE

- \**Neoneura amelia* Calvert—12, 15. Forest Stream Pools  
*Protoneura amatoria* Calvert—5. Forest Stream Pools  
 \**P. cara* Calvert—12. Southern Range Extension. Forest Stream Pools  
*Psaironeura remissa* (Calvert)—5, 8. Forest Seepages

### COENAGRIONIDAE

- \**Acanthagrion inexpectum* Leonard—15. Ponds  
*A. quadratum* Selys—9 and 10 (Leonard, 1977), 8, 12, 14, 15. Ponds  
 \**A. trilobatum* Leonard—5, 8, 15. Northern Range Extension. Small Shady Streams  
 \**Anisagrion allopterum* Selys—12. Seepages  
*Apanisagrion lais* (Selys)—12. Streams  
 \**Argia chelata* Calvert—12. Streams  
 \**A. cupraurea* Calvert—10. Northern Range Extension. Streams  
*A. cuprea* (Hagen)—5 (Calvert, 1901). Streams  
 \**A. eliptica* Selys (= *A. oculata* Hagen in Selys, in part)—5, 8, 18. Streams  
*A. extranea* (Hagen)—2, 5, 8, 10, 12. Streams  
*A. fissa* Selys—5, 8, 10, 12, 14. Streams  
*A. frequentula* Calvert—5, 12, 15. Streams  
*A. gaumeri* Calvert—5 (Calvert, 1901). Streams  
*A. indicatrix* Calvert—5 (Calvert, 1901). Streams  
*A. oculata* Hagen in Selys—5, 8, 10, 12, 14. Small Forest Streams  
*A. oenea* Hagen in Selys—5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15. Streams  
 \**A. pipila* Calvert—12, 14, 15. Streams  
 \**A. pocomana* Calvert—8, 10. Streams  
*A. pulla* Hagen in Selys—5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18. Ponds & Streams  
*A. tezpi* Calvert—5, 8, 12, 13, 14. Streams  
*A. translata* Hagen in Selys—5, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15. Streams  
*A. ulmeca* Calvert—5 (Calvert, 1901), 10. Streams  
 \**Enallagma civile* (Hagen)—12, 15. Ponds  
*E. novaehispaniae* Calvert—5, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15. Streams  
*E. rua* Donnelly—12. Mountain Ponds  
*Ischnura capreola* Hagen—5, 10, 12, 15, 18. Ponds.  
*I. (Anomalagrion) hastatum* (Say)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 12. Mountain Ponds  
*I. ramburii* Selys—5, 12, 15. Ponds, including brackish ones  
*Leptobasis vacillans* Selys—5 (Calvert, 1901), 18. Ponds  
*Nehalennia minuta* (Selys) (= *Argiallagma*)—5, 15. Ponds  
*Neoerythromma cultellatum* (Selys)—5, 12, 15, 18. Ponds  
*Telebasis digiticolis* Calvert—5, 12, 18. Marshy Ponds

- T. filiola* (Perty)—5 (Calvert, 1901). Marshy Ponds  
 \**T. salva* (Hagen)—12, 15. Marshy Ponds

## ANISOPTERA

### AESHNIDAE

- \**Aeshna cornigera* Brauer—5. Mountain Ponds  
 \**A. jalapensis* Williamson—12. Mountain Ponds  
 \**Anax amazili* (Burmeister)—12. Ponds  
 \**A. walsinghami* MacLachlan—12, 14. Southern Range Extension. Streams  
*Coryphaeschna adnexa* (Hagen)—5. Ponds  
 \**C. luteipennis* (Burmeister)—14. Marshy Streams  
 \**C. perrensi* (McLachlan)—2. Northern Range Extension. Swampy Ponds  
 \**C. secreta* Calvert—5. Southern Range Extension. Marshes?  
 \**C. viriditas* Calvert—5. Mangrove Swamp areas  
 \**Gynacantha helenga* Williamson & Williamson—8, 12. Southern Range Extension. Temporary Pools?  
*G. mexicana* Selys—5 (Calvert, 1901). Temporary Pools  
 \**G. nervosa* Rambur—12. Temporary Pools  
*Staurophlebia reticulata* (Burmeister). Temporary Streams  
 \**Triacanthagyna caribbea* Williamson—12. Temporary Pools  
 \**T. septima* (Selys)—5, 10, 12. Temporary Pools

### GOMPHIDAE

- \**Epigomphus subobtusus* Selys—5 (Donnelly, 1986). Forest Streams  
 \**Eretogomphus constrictor* Ris—12. Streams  
 \**E. n. sp. near elaps* Selys—12. Streams  
 \**Phyllogomphoides bifasciatus* (Selys)—12. Streams & Lakes  
*P. duodentatus* Donnelly—5 (Donnelly, 1979). Streams  
 \**Progomphus clendoni* Calvert—10, 14. Streams

### LIBELLULIDAE

- Anatya guttata* (Erichson) (=normalis Calvert, SWD opinion)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 18. Temporary Forest Pools  
*Brachymesia furcata* (Hagen)—5, 18. Ponds  
 \**B. herbida* (Gundlach)—12, 18. Ponds  
 \**Brechmorhoga pertinax* (Hagen)—12. Streams  
*B. praecox* (Hagen)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 12, 14, 15. Streams

- B. rapax* Calvert—5. Streams  
 \**B. vivax* Calvert—5. Streams  
*Cannaphila insularis* Kirby—5 and 17 (Calvert, 1901), 12. Marshy Ponds  
*C. vibex* (Hagen)—"Honduras" (Calvert, 1901). Marshy Ponds  
*Dythemis cannaerioides* Calvert—5, 8, 12, 15. Streams  
 \**D. multipunctata* Kirby—5, 12. Streams  
*D. sterilis* Hagen—5, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18. Streams  
*Erythemis attala* (Selys) (=Lepthemis)—5, 18. Ponds  
 \**E. credula* (Hagen)—18. Northern Range Extension. Ponds  
 \**E. haematogastra* (Burmeister)—12, 15, 18. Ponds & Swamps  
*E. peruviana* (Rambur)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 15, 18. Ponds  
*E. plebeja* (Burmeister)—8, 12, 18. Ponds  
*E. simplicicollis* (Say)—5, 18. Ponds  
*E. vesiculosa* (Fabricius)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 12. Ponds  
*Erythrodiplax fervida* (Erichson)—5, 9 (Borror, 1942), 8, 18. Ponds  
*E. funerea* (Hagen)—5, 8, 11, 12, 14. Temporary Ponds  
*E. fusca* (Rambur)—2, 9, and 10 (Borror, 1942); 5, 8, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18. Ponds  
*E. umbrata* (Linnaeus)—5, 9 (Borror, 1942), 12, 18. Temporary Ponds  
*Idiataphe amazonica* (Kirby)—18. Ponds  
*I. cubensis* (Scudder)—18. Ponds  
*Libellula croceipennis* Selys—8, 12. Seepages  
*L. foliata* Kirby—"Honduras" (Ris, 1910). Seepages?  
*L. herculea* Karsch—"Honduras" (Ris, 1910). Seepages?  
*Macrothemis hemichlora* (Burmeister)—15. Streams  
 \**M. imitans* Karsch—12, 14. Streams  
*M. inacuta* Calvert—2, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Streams  
 \**M. musiva* Calvert—12. Small Streams  
 \**M. pseudimitans* Calvert—5, 8, 12, 14. Streams  
*M. tessellata* (Burmeister)—17 (Calvert, 1901). Streams  
*Miathyria marcella* (Selys)—5, 8, 12, 14, 15, 18. Ponds with floating plants  
*M. simplex* (Rambur)—5, 18. Ponds  
*Micrathyria aequalis* (Hagen)—5, 10, 12, 14, 15. Ponds  
*M. atra* (Martin)—"Honduras" (Calvert, 1901). Ponds  
*M. debilis* (Hagen)—5. Ponds  
*M. didyma* (Selys)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 18. Shady Ponds  
*M. hageni* Kirby—5 (Calvert, 1901), 8. Marshy Ponds  
*M. ocellata* Martin—5, 8, 12, 15. Ponds  
*Nephepeltia chalconota* Ris—5. Ponds  
*Orthemis ferruginea* (Fabricius)—5, 12, 13, 15, 17 (Calvert, 1901),

### 18. Ponds

- O. levis* Calvert—5, 15. Streams  
\**Paltothemis lineatipes* Karsch—12. Mountain Streams  
\**Pantala falvescens* (Fabricius)—12, 14, 15, 18. Temporary Ponds  
*P. hymenaea* (Say)—12. Temporary Ponds  
*Perithemis domitia* (Drury)—10 (Ris, 1930), 18. Shaded Pools  
*P. electra* Ris—12. Shaded Pools  
*P. mooma* Kirby—5, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15. Ponds  
\**Pseudoleon superbus* (Hagen)—12, 14. Streams  
*Sympetrum corruptum* (Hagen). Ponds  
*S. illotum* (Hagen)—12. Mountain Ponds  
\**Tauriphila argo* (Hagen)—10, 18. Ponds  
\**T. australis* (Hagen)—12, 18. Ponds  
\**Tramea binotata* (Rambur)—5 (Calvert, 1901), 18. Ponds  
\**T. calverti* Muttkowski—12, 15. Ponds  
\**T. onusta* Hagen—14, 15. Ponds  
*Uracis fastigiata* (Burmeister)—16 (Calvert, 1901). Temporary Pools  
\**U. imbuta* (Burmeister)—18. Temporary Pools

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