

Odonata (Dragonflies & Damselflies)

A. NUMBER OF SPECIES IN UK: 56

B. NUMBER OF SPECIES IN SCOTLAND: 27 (3 only known from Scotland in UK context)

C. EXPERT CONTACTS

Please contact scotland@buglife.org.uk for details.

D. SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN

Listed species

Aeshna caerulea Vulnerableⁱ
This species is restricted to Scotland where it can be found flying around boggy moorland pools. It is relatively widespread in the Highlands although never abundant.

Coenagrion hastulatum Endangeredⁱ / Scottish Biodiversity Listⁱⁱ
A rare and localised species found in Speyside, Perthshire and Aberdeenshire, where it lives in shallow, sedge-fringed lochans.

Leucorrhinia dubia Endangeredⁱ
A widespread though localised species. Most Scottish records are from the north-west Highlands where it inhabits bog pools.

Somatochlora arctica Near Threatenedⁱ
This dragonfly is restricted to north-west Scotland and south-west Ireland where it inhabits moorland pools and bogs.

Somatochlora metallica Vulnerableⁱ
This species has a disjunct distribution with Scottish populations in Glen Affric, Glen Mor and near Loch Awe. It can also be found in south-east England.

Source: i) Daguet, C., French, G. and Taylor, P. (eds). 2008. The Odonata Red Data List for Great Britain. Joint Nature Conservancy Council, Peterborough, UK.
ii) <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/B712601.pdf>

E. LIST OF SPECIES KNOWN FROM SCOTLAND

(* indicates species that are restricted to Scotland in UK context)

ZYGOPTERA - Damselflies

Calopterygidae

Calopteryx virgo - Beautiful Demoiselle

Calopteryx splendens - Banded Demoiselle

Lestidae

Lestes sponsa - Emerald Damselfly

Coenagrionidae

Pyrrosoma nymphula - Large Red Damselfly

*Coenagrion hastulatum** - Northern Damselfly

Coenagrion puella - Azure Damselfly

Coenagrion pulchellum - Variable Damselfly

Enallagma cyathigerum - Common Blue Damselfly

Ischnura elegans - Blue-tailed Damselfly

ANISOPTERA - Dragonflies

Aeshnidae

*Aeshna caerulea** - Azure Hawker

Aeshna juncea - Common Hawker

Aeshna mixta - Migrant Hawker

Aeshna cyanaea - Southern Hawker

Anax imperator - Emperor Dragonfly

Brachytron pratense - Hairy Dragonfly

Cordulegastridae

Cordulegaster boltonii - Golden-ringed Dragonfly

Corduliidae

Cordulia aenea - Downy Emerald

Somatochlora metallica - Brilliant Emerald

*Somatochlora arctica** - Northern Emerald

Libellulidae

Libellula quadrimaculata - Four-spotted Chaser

Orthetrum coerulescens - Keeled Skimmer
Sympetrum striolatum - Common Darter
Sympetrum nigrescens - Highland Darter
Sympetrum fonscolombii - Red-veined Darter (migrant/vagrant)
Sympetrum sanguineum - Ruddy Darter
Sympetrum danae - Black Darter
Leucorrhinia dubia - White-faced Darter

F. DISTRIBUTION DATA

- i) Data collated by British Dragonfly Society is available on the NBN Gateway.
<http://www.nbn.org.uk/>
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G. IDENTIFICATION GUIDES

- i) Brooks, S. 2002. *Field guide to the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Great Britain and Ireland*. British Wildlife Publishing.
 - ii) Cham, S. 2007. *Field guide to the larvae and exuviae of British Dragonflies: Volume 1: Dragonflies (Anisoptera)*. British Dragonfly Society.
 - iii) Cham, S. 2009. *Field guide to the larvae and exuviae of British Dragonflies: Volume 2: Damselflies (Zygoptera)*. British Dragonfly Society.
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H. OTHER INFORMATION

- a) The distribution of some species of Odonata is thought to be changing with a number of species moving northwards. This is likely to result in further species being added to the Scottish list in the future.
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This document should be referenced as:

Macadam, C., Willett, J., Batty, P. and Cathrine, C. 2011. *Scottish Invertebrate Species Knowledge Dossier: Odonata (Dragonflies & Damselflies)*. Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust.

This document provides information on species known to occur in Scotland at the time of publication. This document does not provide a definitive list of species occurring in Scotland. The list of species known to occur in Scotland may change as further information is gathered.

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