



***Erythrodiplax media***  
A small species, note the all dark body without markings and bluish tail.



***Miathyria simplex***  
Note the reddish veins and basal spots to wings, and small size with red and black tail.



***Nephepeltia phryne***  
Tiny. Whitish spots on body between eyes and wings, and characteristic 'spike' on stomach.



***Orthemis discolor***  
Note the all pink body and tail with red face.



***Micrathyria artemis***  
Note the smudges on the wingtips and all blue body and tail, with yellowish-white spots near the tip.



***Micrathyria atra***  
Note the robust and blackish body and tail, with only two whitish spots near the tip.



***Orthemis schmidtii***  
Note the typical contrast between the red tail and pink body.



***Perithemis mooma***  
Note the small size and amber wings.



***Micrathyria catenata***  
Very similar to *M.ocellata*, but note the smaller white spots and narrower shoulder stripes.



***Micrathyria hesperis***  
Note the typical pattern of double spots on the tail and whitish appendages at the tail end.



***Rhodopygia cardinalis***  
Note the bright red body and tail, and inner half of wings with yellow wash.



***Rhodopygia pruinosa***  
Note the pinkish-grey wash to the body and tail.



***Micrathyria ocellata***  
Very similar to *M.catenata*, but note the larger white spots near tail end and wider shoulder stripes.



***Nephepeltia flavifrons***  
Note the tiny size and lack of markings on top of the body between eyes and wings.



***Tramea abdominalis***  
Note the large reddish spots on the wing base, broad wings, red tail with two round black spots on tip.



***Tramea binotata***  
Note the typical all dark grey body and tail, with dark bases to the wings.

# The common dragonflies of the REGUA wetlands



## Contents

The wetlands at REGUA are inhabited by over 60 species of dragonflies and their smaller cousins, the damselflies, all easily observed on sunny days. The largest, like *Cacoides latro* are big, robust hunters, often perching on shrubs from where they keep a lookout for prey or mates. They are very fast flyers. The smallest is the tiny and very common *Ischnura capreolus*, so small it is easily overlooked. It flies about slowly, looking for tiny insect prey amongst grass and weeds.

Colourful dragons like the *Orthemis* or *Tramea* gliders are conspicuous in the way they patrol the marsh. Perched on emergent vegetation along the shores you will see the *Micrathyria* dashers with their turquoise eyes, while tiny *Acanthagrion* and *Telebasis* damsels (blue and red) can be found around the aquatic plants.

Dragonflies and damselflies are an important link in the food chain. Adults and larvae eat immense amounts of insects and in turn are an important food source for other creatures. Dragonfly abundance at REGUA reflects the richness of its fauna. Take some time to observe their diverse and fascinating behaviour.

This leaflet introduces the males of the commonest 39 species.



*Hetaerina rosea*  
Note the red wing bases and spots at the wingtips. Found along streams.



*Lestes forficula*  
Note large size for damsel, lack of post-ocular spots or clear shoulder stripe and wings spread sideways.



*Ischnura capreolus*  
Note tiny size and greenish shoulder stripe and flanks.



*Ischnura fluviatilis*  
Note the greenish shoulder stripe contrasts with blue flanks and the gold/black abdomen with blue tip.



*Erythemis haematogastra*  
Note the brown body and face, and bright red thin tail.



*Erythemis mithroides*  
Note the deep red body and tail, with large oval dark patches on wing base.



*Heteragrion auranticum*  
Note the yellowish body and habit of keeping wings opened. Found along streams.



*Acanthagrion gracile*  
Note the body is the same bluish colour as the tail spot.



*Leptagrion macrurum*  
Note the large size with yellow, blue and black body and tail point with blue on top.



*Telebasis corallina*  
Note the orange-red body and tail, and if you look closely, the greenish snout.



*Erythemis peruviana*  
Note the combination of dark grey body and red tail.



*Erythemis plebeja*  
Note the overall blackish appearance with a long and thin tail.



*Acanthagrion lancea*  
Note the body is greenish-blue compared to the bluish tail spot.



*Acanthagrion temporale*  
Note blue and black tail, with lots of blue on all segments.



*Coryphaeschna adnexa*  
Note the large size with greenish body and blue eyes and face.



*Cacoides latro*  
Note the fierce impression, tiger stripes on body and flanges to tail.



*Erythemis vesiculosa*  
Note the large size and apple green colour.



*Erythrodiplax avittata*  
Small species, with a golden-brown body, blue first half and black second half of tail, dark wing bases.



*Argia modesta*  
Note the greyish shoulder stripe and post-ocular spots, but purplish flanks. Found along streams.



*Homeoura chelifera*  
Note the spatulate appendages and tiny size.



*Brachymesia furcata*  
Note the combination of red tail, brown body and reddish face.



*Diastatops obscura*  
Note the blackish wings and red tail, can be mistaken for a butterfly.



*Erythrodiplax fusca*  
Small species in two forms. Reddish face and body, amber wing bases. This specimen with bluish tail.



*Erythrodiplax fusca*  
Small species in two forms. Reddish face and body, amber wing bases. This specimen with reddish tail.