

Dragonflies of Queen's University Biological Station

Bruce Smith, Kit Muma, Mark Andrew Conboy and Floyd Connor
July 2009



Springtime darner (*Basiaeschna janata*). Pangman Tract near Lindsay Lake. May 2009. Photo: Mark Andrew Conboy.

The Queen's University Biological Station (N44°33' W76°19') maintains in excess of 3100 ha of wetlands, beaver ponds, lakes, abandoned farmlands, rocky uplands, and large tracts of contiguous forest for research and conservation. The unique interdigitation of sub-boreal and Carolinian ecotypes combined with a wide variety of habitats makes QUBS and its environs one of the most biologically diverse regions of Ontario and an excellent location for studying and watching odonates (Order Odonata; Class Insecta).

This checklist contains the scientific and common names of 89 species of dragonflies in 6 families that are known or expected to occur at QUBS. For each species I have included a status in the right-hand column. Each status is defined as follows:

Abundant – extremely numerous, nearly impossible to miss even to the casual observer.

Common – observed regularly and in good numbers.

Uncommon – requires some effort to locate and may be missed on some outings.

Rare – either of very local distribution or represented by limited observations.

Undetermined – status is unclear either because the species is part of a cryptic complex or data is deficient. Species in this category may be assigned to any of the above categories in a future edition of the checklist. Reports of species in this category would be helpful in determining its true status.

Hypothetical – this species has not been recorded at QUBS but it is expected to occur. Please report any species in this category.



Common baskettail (*Tetragoneuria cynosura*). Hughson Farm Tract near Darling Bay. May 2009. Photo: Mark Andrew Conboy.

A number of individuals have contributed to an earlier version of this checklist: Dave Bell, Wanda Cook, Kelvin Conrad, Mark Forbes, Nancy Gerrish and Barb Hilder. Daniele Mitchell and Bruce Ripley have provided recent species reports. Additional information on distribution and abundance of dragonfly species at QUBS and the surrounding area comes from specimens deposited in the station museum, the *Checklist of Damselflies and Dragonflies of Kingston* (Kingston Field Naturalists 2008; <http://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org/checklists/dragon-damselflies.pdf>), the *Ontario Odonata Atlas* (Natural Heritage Information Centre 2002; <http://nhic.mnr.gov.on.ca/odonates/atlas.html>) and *Odonata of Canada and Alaska* (Walker and Corbet 1953, 1975).

Please report errors, omission, sightings information (especially of rare and hypothetical species) and suggested status changes to Mark Andrew Conboy (7mc19@queenssu.ca).

Aeshnidae - Darner

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Boyeria vinosa</i>	Fawn darner	Common
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Basiaeschna janata</i>	Springtime darner	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna canadensis</i>	Canada darner	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna tuberculifera</i>	Black-tipped darner	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna verticalis</i>	Green-striped darner	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna umbrosa</i>	Shadow darner	Uncommon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna clepsydra</i>	Mottled darner	Common
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna constricta</i>	Lance-tipped darner	Undetermined
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna eremita</i>	Lake darner	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aeshna interrupta</i>	Variable darner	Rare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Anax junius</i>	Common green darner	Common
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphaeschna furculata</i>	Harlequin darner	Rare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Nasiaeschna pentacantha</i>	Cyrano darner	Rare
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Epiaeschna heros</i>	Swamp darner	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Oplonaeschna armata</i>	Riffle darner	Hypothetical

Gomphidae - Clubtails

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Hagenius brevistylus</i>	Dragonhunter	Common
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ophiogomphus rupinsulensis</i>	Rusty snaketail	Uncommon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ophiogomphus anomalus</i>	Extra-striped snaketail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ophiogomphus carolus</i>	Riffle snaketail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus graslinellus</i>	Pronghorn clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus quadricolor</i>	Rapids clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus descriptus</i>	Harpoon clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus borealis</i>	Beaverpond clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus lividus</i>	Ashy clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus exilis</i>	Lancet clubtail	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus spicatus</i>	Dusky clubtail	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus brevis</i>	Mustached clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gomphus fraternus</i>	Midland clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Arigomphus furcifer</i>	Lilypad clubtail	Common
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Arigomphus cornutus</i>	Horned clubtail	Common
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Dromogomphus spinosus</i>	Black-shouldered spinyleg	Uncommon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Stylogomphus albistylus</i>	Eastern least clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Stylurus notatus</i>	Elusive clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Stylurus scudderi</i>	Zebra clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Stylurus spiniceps</i>	Arrow clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Stylurus amnicola</i>	Riverine clubtail	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Progomphus obscurus</i>	Common sanddragon	Hypothetical

Cordulegasteridae - Spiketails

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cordulegaster obliquus</i>	Arrowhead spiketail	Rare and local
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cordulegaster maculata</i>	Twin-spotted spiketail	Rare and local
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cordulegaster diastatops</i>	Delta-spotted spiketail	Rare and local

Macromiidae - Cruisers

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Didymops transversa</i>	Stream cruiser	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Macromia illinoiensis</i>	Swift river cruiser	Hypothetical

Corduliidae - Emeralds

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Epithea princeps</i>	Prince baskettail	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Epithea cynosura</i>	Common baskettail	Abundant and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Epithea spinigera</i>	Spiny baskettail	Common and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Epithea canis</i>	Beaverpond baskettail	Uncommon
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Helocordulia uhleri</i>	Uhler's sundragon	Rare
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Neurocordulia yamaskanensis</i>	Stygian shadowdragon	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Dorocordulia shurtleffi</i>	American emerald	Abundant and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Dorocordulia libera</i>	Racket-tailed emerald	Abundant and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora kennedyi</i>	Kennedy's emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora walshii</i>	Brush-tipped emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora williamsoni</i>	Williamson's emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora albicincta</i>	Ringed emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora cingulata</i>	Lake emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora tenebrosa</i>	Clamp-tipped emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora elongata</i>	Ski-tailed emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora minor</i>	Ocellated emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora forcipata</i>	Forciphate emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora incurvata</i>	Incurvate emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Somatochlora franklini</i>	Delicate emerald	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Williamsonia fletcheri</i>	Ebony boghaunter	Hypothetical

Libellulidae - Skimmers

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Nanothemus bella</i>	Elfin skimmer	Locally abundant
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Celithemus eponina</i>	Halloween pennant	Abundant and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Celithemus elisa</i>	Calico pennant	Abundant and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	Four-spotted skimmer	Common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libellula julia</i>	Chalk-fronted corporal	Abundant
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libellula luctuosa</i>	Widow skimmer	Common

Libellulidae – Skimmers (continued)

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libellula pulchella</i>	Twelve-spotted skimmer	Common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libellula incesta</i>	Slaty skimmer	Uncommon
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Libellula lydia</i>	Common whitetail	Common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Erythemis simplicicollis</i>	Eastern pondhawk	Common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Pachydiplax longipennis</i>	Blue dasher	Common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum vicinum</i>	Yellow-legged meadowhawk	Abundant
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum costiferum</i>	Saffron-winged meadowhawk	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum semicinctum</i>	Band-winged meadowhawk	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum internum</i>	Cherry-faced meadowhawk	Abundant
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum obtrusum</i>	White-faced meadowhawk	Abundant
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum rubicundulum</i>	Ruby meadowhawk	Uncommon and local
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Sympetrum danae</i>	Black meadowhawk	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Leucorrhinia frigida</i>	Frosted whiteface	Common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Leucorrhinia intacta</i>	Dot-tailed whiteface	Abundant and widespread
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Leucorrhinia proxima</i>	Red-waisted whiteface	Uncommon
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Leucorrhinia hudsonica</i>	Hudsonian whiteface	Locally common
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Leucorrhinia glacialis</i>	Crimson-ringed whiteface	Rare and local
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Traemia lacerata</i>	Black saddlebags	Rare (1 record)
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Traemia onusta</i>	Red-mantled saddlebags	Hypothetical
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Pantala flavicans</i>	Wandering glider	Rare (1 record)
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Pantala hymenea</i>	Spot-winged glider	Hypothetical