



*Ischnura graellsii*

# Dragonfiles in Málaga

## LIST OF SPECIES

In the province of Málaga, 54 different species of the Odonata have been spotted. This is 69% of all the Odonata in the Iberian Peninsula (79 species) or 7 out of 10. Málaga is one of the most studied province on the Iberian Peninsula

regarding dragonfly and damselfly species diversity. More research on them is carried out only in Valencia, Castellón, Lérida, Gerona and Madrid.

The following is the list with the species that live in this province:

Zygoptera (damselflies).

Family Calopterygidae.

*Calopteryx xanthostoma* (Charpentier, 1825).

*Calopteryx virgo* (Linnaeus, 1758).

*Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis* (Vander Linden, 1825).

Family Lestidae.

*Lestes barbarus* (Fabricius, 1798).

*Lestes virens* (Charpentier, 1825).

*Lestes macrostigma* (Eversmann, 1836).

*Chalcolestes viridis* (Vander Linden, 1825).

*Sympetma fusca* (Vander Linden, 1820).

Family Coenagrionidae.

*Ischnura graellsii* (Rambur, 1842)

*Ischnura pumilio* (Charpentier, 1825).

*Enallagma cyathigerum* (Charpentier, 1840).

*Coenagrion mercuriale* (Charpentier, 1840).

*Coenagrion scitulum* (Rambur, 1842).

*Coenagrion caerulescens* (Fonscolombe, 1838).

*Erythromma viridulum* (Charpentier, 1840).

*Erythromma lindenii* (Selys, 1840).

*Pyrrhosoma nymphula* (Sulzer, 1776).

*Ceragrion tenellum* (de Villiers, 1789).

Family Platycnemiidae.

*Platycnemis acutipennis* Selys, 1841.

*Platycnemis latipes* Rambur, 1842.



## Anisoptera (dragonflies).

## Family Aeshnidae.

- Aeshna mixta* Latreille, 1805.
- Aeshna cyanea* (Müller, 1764).
- Anax imperator* Leach, 1815.
- Anax parthenope* (Selys, 1839).
- Anax ephippiger* (Burmeister, 1839).
- Boyeria irene* (Fonscolombe, 1838).

## Family Gomphidae.

- Gomphus graslinii* Rambur, 1842.
- Gomphus simillimus* Selys, 1840.
- Gomphus pulchellus* Selys, 1840.
- Onychogomphus uncatus* (Charpentier, 1840).
- Onychogomphus forcipatus* (Linnaeus, 1758).
- Onychogomphus costae* Selys, 1885.
- Paragomphus genei* (Selys, 1841).

## Family Cordulegastridae.

- Cordulegaster boltonii* (Donovan, 1807).

## Family Corduliidae.

- Oxygastra curtisii* (Dale, 1834).

## Family Macromiidae.

- Macromia splendens* (Pictet, 1843).

## Family Libellulidae.

- Libellula depressa* Linnaeus, 1758.
- Orthetrum cancellatum* (Linnaeus, 1758).
- Orthetrum coerulescens* (Fabricius, 1798).
- Orthetrum brunneum* (Fonscolombe, 1837).
- Orthetrum nitidinode* (Selys, 1841).
- Orthetrum chrysostigma* (Burmeister, 1839).
- Orthetrum trinacria* (Selys, 1841).
- Sympetrum fonscolombii* (Selys, 1840).
- Sympetrum striolatum* (Charpentier, 1840).
- Sympetrum meridiana/e* (Selys, 1841).
- Sympetrum sinaiticum* Dumont, 1977.
- Crocothemis erythraea* (Brullé, 1832).
- Trithemis annulata* (Palisot de Beauvois, 1807).
- Trithemis kirbyi* Selys, 1891.
- Brachythemis impartita* (Karsch, 1890).
- Diplacodes lefebvrei* (Rambur, 1842).
- Selysiothemis nigra* (Vander Linden, 1825).
- Zygonyx torridus* (Kirby, 1889).



## BIOGEOGRAPHY

The dragonflies that exist in Málaga can be divided in the following groups according to their origin and general distribution:

- **Holarctic groups.** Holarctic species are spread in the Holarctic region, which encloses Eurasia (except South-east Asia), the north of Africa and North America. The only species from this group in Málaga is *Enallagma cyathigerum*.

- **Western Mediterranean group.** These species mostly live in the Western Mediterranean in the Maghreb, the Iberian Peninsula, the south of France, Italy and its islands. Dragonfly and damselfly species that exist in Málaga and belong to this group are: *Calopteryx virgo*, *C. haemorrhoidalis*, *Chalcolestes viridis*, *Ceriagrion tenellum*, *Pyrrhosomma nymphula*, *Boyeria irene*, *Onychogomphus forcipatus* and *Cordulegaster boltonii*.

- **Eurosiberian group.** This region includes the biggest part of the north of Asia and the north of Europe. *Aeshna mixta* and *Sympetrum striolatum* are the species that belong to this group and can be found in Málaga.

- **Iberian-Maghrebi group.** As its name indicates, this region includes the Maghreb (north-east Africa) and the Iberian Peninsula, although some species

can live in the south and the south-east France and Liguria in Italy. There are fifteen species that belong to this group in Málaga: *Calopteryx xanthostoma*, *Lestes virens*, *Platycnemis acutipennis*, *P. latipes*, *Coenagrion caerulescens*, *C. mercuriale*, *Ischnura graellsii*, *Gomphus graslinii*, *G. pulchellus*, *G. simillimus*, *Onychogomphus uncatius*, *O. costae*, *Macromia splendens*, *Oxygastra curtisii* and *Orthetrum nitidinerve*.

- **Pontus-oriental group.** This group comprises species that live in Asia Minor and the Balkan Peninsula up to the European part of the Mediterranean basin, Central Europe and the Middle East. In Málaga, there are eight species that form part of this group: *Lestes barbarus*, *L. macrostigma*, *Ischnura pumilio*, *Anax parthenope*, *Libellula depressa*, *Selysiothemis nigra*, *Sympetrum meridionale* and *S. sinaiticum*.

- **Holo-Mediterranean group.** The faunal elements that belong to this group have been found in the north-east of Africa, in the north of the Mediterranean and to the east up to Asia Minor. There are nine of these species in Málaga: *Sympecma fusca*, *Coenagrion scitulum*, *Erythromma lindenii*, *E. viridulum*, *Aeshna cyanea*, *Orthetrum brunneum*, *O. coerulescens*, *O. cancellatum* and *Sympetrum fonscolombii*.



• **Ethiopian group.** The faunal elements from this group are spread in tropical and subtropical part of Africa, though some species can be found in the Mediterranean area as well. The species that represent this group and can be found in Málaga are: *Anax imperator*, *A. ephippiger*, *Paragomphus genei*, *Brachythemis impartita*, *Crocothemis erythraea*, *Diplacodes lefebvrei*, *Orthetrum chrysostigma*, *Orthetrum trinacria*, *Trithemis annulata*, *T. kirbyi* and *Zygonyx torridus*.

According to the above classification of the biogeographic elements, we can say that the Odonata in Málaga mainly consists of species that live in the Mediterranean with a big number of Iberian-Maghrebi endemic species. There are also a lot of Ethiopian species due to the position of Málaga, in the south of the Iberian Peninsula, where these species enter to Europe. The species from the Central and Northern Europe and Asia are less frequent.



*Brachythemis impartita.*