
A Checklist of the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ottawa-Gatineau (2008 Update)

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In 1998 we produced a checklist of the dragonflies and damselflies for the Ottawa-Hull (now Ottawa-Gatineau) district (Bracken and Lewis, 1998) including notes on occurrence, habitat types, environmental conditions and local status. Ten years have passed since this list was compiled and there have been a number of changes to names (both common and scientific) as well as three additions and two deletions to the list of species. Additionally, we have gained a better understanding of local status and distribution, and have amended and updated the flight seasons and status codes to more accurately reflect the relative abundance of species. More references for the amateur naturalist have also been published, including field guides that are relevant to our area, and we now provide an updated list of these as well.

INTRODUCTION

In our presentation we hope to provide a modern checklist which includes current nomenclature as well as notes on the environments where these ancient, beautiful and fascinating insects may be found.

Within the Ottawa-Gatineau area, 120 species are now known to have occurred, and an additional 6 taxa are known within 25 km of the 50 km radius of the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill. This represents one of the highest diversities of Odonata in North America for such a small geographic region. An amazing example is the Britannia Conservation Area in Ottawa, approximately 1 km² in area, where 57 species have now been recorded—more than the fauna of the entire British Isles (Bracken and Lewis, 2004)!

Standardized English common and scientific names are from “The Odonata of North America” produced by the Dragonfly Society of the Americas (DSA) (September 2004), with updates in 2006. The family order follows the standard as it is currently accepted. Species scientific names are, for convenience, listed alphabetically.

Status information is given for *adult* insects only, and is based on personal

communications with local authorities as well as our own observations over the past 10 seasons. Where we found gaps in local information, we consulted E. M. Walker (The Odonata of Canada and Alaska) and other references. A list of references used for this article, as well as recommended publications and acknowledgements, appears at the end of the checklist.

It is interesting to consider the coarse geology of the Ottawa-Gatineau region. The Québec half of the district is primarily Precambrian, metavolcanic (mineral soil) with only a thin margin of Ordovician as well as the Champlain Sea influence along the northern boundary of the Ottawa River. The Ontario side is almost exclusively Ordovician (dolomitic) limestone, with a much more extensive influence of the late Quaternary Period (Champlain Sea depositions). We hope that these basic geologic factors are reflected within the body of the species ecotone notes, as well as in the columns for presence within Québec and Ontario.

CHANGES/UPDATES TO THE LIST OF SPECIES

Additions:

Northern Bluet (*Enallagma annexum* – formerly *E. cyathigerum*) and Vernal Bluet (*E. vernale*) – their status and pattern of occurrence were poorly known in 1997. Split just a few years ago, it now appears that they are both widely distributed regionally, the former common in sandpits and sewage lagoons of the Quaternary “flat country” and the latter frequent in wetlands of “shield country.”

Rapids Clubtail (*Gomphus quadricolor*) – first recorded in our district in June 2002 on the Mississippi River in Pakenham, ON (Catling, 2002).

Black Saddlebags (*Tramea lacerata*) – A long distance migrant first recorded in our district in 2001 and again the following year. These records were a surprise as this species had not previously been recorded in eastern Ontario away from the Great Lakes (Bracken and Lewis, 2002).

Deletions:

Unicorn Clubtail (*Arigomphus villosipes*) – This was included based on a reported specimen that has not been made available for confirmation. Within Ontario this species is known to occur only as far north as Durham and York counties (Rothfels, 2003), therefore it has been dropped from our list.

Jane’s Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum janae*) – After much study this newly described species (Carle, 1993) has been dismissed by the DSA and is thought to be an

intergrade in the Cherry-faced Meadowhawk (*S. internum*) and Ruby Meadowhawk (*S. rubicundulum*) species complex.

Changes to Common Names:

Northern Spreadwing (*Lestes disjunctus*) – Changed from Common Spreadwing. Two subspecies have recently been split according to morphological differences and range of occurrence.

Vernal Bluet (*Enallagma vernale*) – Changed from Gloyd’s Bluet. At the time of our original list this taxon did not have a common name, therefore we “coined” one that we considered appropriate.

Violet Dancer (*Argia fumipennis violacaea*) – Changed from Variable Dancer. Three subspecies have been given their own vernaculars.

Eastern Least Clubtail (*Stylogomphus albistylus*) – Changed from Least Clubtail. This vernacular was modified following the naming of a new species from the interior.

Common Pondhawk (*Erythemis simplicicollis*) – Changed from Eastern Pondhawk. Two taxa (eastern and western) are now considered conspecific.

Belted Whiteface (*Leucorrhinia proxima*) – Changed from Red-waisted Whiteface. The new name reflects differences in the appearance of two populations (eastern and western) and is more appropriate.

Chalk-fronted Corporal (*Ladona julia*) – Changed from Chalk-fronted Skimmer. This taxon is better treated within the genus of “smaller” Skimmers known as the “Corporals.”

Autumn Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum vicinum*) – Changed from Yellow-legged Meadowhawk. The legs of this species darken with age. Also, it is the latest-flying of the Meadowhawks.

Changes to Scientific Names:

Northern Bluet (*Enallagma annexum*) – Changed from *E. cyathigerum*, as it has just recently been separated from that species, its European cousin.

Spiketail family (*Cordulegastridae*) – At the time of our original list, it was thought that the three species of Spiketails merited separate generic designation. Here we

use the one genus *Cordulegaster* for the family, as the previously used genera *Taeniogaster* and *Zoraena* are no longer being used.

Chalk-fronted Corporal (*Ladona julia*) – previously placed in the genus *Libellula*, recent DNA studies have shown that this taxon is best treated in the distinct genus *Ladona* (Artiss 1999, in Catling 2000).

Common Whitetail (*Plathemis lydia*) – as with *L. julia* (above), it is thought that this taxon deserves its own genus, based on recent DNA studies.

**SPECIES KNOWN FROM ADJACENT REGIONS
(within 25 km of the 50 km radius of the Ottawa-Gatineau District)**

- Subarctic Bluet (*Coenagrion interrogatum*) – Danford Lake fen, Québec
- Zigzag Darner (*Aeshna sitchensis*) – Danford Lake fen, Québec
- Subarctic Darner (*Aeshna subarctica*) – Danford Lake fen, Québec
- Brook Snaketail (*Ophiogomphus aspersus*) – Petite Nation River, Québec
- Incurvate Emerald (*Somatochlora incurvata*) – Danford Lake fen, Québec
- Blue Dasher (*Pachydiplax longipennis*) – Burritt’s Rapids, Ontario

HABITAT AND STATUS CODES IN THE CHECKLIST

Habitat (ecotone) notes are derived from combinations of the following descriptions and their codes. Only the two most appropriate descriptions are tabled for each column, except for status. Flight periods and codes for status are included based on our most recent observations of **adult** insects in our district.



River Jewelwing

WB = WATER BODY TYPE

- LI** – large lakes (e.g. Lac Lapêche, QC)
- La** – lakes, moderate to small in size (e.g. Ramsay Lake, QC)
- Lr** – large rivers (e.g. Ottawa River)
- Ri** – rivers, moderate to small in size (e.g. tributaries of the Ottawa River)
- Pd** – ponds, permanent or semipermanent, large or small and shallow (e.g. “Mud Lake” in Britannia)
- Sm** – natural streams, small water courses, moderate (1-3 m in width) or small creek (1 m or less in depth)

WT = WETLAND TYPE

- Ma** – marsh; shallow water, typically with robust emergent and aquatic vegetation
- Sw** – swamp; areas of standing water, wet woods with standing trees and shrubs
- Fe** – fen; wetland of standing water with Eastern Tamarack (*Larix laricina*), narrow-leaved emergents and sphagnum spp., neutral to alkaline water
- Bo** – bog; northern wetland typically with Black Spruce (*Picea mariana*), low shrubs (ericaceous), and sphagnum spp., acidic water

WC = WATER CONDITIONS

- St** – quiet waters, stagnant or still inshore areas
- Sl** – slow waters, little to gentle current with minimal grade
- Fs** – fast waters, moderate to strong current with grade
- Ra** – rapids or cataracts, steep grades over bedrock or rocky substrate

SH = SPECIFIC HABITAT DESCRIPTIONS within water body or wetland type, or unique habitats

- Ip** – instream pools, slow or fast waters
- Po** – pools of standing water in sphagnum depressions of fens or bogs
- Ro** – rocky conditions, instream and on shore
- Be** – beach zone along shore, sand, gravel or cobble
- Sa** – sand or borrow pits, excavations in Champlain Sea deposits
- Tl** – sewage treatment lagoons

EC = ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS within water body or wetland type, or unique habitats

Sh – shaded environments, woodland edges, forest streams, or in evening

Cw – cold water source, underground streams or springs with emergent vegetation

Se – seepage areas, underground source

Or – organic substrate, decayed or decaying vegetation, byproducts, etc.

Ms – mineral substrate, sand deposition or igneous bedrock, acidic

Ca – clay soils or calcareous deposition (e.g. limestone), alkaline

Wa – wave-beaten shores, shallow waters of larger lakes and rivers lacking wetland vegetation

FLIGHT PERIOD

Earliest and latest dates are excluded, to portray the main flight period of each species within the Ottawa-Gatineau District.

e – early in the month (~ first 10 days)

m – middle of the month (~ 11th – 20th days)

l – later in the month (~ 21st – 31st days)

STATUS WITHIN THE DISTRICT

C – common, easily found, widespread or abundant within appropriate habitat

U – uncommon, readily found in suitable habitat; most species require effort

S – scarce, not easily found, special effort required

R – rare, specific locations only, not likely to be encountered

VR – very rare, one or two records only or rare immigrant

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON LOCAL STATUS

W – widespread, often encountered outside of appropriate habitat

L – local, closely associated with environmental and/or habitat requirements

I – immigrant, a species that moves into our area from the south

† – historical record, unknown for 50 years

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
		DAMSELFLIES	SUBORDER ZYGOPTERA							
		Broad-winged Damselflies	Family Calopterygidae (2 species)							
✓	✓	River Jewelwing	<i>Calopteryx aequabilis</i> Say, 1839	Sm		Sl,Fs			1.May - e.Aug	U
✓	✓	Ebony Jewelwing	<i>C. maculata</i> (Beauvois, 1805)	Sm		Sl,Fs		Sh	1.May - m.Sep	C
		Spreadwings	Family Lestidae (9 species)							
✓	✓	Spotted Spreadwing	<i>Lestes congener</i> Hagen, 1861	Pd	Ma,Fe	St	Sa		m.Jul - 1.Oct	U,L
✓	✓	Northern Spreadwing	<i>L. disjunctus</i> Selys, 1862	Pd,Sm	Ma,Sw	St			m.Jun - m.Sep	C
✓	✓	Emerald Spreadwing	<i>L. dryas</i> Kirby, 1890	Pd	Ma,Sw	St		Sh	m.Jun - m.Aug	U
✓	✓	Amber-winged Spreadwing	<i>L. eurinus</i> Say, 1839	La,Pd	Ma	St	Sa		m. un - m.Aug	S,L
✓	✓	Sweetflag Spreadwing	<i>L. forcipatus</i> Rambur, 1842	La,Pd	Ma	St	Sa		m.Jul - m.Sep	S,L
✓	✓	Elegant Spreadwing	<i>L. inaequalis</i> Walsh, 1862	La,Pd	Ma	St			1.Jun - 1.Jul	S,L
✓	✓	Slender Spreadwing	<i>L. rectangularis</i> Say, 1839	Pd,Sm	Ma,Sw	St		Sh	e.Jun - m.Sep	C
✓	✓	Lyre-tipped Spreadwing	<i>L. unguiculatus</i> Hagen, 1861	Pd	Ma	St,TI			e.Jul - 1.Sep	U,L
✓	✓	Swamp Spreadwing	<i>L. vigilax</i> Hagen in Selys, 1862	La,Pd	Ma,Sw	St	Sa		1.Jun - e.Aug	S,L

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
✓	✓	Pond Damsels	Family Coenagrionidae (22 species)							
✓	✓	Eastern Red Damselfly	<i>Amphiagrion saucium</i> (Burm., 1839)	Sm	Fe	Sl		Cw,Se	m.Jun - 1 Jul	R,L
✓	✓	Violet Dancer	<i>Argia fumipennis violacea</i> (Burmeister, 1839)	La,Sm		Sl	Ro	Ca	m.Jun - e.Sep	C,L
✓	✓	Powdered Dancer	<i>A. moesta</i> Hagen, 1861	La,Sm		Sl,Fs	Ro	Ms	e.Jun - m.Sep	C
✓	✓	Aurora Damselfly	<i>Chromagrion conditum</i> (Selys, 1867)	Ri,Sm		Sl		Cw	e.Jun - m. Jul	U,L
✓	✓	Taiga Bluet	<i>Coenagrion resolutum</i> (Selys, 1867)	Pd	Ma,Sw	St,Sl		Sh	m.May - 1.Jun	C
✓	✓	Northern Bluet	<i>Enallagma annexum</i> (Charpentier, 1840)	Pd		St	Sa,Tl		m.May-m.Sep	C,L
✓	✓	Rainbow Bluet	<i>E. antennatum</i> (Say, 1839)	La,Ri		Sl		Ca,Wa	e.Jun - e. Jul	U,L
✓		Azure Bluet	<i>E. aspersum</i> (Hagen, 1861)	La,Pd	Ma,Fe	St	Sa	Ca	e.Jul - 1.Aug	R,L
✓	✓	Boreal Bluet	<i>E. boreale</i> Selys, 1875	La,Pd	Ma,Fe	St,Sl	Tl	Ca	e.May- m.Aug	U,L
✓	✓	Tule Bluet	<i>E. carunculatum</i> Morse, 1895	La,Ri	Ma	Sl	Sa		1.May - e.Oct	U,W
✓		Familiar Bluet	<i>E. civile</i> (Hagen, 1861)	La,Pd	Ma	St	Ip,Sa	Ca	e.Jun - m.Oct	U,W
✓	✓	Marsh Bluet	<i>E. ebrium</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd,Sm	Ma	St,Sl	Tl	Ca	1.May - e. Sep	C,W
✓	✓	Stream Bluet	<i>E. exsulans</i> (Hagen, 1861)	La,Sm	Ma	Sl		Wa	m.Jun - m.Sep	U
✓	✓	Skimming Bluet	<i>E. geminatum</i> Kellicott, 1895	La,Sm	Ma	Sl			1.Jun - m.Sep	U,L
✓	✓	Hagen's Bluet	<i>E. hageni</i> (Walsh, 1863)	La,Sm	Ma	Sl		Or,Ms	1.May -m.Aug	C,W
✓	✓	Orange Bluet	<i>E. signatum</i> (Hagen,1861)	La,Ri	Ma	Sl		Or	e.Jun - m.Sep	U
✓	✓	Vernal Bluet	<i>E. vernale</i> (Gloyd, 1943)	LaPd	Ma,Fe	St		Cw	e.May - 1.Jul	U,L

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
✓	✓	Vesper Bluet	<i>Enallagma vesperum</i> Calvert, 1919	La,Sm	Ma	Sl		Sh	l.Jun - l.Aug	U,L
✓	✓	Fragile Forktail	<i>Ischnura posita</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd,Sm	Ma	Sl		Sh,Or	m.May- l.Aug	U,L
✓	✓	Eastern Forktail	<i>I. verticalis</i> (Say, 1839)	LaPd	Ma,Fe	St,Sl		Or	e.May - e.Oct	C,W
	✓	Sphagnum Sprite	<i>Nehalennia gracilis</i> Morse,1895		Fe,Bo	St	Po	Cw,Or	e.Jul - m.Jul	VR,L
✓	✓	Sedge Sprite	<i>N. irene</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd,Sm	Ma,Fe	St,Sl	Tl	Or	l.May - e.Sep	C,W
		DRAGONFLIES	SUBORDER ANISOPTERA							
		Darners	Family Aeshnidae (15 species)							
✓	✓	Canada Darner	<i>Aeshna canadensis</i> Walker, 1908	La,Pd	Ma,Fe	St,Sl		Or	m. Jul - m.Oct	C,W
✓		Mottled Darner	<i>A. clepsydra</i> Say, 1839	La,Pd	Ma,Fe			Cw,Or	m.Jun - m.Sep	VR
✓	✓	Lance-tipped Darner	<i>A. constricta</i> Say, 1839	Pd,Sm	Ma	Sl		Or	e.Jul - l. Sep	C,W
✓	✓	Lake Darner	<i>A. eremita</i> Scudder, 1866	La,Pd	Ma	Sl		Or	m.Jul - m.Sep	U,L
✓	✓	Variable Darner	<i>A. interrupta</i> Walker, 1908	Pd,Sm	Ma,Fe	Sl		Or	e. Aug - e.Sep	U,W
✓	✓	Black-tipped Darner	<i>A. tuberculifera</i> Walker, 1908	La,Pd	Ma,Fe	Sl	Ip	Or	e.Jul - m.Sep	U,W
✓	✓	Shadow Darner	<i>A. umbrosa</i> Walker 1908	Pd,Sm		Sl		Sh	e.Jul - l.Sep	U,W
✓	✓	Green-striped Darner	<i>A. verticalis</i> Hagen, 1861	La,Pd	Ma,Fe			Cw,Or	m.Jul - m.Sep	VR
✓	✓	Common Green Darner	<i>Anax junius</i> (Drury,1773)	La,Pd	Ma	St	Sa,Tl		l.Apr - m.Oct	C,W,I
✓	✓	Springtime Darner	<i>Basiaeschna janata</i> (Say, 1839)	Ll,Sm		Sl,Fs	Ro	Sh	m.May - e.Jul	U,L

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
✓	✓	Ocellated Darner	<i>Boyeria grafiانا</i> Williamson, 1907	Ri, Sm		Ra	Ip, Ro	Wa	m. Jun - l. Aug	S, L
✓	✓	Fawn Darner	<i>B. vinosa</i> (Say, 1839)	Sm		Ra	Ip, Ro	Sh	e. Jul - m. Sep	U, L
	✓	Swamp Darner	<i>Epiaeschna heros</i> (Fabricus, 1798)	Pd	Sw	St		Sh, Se	? Jul - ? Aug	VR, L
✓	✓	Harlequin Darner	<i>Gomphaeschna furcillata</i> (Say, 1839)	Pd	Fe	Sl		Cw	m. Jun - ?	VR, L
✓	✓	Cyrano Darner	<i>Nasiaeschna pentacantha</i> (Rambur, 1842)	La, Sm	Sw	Sl		Sh, Or	l. May - e. Jul	S, L
		Clubtails	Family Gomphidae (23 species)							
✓	✓	Horned Clubtail	<i>Arigomphus cornutus</i> (Tough, 1900)	La, Pd	Ma	St, Sl		Or	m. May - e. Jul	U, L
✓	✓	Lilypad Clubtail	<i>A. furcifer</i> (Hagen in Selys, 1878)	Pd, Sm	Ma	Sl			m. Jun - m. Jul	S, L
✓	✓	Black-shouldered Spinyleg	<i>Dromogomphus spinosus</i> Selys, 1854	La, Ri		Sl, Fs	Ro, Be	Wa	m. Jun - l. Sep	U, W
✓	✓	Moustached Clubtail	<i>Gomphus adelphus</i> Selys, 1858	La, Ri		Ra	Be		m. Jun - m. Jul	S, L
✓	✓	Beaverpond Clubtail	<i>G. borealis</i> Needham, 1901	Pd, Sm		Sl		Or	l. Jun - l. Jul	R
✓	✓	Harpoon Clubtail	<i>G. descriptus</i> Banks, 1896	Ri, Sm		Ra	Ip		m. Jun - m. Jul	S, L
✓	✓	Lancet Clubtail	<i>G. exilis</i> Selys, 1854	La, Ri	Ma	Sl			e. Jun - m. Sep	C, W
✓	✓	Midland Clubtail	<i>G. fraternus</i> Say, 1839	Ll, Ri	Ma	Fs	Be	Ca, Wa	m. Jun - e. Jul	S, L
✓	✓	Ashy Clubtail	<i>G. lividus</i> Selys 1854	Ri, Sm		Sl	Ro		m. Jun - e. Jul	R
✓		Rapids Clubtail	<i>G. quadricolor</i> (Walsh, 1863)	Sm		Fs			m. Jun - m. Jul	R, L
✓	✓	Dusky Clubtail	<i>G. spicatus</i> Hagen in Selys, 1854	La, Pd	Ma	Sl			e. May - m. Jul	C, W

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
✓	✓	Cobra Clubtail	<i>Gomphus vastus</i> (Walsh, 1862)	Ll,Lr			Be	Wa	1.Jun - m.Jul	R,L
✓	✓	Skillet Clubtail	<i>G. ventricosus</i> (Walsh, 1863)	Ri					m.Jun - ?	VR,†
✓	✓	Dragonhunter	<i>Hagenius brevistylus</i> Selys, 1854	Ri,Sm	Sw	Sl,Fs	Ro	Wa	1.May - e.Sep	U,L
	✓	Extra-striped Snaketail	<i>Ophiogomphus anomalus</i> Harvey, 1898	Ri		Fs	Be		1.Jun - e.Aug	VR,†
	✓	Boreal Snaketail	<i>O. colubrinus</i> Selys, 1854	Sm		Fs	Be, Sa	Cw	m.Jun - e.Sep	VR
	✓	Maine Snaketail	<i>O. mainensis</i> Packard in Walsh, 1863	Sm		Fs	Ro	Sh	m.Jun - m.Jul	R,L
✓	✓	Rusty Snaketail	<i>O. rupinsulensis</i> (Walsh, 1862)	Sm		Fs		Ms	1.Jun - 1.Aug	R,L
✓	✓	Eastern Least Clubtail	<i>Stylogomphus albistylus</i> (Hagen in Selys, 1878)	Sm		Fs, Ra	Ro		1.Jun - e.Aug	S,L
	✓	Riverine Clubtail	<i>Stylurus amnicola</i> (Walsh, 1862)	Ri		Fs	Be		1.Jun - m.Jul	VR
✓	✓	Elusive Clubtail	<i>S. notatus</i> (Rambur, 1842)	Ll,Lr					1.Jun - e.Jul	R,W
✓	✓	Zebra Clubtail	<i>S. scudderi</i> (Selys, 1873)	Ri,Sm		Fs,Ra	Ro,Be	Cw	m.Jul - 1.Aug	R,L
✓	✓	Arrow Clubtail	<i>S. spiniceps</i> (Walsh, 1862)	La,Ri		Fs	Ro		m.Jul - 1.Aug	VR,L
Spiketails			Family Cordulegastridae (3 species)							
✓	✓	Delta-spotted Spiketail	<i>Cordulegaster diastatops</i> (Selys, 1854)	Sm		Fs	Ip	Cw	e.Jun - 1.Jun	S
✓	✓	Twin-spotted Spiketail	<i>C. maculata</i> (Selys, 1854)	Sm		Fs	Ip	Sh	e.Jun - 1.Jun	S
✓	✓	Arrowhead Spiketail	<i>C. obliqua</i> Say, 1839	Sm		Fs		Sh	e.Jun - e.Jul	R,L

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
		Cruisers	Family Macromiidae (2 species)							
✓	✓	Stream Cruiser	<i>Didymops transversa</i> (Say, 1839)	La,Ri		Sl		Sh,Wa	l.May - m.Jul	U,W
✓	✓	Swift River Cruiser	<i>Macromia illinoiensis</i> (Walsh, 1862)	La,Ri		Fs		Wa	m.Jun -m.Aug	U
		Emeralds	Family Cordulida (18 species)							
✓	✓	American Emerald	<i>Cordulia shurtleffi</i> Scudder, 1866	La,Pd	Ma,Fe	St	Po	Or	e.May – m.Jul	C,W
✓	✓	Racket-tailed Emerald	<i>Dorocordulia libera</i> (Selys, 1871)	Pd	Ma,Fe	St	Po	Or	m.May -l.Aug	C,L
✓	✓	Beaverpond Baskettail	<i>Epitheca canis</i> (McLachlan, 1886)	La,Pd	Ma,Fe	St	Po	Or	l.Apr - l.Jun	C,W
✓	✓	Common Baskettail	<i>E. cynosura</i> (Say, 1839)	La,Sm	Ma	Sl		Or	l.May - e.Aug	C
✓	✓	Prince Baskettail	<i>E. princeps</i> Hagen, 1861	La,Ri	Ma	St,Sl			e.Jun - m.Sep	C,W
✓	✓	Spiny Baskettail	<i>E. spinigera</i> (Selys, 1871)	La,Sm	Ma	Sl			m.May - m.Jul	U
✓	✓	Uhler's Sundragon	<i>Helocordulia uhleri</i> (Selys, 1871)	La,Ri		Fs,Ra	Ro	Ms,Wa	e.Jun - m.Jul	S,L
✓	✓	Stygian Shadowdragon	<i>Neurocordulia yamaskanensis</i> (Provencher, 1875)	La,Lr		Sl,Fs	Ro	Sh,Ms	l.Jun - m.Jul	S,L
✓	✓	Ringed Emerald	<i>Somatochlora albicincta</i> (Burm., 1839)	Pd,Sm	Fe,Bo	Sl			Jun - ?	VR,†
✓	✓	Ski-tipped Emerald	<i>S. elongata</i> (Scudder, 1866)	Pd,Sm		Sl,Fs			Jul - ?	VR
✓	✓	Forcipate Emerald	<i>S. forcipata</i> (Scudder, 1866)	Sm	Fe,Bo	St	Po	Cw	Jun - ?	VR
✓	✓	Delicate Emerald	<i>S. franklini</i> (Selys, 1878)	Sm	Fe,Bo	St	Po	Cw,Or	l.May -m.Aug	S,L
✓	✓	Kennedy's Emerald	<i>S. kennedyi</i> Walker, 1918	Sm	Fe,Bo	Sl		Cw,Or	e.Jun - m.Jul	S,L
✓	✓	Ocellated Emerald	<i>S. minor</i> Calvert in Harvey, 1898	La,Sm		Sl	Ip	Sh,Ms	m.Jun - e.Aug	S,L

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
	✓	Clamp-tipped Emerald	<i>Somatochlora tenebrosa</i> Say, 1839	Sm		Sl	Ip	Sh	? – Aug	VR
✓	✓	Brush-tipped Emerald	<i>S. walshii</i> Scudder, 1866	Sm	Sw,Fe	Sl		Or	m.Jun - e.Aug	S,L
✓	✓	Williamson's Emerald	<i>S. williamsoni</i> Walker, 1907	La,Sm		St		Sh	e.Jun - m.Aug	U,L
✓	✓	Ebony Boghaunter	<i>Williamsonia fletcheri</i> Williamson, 1923		Fe	St	Po	Or	m.May - m.Jul	VR,L
		Skimmers	Family Libellulidae (26 species)							
✓	✓	Calico Pennant	<i>Celithemis elisa</i> (Hagen, 1861)	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl		Or	m.Jun -m.Aug	S
✓		Halloween Pennant	<i>C. eponina</i> (Drury, 1773)	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl		Or	e.Jul - m.Aug	S
✓	✓	Common Pondhawk	<i>Erythemis simplicicollis</i> Say, 1839	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl		Or	m.Jun - m.Sep	C
✓	✓	Frosted Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia frigida</i> Hagen, 1890	Pd	Fe	St	Po	Or	l.May - m.Jul	U,L
✓	✓	Crimson-ringed Whiteface	<i>L. glacialis</i> Hagen, 1890	Pd	Fe,Bo	St	Po	Or,Ms	m.May - l.Jul	U,L
✓	✓	Hudsonian Whiteface	<i>L. hudsonica</i> (Selys, 1850)	Pd	Fe,Bo	St		Cw,Or	m.May -m.Jun	U,L
✓	✓	Dot-tailed Whiteface	<i>L. intacta</i> (Hagen, 1861)	La,Pd	Ma	St		Or	m.May -l.Aug	C,W
✓	✓	Belted Whiteface	<i>L. proxima</i> Calvert, 1890	Pd	Ma	St		Or	m.May - l.Jul	C
✓	✓	Chalk-fronted Skimmer	<i>Ladona julia</i> Uhler, 1857	La,Pd	Ma	St		Or	l.May -m.Aug	C
✓	✓	Slaty Skimmer	<i>Libellula incesta</i> Hagen, 1861	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl			m.Jun -m.Aug	U
✓	✓	Widow Skimmer	<i>L. luctuosa</i> Burmeister, 1839	La,Pd	Ma	St			m.Jun - e.Sep	C
✓	✓	Twelve-spotted Skimmer	<i>L. pulchella</i> Drury, 1773	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl		Ca	m.May-m.Sep	C,W

ON	QC	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	WB	WT	WC	SH	EC	FLIGHT	STATUS
✓	✓	Four-spotted Skimmer	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i> Linnaeus, 1758	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl			m.May-m.Aug	C,W
✓	✓	Elfin Skimmer	<i>Nannothemis bella</i> (Uhler, 1857)		Fe	St	Po	Or	e.Jun – 1.Jun	R,L
✓	✓	Wandering Glider	<i>Pantala flavescens</i> (Fabr., 1798)	Pd		St	Sa,Tl		1.Jun - 1.Sep	S,I
	✓	Spot-winged Glider	<i>P. hymenaea</i> (Say, 1839)	Pd		St	Sa,Tl		e.Aug - e.Sep	R,I
✓	✓	Common Whitetail	<i>Plathemis lydia</i> Drury, 1773	La,Pd	Ma	St,Sl			1.May - 1.Sep	C,W
✓	✓	Variiegated Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum corruptum</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd		St	Tl	Or	17 Aug 1997	VR,I
✓	✓	Saffron-winged Meadowhawk	<i>S. costiferum</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd	Ma,Fe	St	Sa	Sh	1.Jun - e.Oct	C,L
✓	✓	Black Meadowhawk	<i>S. danae</i> (Sulzer, 1776)	Pd	Ma,Fe	St		Or	? Aug - m.Sep	R,L
✓	✓	Cherry-faced Meadowhawk	<i>S. internum</i> Montgomery, 1943	Pd,Sm	Ma	Sl	Sa	Sh	e.Jul - 1.Aug	U,W
✓	✓	White-faced Meadowhawk	<i>S. obtrusum</i> (Hagen, 1867)	Pd,Sm	Ma	St	Sa		m.Jun - 1.Sep	C,W
	✓	Ruby Meadowhawk	<i>S. rubicundulum</i> (Say, 1839)	Pd,Sm	Ma	St,Sl			1.Jun - e.Aug	R,L
✓	✓	Band-winged Meadowhawk	<i>S. semicinctum</i> (Say, 1839)	Pd,Sm	Ma	Sl			m.Jun - m.Sep	U
✓	✓	Autumn Meadowhawk	<i>S. vicinum</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd,Sm	Ma	Sl			m.Jun - 1.Oct	C,W
✓	✓	Black Saddlebags	<i>Tramea lacerata</i> (Hagen, 1861)	Pd		St	Sa,Tl		1.Jun - e.Sep	R,I

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Halloween Pennant

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INTERNET SITES (and links to other odonata web sites)

- Ontario Odonata: www.netcore.ca/~prairie/odonata.html.
- Odonata Central: www.odonatacentral.org.



*Male Eastern Amberwing,
Petrie Island.
Photo by Chris Traynor.*

New Species Additions to the Ottawa-Gatineau Odonate Checklist

Chris Traynor

In 1998, Chris Lewis and Bob Bracken published “A Checklist of the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ottawa-Gatineau.” This checklist included notes on occurrence, habitat types, environmental conditions and local status for the 119 species recorded in the region at the time. The checklist was updated in 2008 with new species being added: *Tramea lacerata* (Black Saddlebags), *Gomphus quadricolor* (Rapid’s Clubtail), *Enallagma annexum* and *Enallagma vernale* (Northern and Vernal Bluet), which were formerly one species, *Enallagma cyathigerum* or Common Bluet. Two species, *Sympetrum Janae* (Jane’s Meadowhawk) and *Arigomphus villosipes* (Unicorn Clubtail) were removed from the checklist.



Citrine Forktail, Burnt Lands Alvar.
Photo by Ruth Allison.

The Black Saddlebags is a migratory species and it has not established any breeding territories in our region yet. The Rapid's Clubtail, which has the unfortunate distinction of being the first Ontario dragonfly to be declared an endangered species, can be found with some difficulty along the Mississippi River at Pakenham, Blakeney and Almonte. The Northern and Vernal Bluets are common species in our region in the appropriate habitat.

In September 2008, shortly after the checklist was last updated, the *Ischnura batata* (Citrine Forktail) was added near Almonte. Over 110 individuals of this very small damselfly species were found that year in temporary pools at the Burnt Lands alvar. Though this species was found that year in good numbers, it has not been found since then. The next new species added was *Pachydiplax longipennis* (Blue Dasher). This species was discovered in 2010 by Christine Hanrahan at the Baxter Conservation area along the Rideau River. The northward expansion of this species continued the following summer, with the Blue Dasher being found in numerous locations along the Ottawa River (Petrie Island, Mud Lake, Shirley's Bay), as well as in other wetlands. Now they're even showing up at the local storm water containment ponds. Strong populations now exist, especially at Petrie Island, where this exotic looking creature may be the most frequently encountered dragonfly.



Male Blue Dasher, Petrie Island.
Photo by Chris Traynor.

The next addition was *Perithemis tenera* (Eastern Amberwing). This species was encountered in numerous locations on both the Ontario and Quebec sides of the Ottawa River in the summer of 2012. In a few short years it has established itself in several locations, most notably Petrie Island. The Eastern Amberwing is a very small dragonfly and can easily be missed as it is not much larger than a wasp and somewhat similarly coloured.

The additions of Citrine Forktail, Blue Dasher and the Eastern Amberwing bring the regional total to 123 species. As Lewis and Bracken noted in the original checklist, this is a remarkable total for such a small geographical area.



“A Checklist of the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Ottawa-Gatineau” is available on the OFNC website at ofnc.ca/publications/resources. 🐞

Female Blue Dasher, Petrie Island.
Photo by Chris Traynor.

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Female Eastern Amberwing, Kanata.
Photo by Gillian Mastromatteo