



Loads of Odes:

**How an aging birder came to photograph
and try to identify these colorful creatures.**



**Canyon
Rubyspot**

**Sierra Vista,
Arizona**

Kingdom Animalia - Animals

Phylum Arthropoda - Arthropods

Subphylum Hexapoda - Hexapods

Class Insecta - Insects

Order Odonata - Dragonflies and Damselflies

Kingdom Animalia - Animals

Phylum Arthropoda - Arthropods

Subphylum Hexapoda - Hexapods

Class Insecta - Insects

Order Odonata - Dragonflies and Damselflies

-5500 to 6500 species worldwide

-About 5000 identified so far

-Most in the Tropics

Kingdom Animalia - Animals

Phylum Arthropoda - Arthropods

Subphylum Hexapoda - Hexapods

Class Insecta - Insects

Order Odonata - Dragonflies and Damselflies

Suborder Anisoptera - Dragonflies



**About 3000 known species
328 in N. America (U.S. + Can.)**

Kingdom Animalia - Animals

Phylum Arthropoda - Arthropods

Subphylum Hexapoda - Hexapods

Class Insecta - Insects

Order Odonata - Dragonflies and Damselflies

Suborder Anisoptera - Dragonflies



**About 3000 known species
328 in N. America (U.S. + Can.)**

Suborder Zygoptera - Damselflies



**About 2000 known species
136 in N. America (U.S. + Can.)**

Kingdom Animalia - Animals

Phylum Arthropoda - Arthropods

Subphylum Hexapoda - Hexapods

Class Insecta - Insects

Order Odonata - Dragonflies and Damselflies

Suborder Anisoptera - Dragonflies



Family Libellulidae - Skimmers

Genus Leucorrhinia - Whitefaces

**Species intacta- Dot-tailed
Whiteface**

Suborder Zygoptera - Damselflies



Kingdom Animalia - Animals

Phylum Arthropoda - Arthropods

Subphylum Hexapoda - Hexapods

Class Insecta - Insects

Order Odonata - Dragonflies and Damselflies

Suborder Anisoptera - Dragonflies



Family Libellulidae - Skimmers

Genus Leucorrhinia - Whitefaces

**Species intacta- Dot-tailed
Whiteface**

Suborder Zygoptera - Damselflies



Family Coenagrionidae-

Narrow-winged Damselflies

Genus Argia - Dancers

Species pallens-Amethyst Dancer



**Slaty
Skimmer**



**Blue-ringed
Dancer**



**Slaty
Skimmer**



**Great
Spreadwing**



**Blue-ringed
Dancer**



**Slaty
Skimmer**

MADE IN U.S.A.
1
NO. R5D-115
2
3
C T



**Great
Spreadwing**



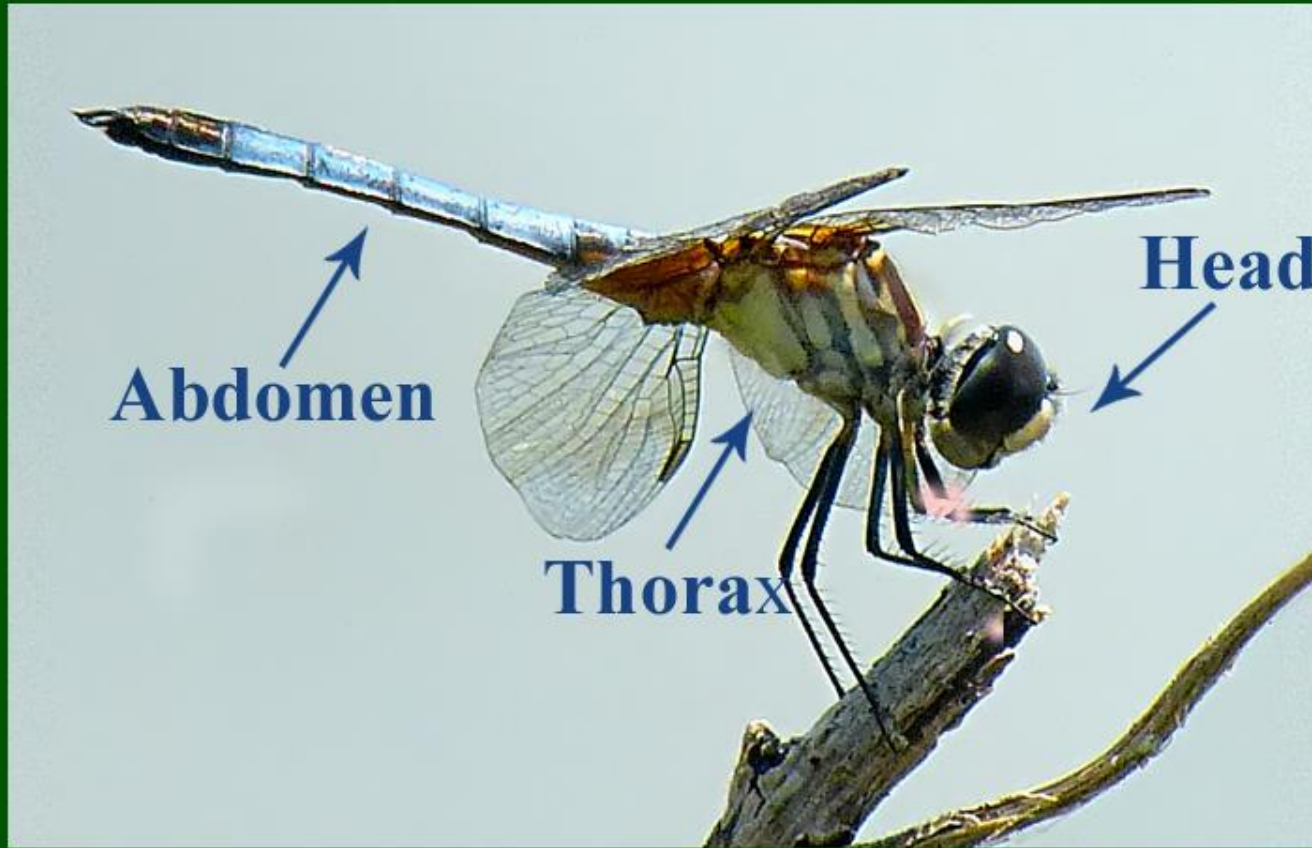
**Eastern
Amberwing**



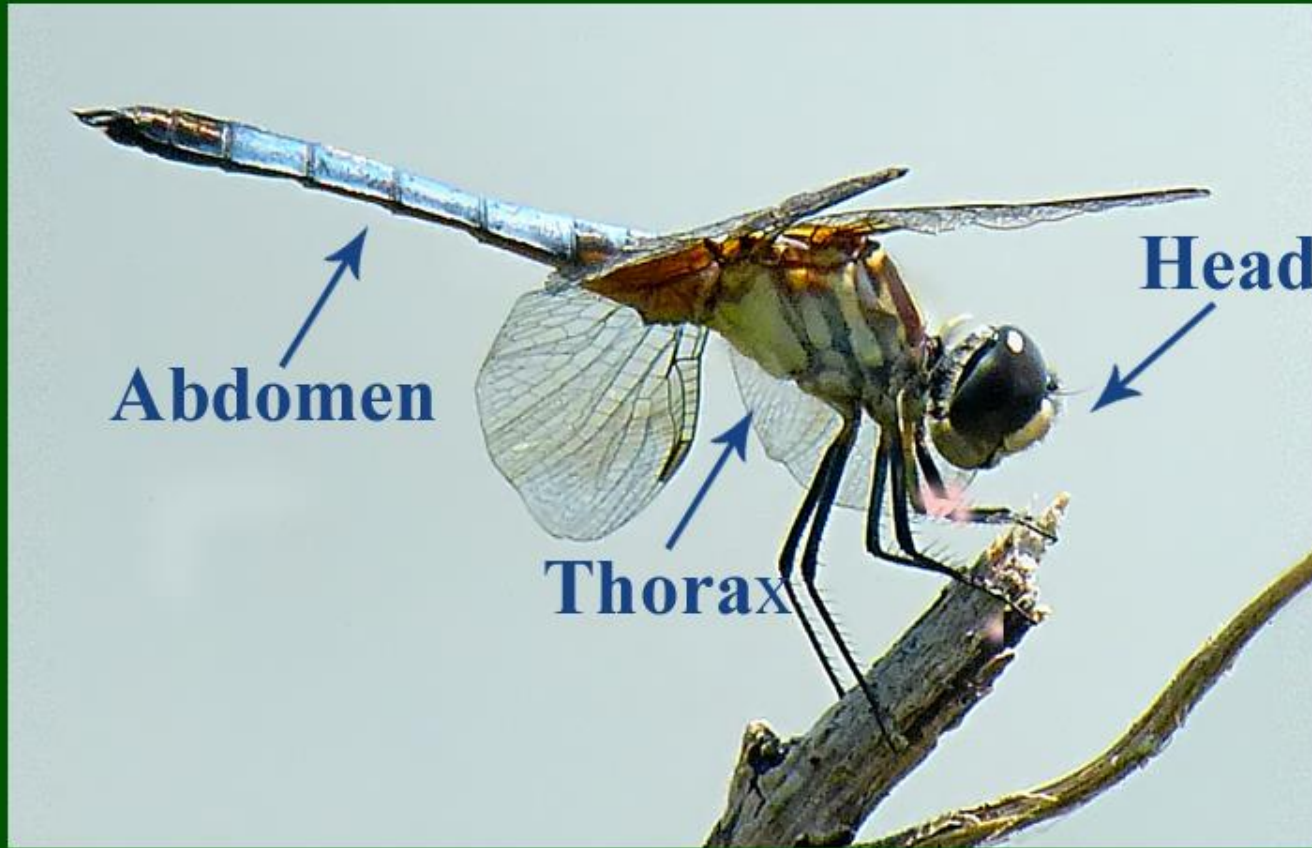
**Blue-ringed
Dancer**



**Slaty
Skimmer**



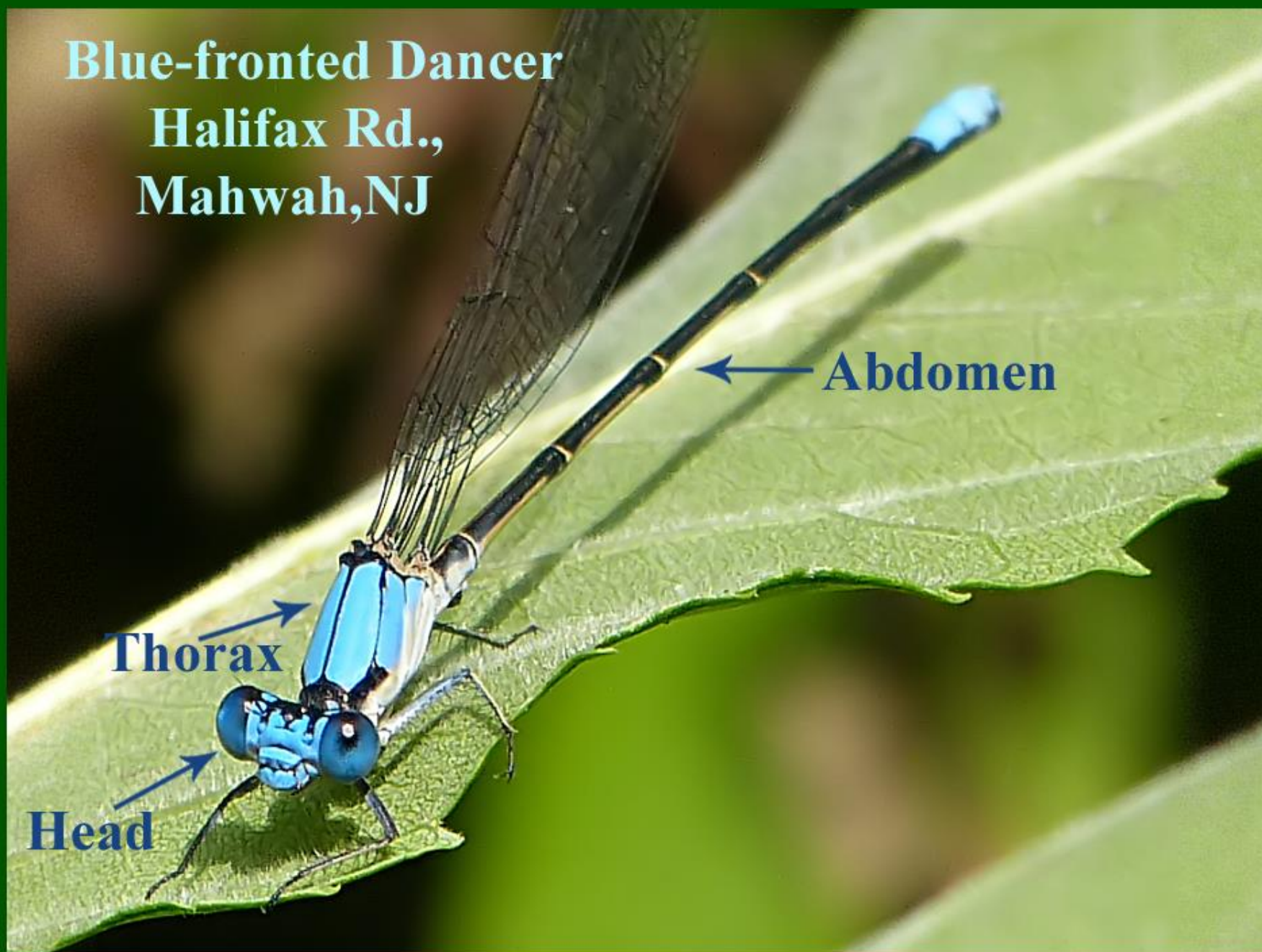
Blue Dasher, DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst, NJ



Face

Blue Dasher, DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst, NJ

Blue-fronted Dancer
Halifax Rd.,
Mahwah, NJ



**Giant - Gull-sized -Dragonflies of the Carboniferous
Period- ~300,000,000 years ago**



**Wingspan
of ~ 2 ft.**

**Fossil reconstruction - Museum of Natural History, Toulouse, France.
Image by Alexandre Albore on commons.wikimedia.org**

Life Progression: Larvae ("Nymphs")

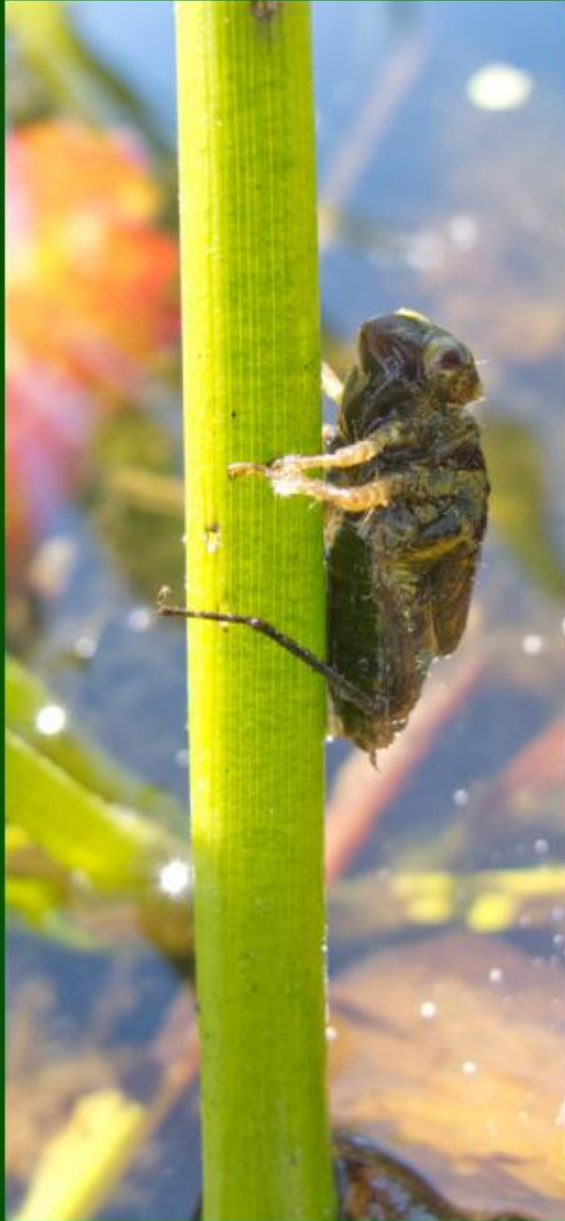


**2 of many stages for
Eastern Pondhawks**



Images by John C. Abbot on odonatacentral.org

Life Progression: Emergence - Eastern Pondhawk



← Exo-
skeleton

Emerging
← Teneral

© C. L. Goforth

Images by C.L. Goforth on thedragonflywoman.com

Life Progression: Early Adults - Eastern Pondhawks

1st Week →



Male, 2 or 3
weeks

← later

Shawangunk
NWR, NY

Life Progression: Full Adults - Eastern Pondhawks



Male, Brig.,NJ



Female, Franklin Lks.,NJ

Life Progression: Full Adults - Eastern Pondhawks



Female, Sterling Forest, NY



Male Seaside Dragonlet, Brig.

Female Seaside Dragonlets Stratford, CT





Ornate Pennant (M-young)
Sanibel Island, FL



Spot-winged Glider(M)
South Amboy, NJ



Wandering Glider(F)
Whitewater Draw, AZ



Arroyo Darner(F)
Sierra Vista, AZ

Dragonflies in Flight

Dragonflies in Flight



**Carolina Saddlebags
Brig.**



**Common
Baskettail
Wyckoff, NJ**



**Blue Dasher
Halifax Rd.**



Female, S. Amboy



Female, S. Amboy, NJ



Male, Brig.

Common Green Darners



**Halloween Pennant
Male, Elmwood Park, NJ**

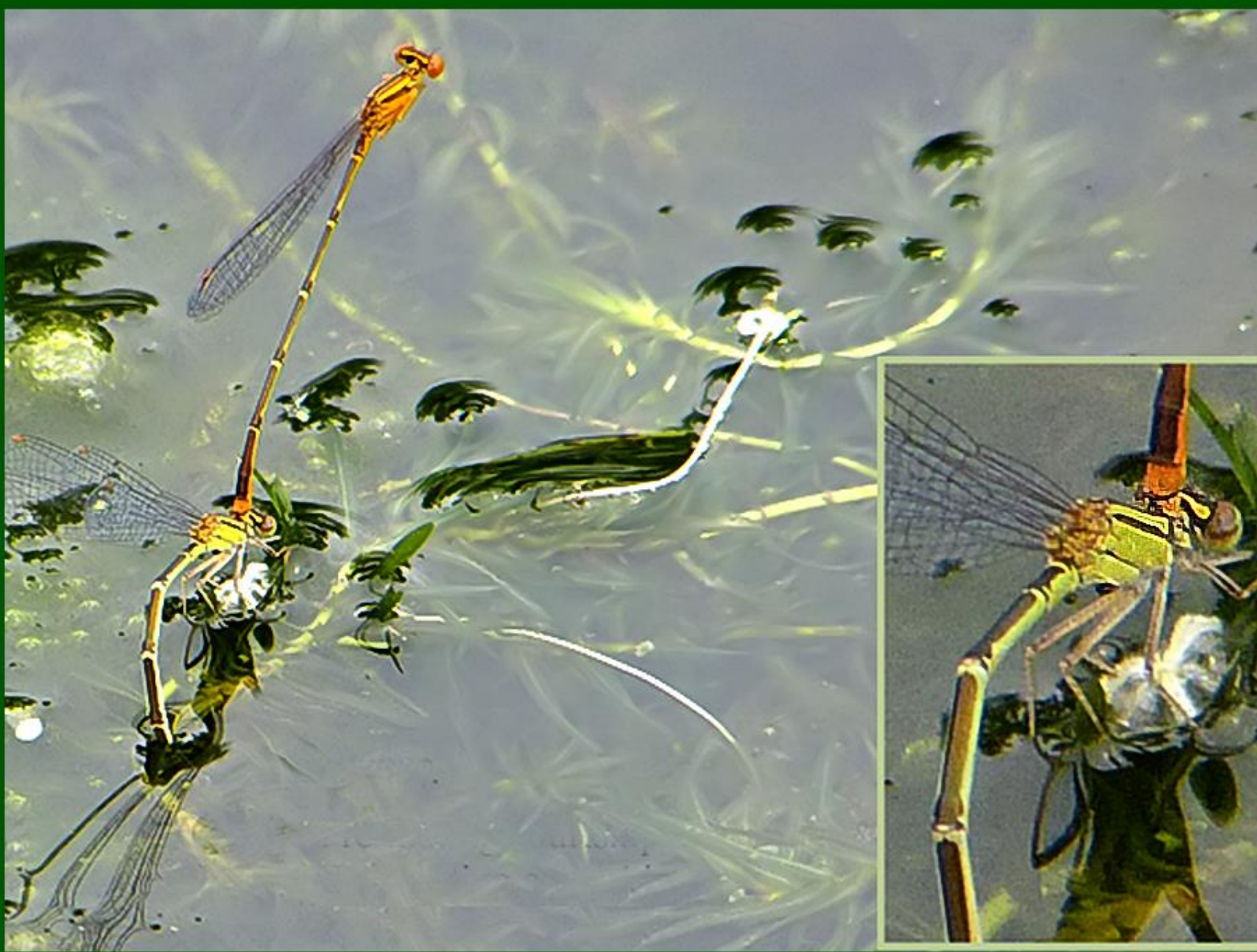


Autumn Meadowhawks - Tandem Flight

Photo by Terry Thormin. Vancouver Island, Canada



Autumn Meadowhawk Pair, Sullivan County, NY



Orange Bluets, Hawthorne, NJ



Familiar Bluets, Hawthorne



Halloween Pennants, Brig.

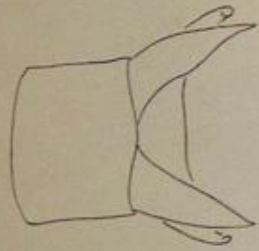


Slaty Skimmers, Celery Farm



Familiar Bluets, Hawthorne

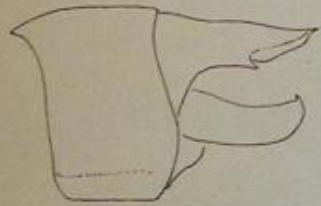
Common Clubtails - male appendages



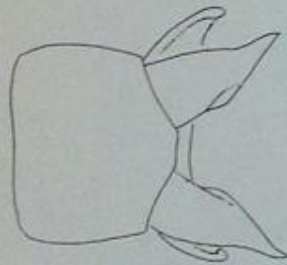
Lancet Clubtail



Lancet Clubtail



Oklahoma Clubtail

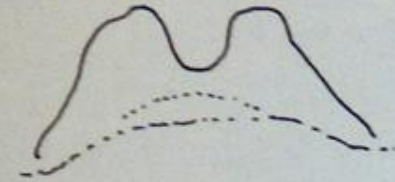


Rapids Clubtail

Common Clubtails - female subgenital plate



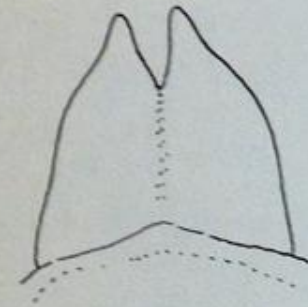
Lancet Clubtail



Oklahoma Clubtail



Beaverpond Clubtail



Harpoon Clubtail

**To ID identical looking species
you need to catch them.**



Unknown - Ann Arbor, MI



Female American or Smoky Rubyspot, Ann Arbor, MI



**Boreal, Northern or Vernal Bluet,
Madawaska Pond, NY**



Female ?

**Ruby Meadowhawks
Toledo, OH**



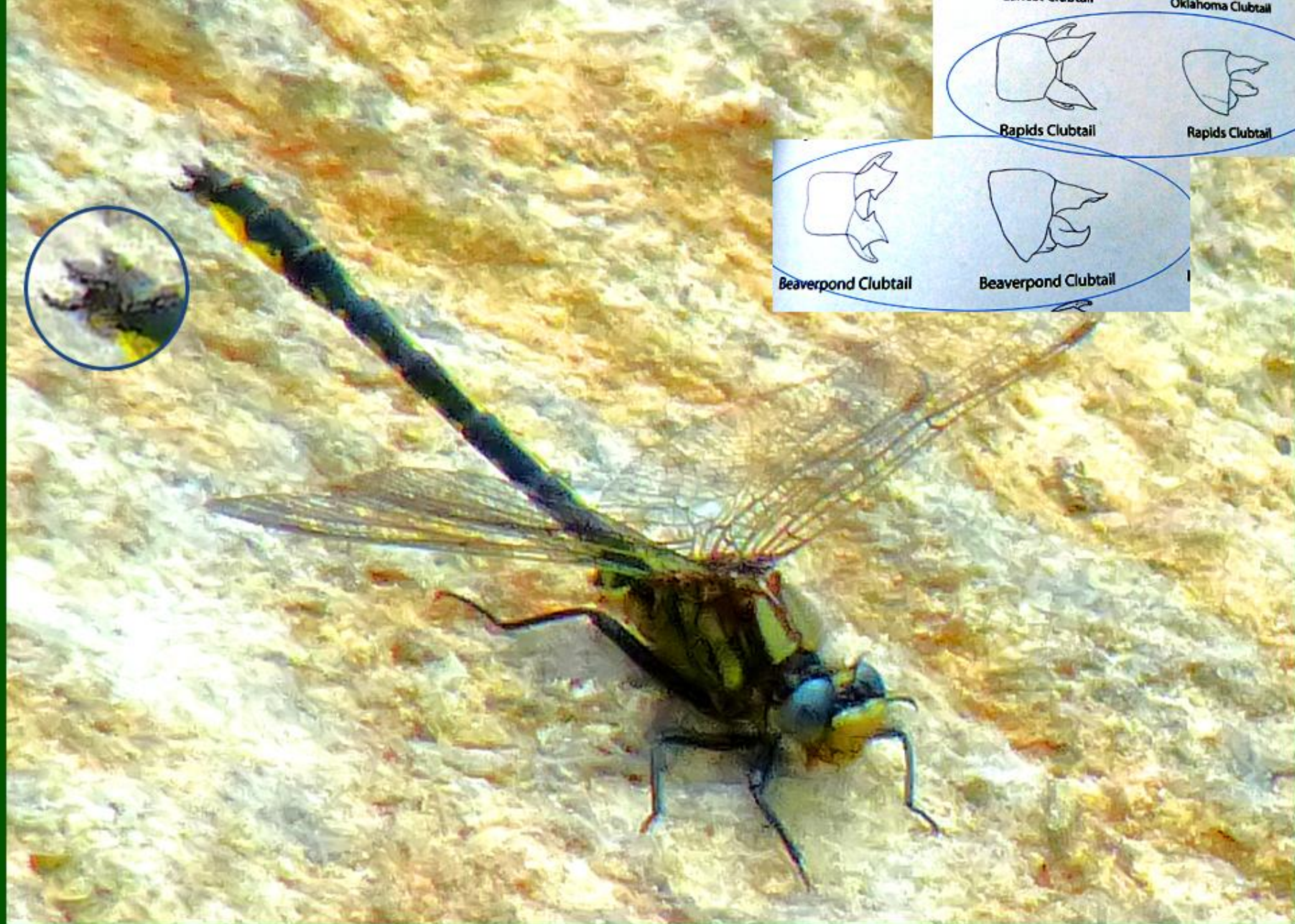
Male



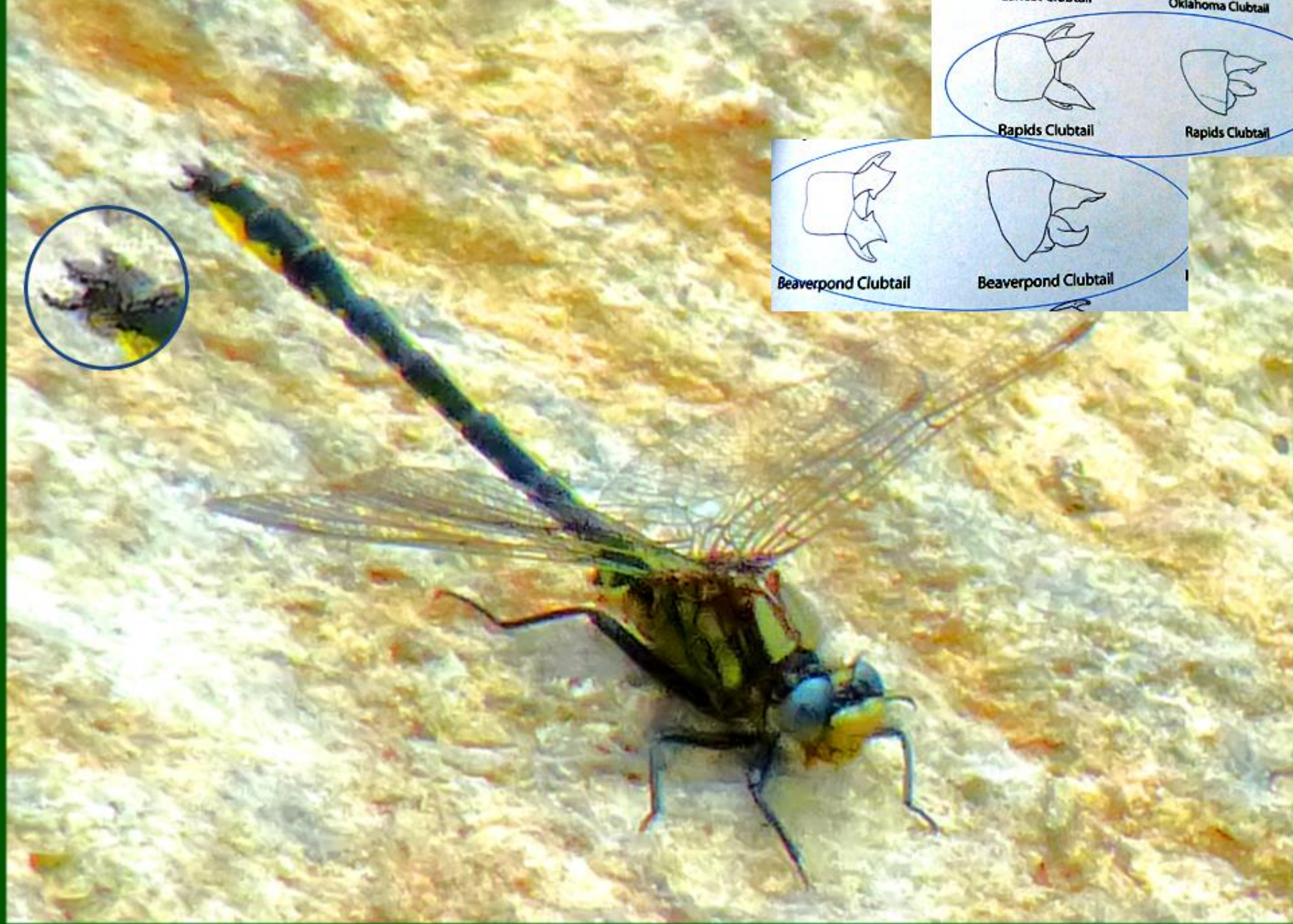
Clubtail, Paul Smiths, NY



Clubtail, Paul Smiths, NY



Male Beaverpond Clubtail, Paul Smiths, NY



Male Beaverpond Clubtail, Paul Smiths, NY

Odes at the Celery Farm



**Male
Great Blue
Skimmers**



Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Unicorn Clubtail

Odes at the Celery Farm



Female-
Elmwood
Park NJ



Male Eastern Amberwing

Odes at the Celery Farm



Female Eastern Pondhawk

Odes at the Celery Farm



Female



Male

Common Whitetails

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Ebony Jewelwings

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Slaty Skimmers

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Slaty Skimmers

Odes at the Celery Farm



Slender Bluets

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Autumn Meadowhawk

Female



**Odes at the
Celery Farm**

**Blue
Dashers**



Male

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Orange Bluet

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Calico Pennant

Odes at the Celery Farm



Male Twelve-spotted Skimmer, Young Adult



Hawthorne

Male Twelve-spotted Skimmer, Full Adult

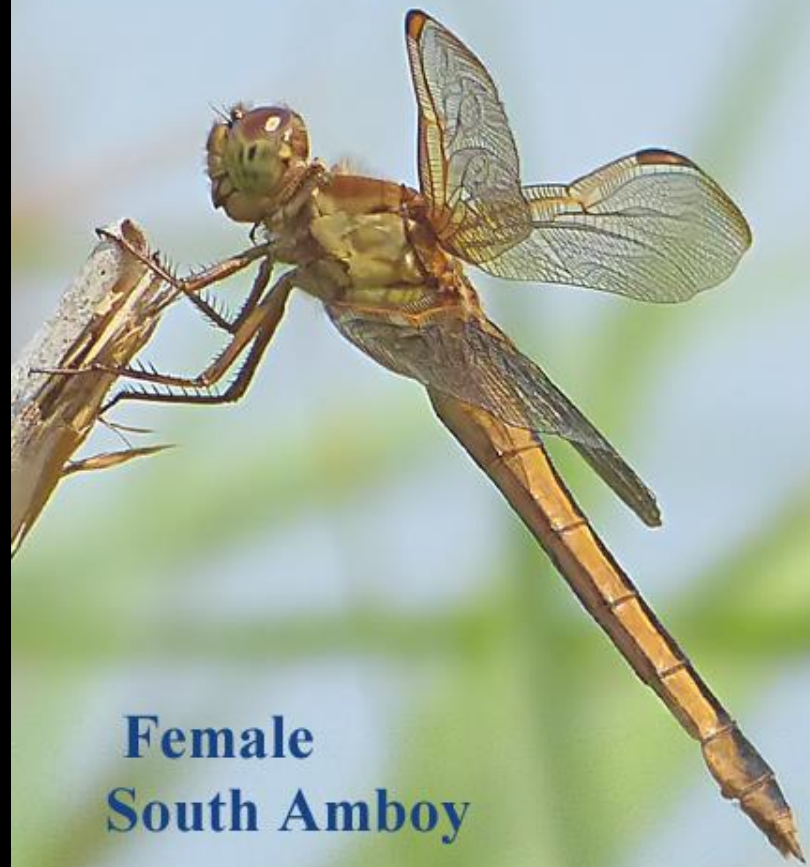


Male White-faced Meadowhawk, Toledo, OH



Male Azure Bluet, Brig.

Needham's Skimmers



**Female
South Amboy**



Male, Brig.



Female Black Saddlebags, Milford, CT



**Young
Male**



**Fully
Developed
Male**

Big Bluets, Brig.



Male Harpoon Clubtail, Franklin County, NY

Eastern Forktails



Male,
Elmwood
Park



Older Female



Young Female
Sandusky, OH



Females



Male

**Chalk-fronted Corporals, Paul Smiths, NY
(Rank displayed on front of thorax.)**



**Young
adult**

**Male Powdered Dancers,
Halifax Road**



Male Banded Pennant, Brig.



Female



Males

**Familiar Bluets
Hawthorne**



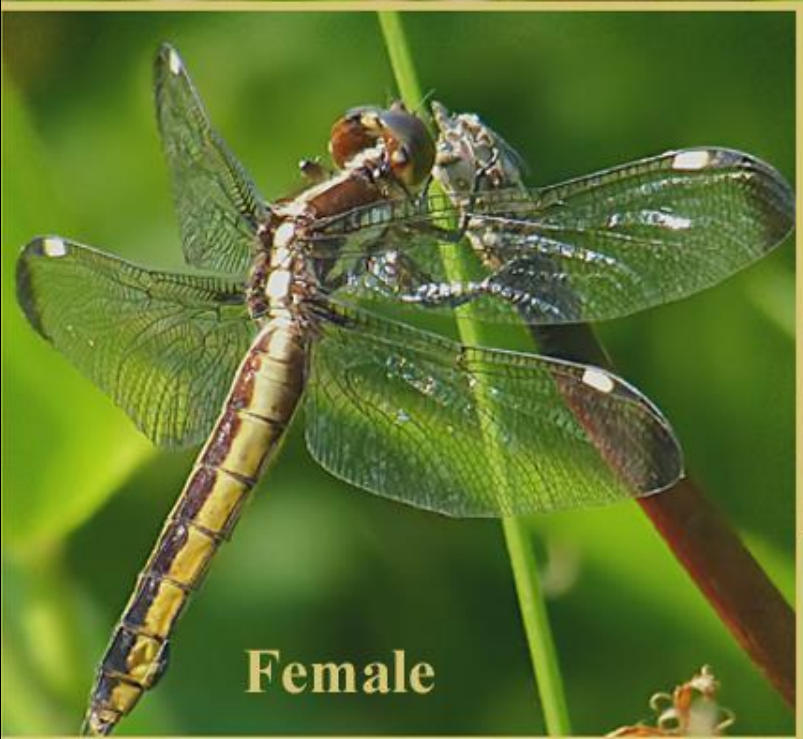
Male Red Saddlebags, Jacksonville, FL



Male Tonto Dancers, Sierra Vista, AZ



Male



Female

**Spangled Skimmers
Sterling Forest**



2 looks at
same bug

Male Skimming Bluet, Franklin Lakes



**Phoenix
(older)**

**Whitewater
Draw (young)**

Male Variagated Meadowhawks, Arizona



Blue Female, Ann Arbor, MI



Male, Halifax Rd.

Blue-tipped Dancers



**Female
Lance-tipped
Darner
Sandusky, OH**



**Brown Female
Franklin Lakes**



Male, Mahwah

**Blue-
fronted
Dancers**



**Blue Female
Frank. Lakes**



Female Lancet Clubtail, Sterling Forest



Male Delta-spotted Spiketail, Sterling Forest



Sweetflag Spreadwing, Sandusky, OH



**Female
Sterling**

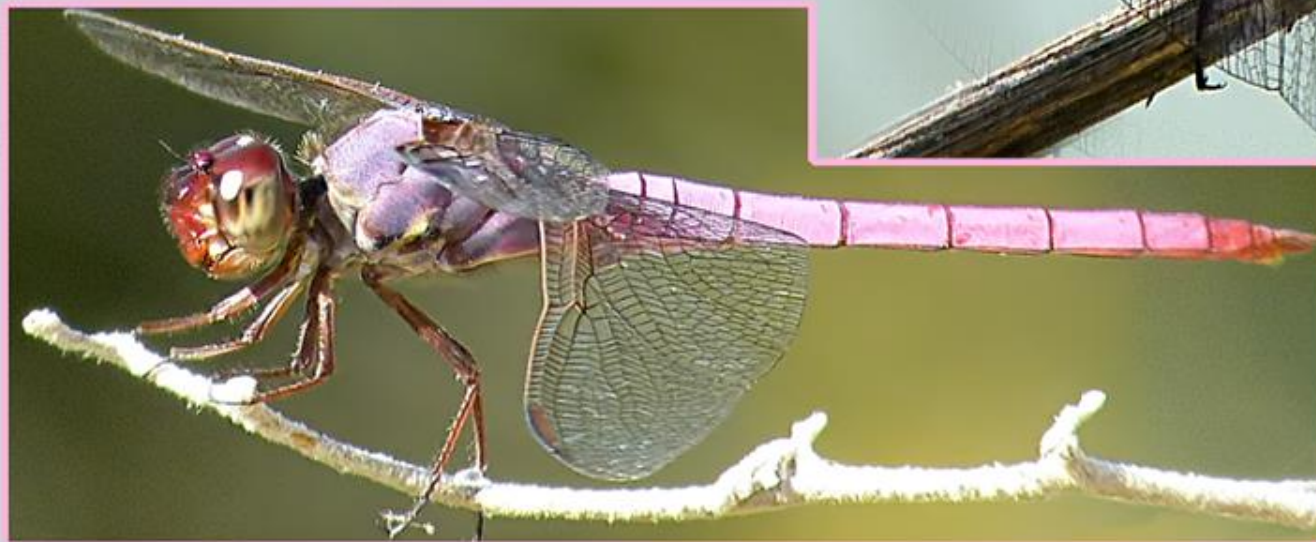


**Male
Wyckoff**

Widow Skimmers

Male Roseate Skimmers

Phoenix



**Smallest Damself in
North America, less
than 1 in. long**



Male Citrine Forktail, Hawthorne



Male Flame Skimmer, Sierra Vista