

IDF



**Faunistic Studies in
Southeast Asian
and Pacific Island
Odonata**

A Journal of the International Dragonfly Fund

1-67

Mārtiņš Kalniņš

Contribution to the dragonfly (Insecta: Odonata) fauna of the
Solomon Islands

published 19.07.2026

No. 47

ISSN 2195-4534

The International Dragonfly Fund (IDF) is a scientific society founded in 1996 for the improvement of odonatological knowledge and the protection of species.

Internet: <http://www.dragonflyfund.org/>

This series intends to contribute to the knowledge of the regional Odonata fauna of the Southeast Asian and Pacific regions to facilitate cost-efficient and rapid dissemination of faunistic data.

Southeast Asia or Southeastern Asia is a subregion of Asia, consisting of the countries that are geographically south of China, east of India, west of New Guinea and north of Australia. Southeast Asia consists of two geographic regions: Mainland Southeast Asia (Indochina) and Maritime Southeast Asia.

Pacific Islands comprise of Micronesian, Melanesian and Polynesian Islands.

Editorial Work:	Martin Schorr, Milen Marinov and Rory Dow
Layout:	Martin Schorr
IDF-home page:	Holger Hunger
Printing:	Colour Connection GmbH, Frankfurt
Impressum:	Publisher: International Dragonfly Fund e.V., Schulstr. 7B, 54314 Zerf, Germany. E-mail: oestlap@online.de
Responsible editor:	Martin Schorr
Cover picture:	<i>Protorthemis woodfordi</i> , male
Photographer:	Mārtiņš Kalniņš

Contribution to the dragonfly (Insecta: Odonata) fauna of the Solomon Islands

Mārtiņš Kalniņš (Martins Kalnins)^{1,2}

¹Department of Biosystematics, Institute of Life Sciences and Technology, Daugavpils University, Parades iela 1A, Daugavpils, Latvia, LV-5401

Email: martins.kalnins@biology.lv

Orcid ID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0008-8850-4444>

²NGO “Zaļā upe” (Green River), Dzervenu iela 2-16, Sigulda, Latvia, LV-2150.

Email: marts.kalns@gmail.com

Abstract

The dragonfly fauna of the Solomon Islands remains incompletely documented, particularly across less-studied islands. This study presents the results of a field survey conducted in 2023 on Guadalcanal and Choiseul Island, based primarily on material collected during a multi-institutional expedition.

A total of 40 species (and one undetermined zygopteran species) were recorded, representing approximately 59% of the currently known dragonfly fauna of the Solomon Islands. Of these, five species (including *Anax insulanus*, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. A, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. B, and *Solomonargiolestes* sp. nov.) are newly recorded for Guadalcanal and the Solomon Archipelago, while *Gynacantha mocsaryi* is recorded for the first time for the state Solomon Islands. 11 species are newly recorded for Choiseul Island. These results increase the total number of known dragonfly species in the Solomon Islands to 72 (excluding one undetermined zygopteran species). The study also provides the first description of the female of *Teinobasis chionopleura*.

The results confirm a high level of endemism in the region and refine species distributions, including the confirmation of *Anax guttatus* for the Solomon Islands and the exclusion of *Anax gibbosulus* from the regional fauna. Several taxonomic issues are highlighted, particularly within *Agrionoptera*, *Lathrecista*, and *Rhyothemis*, emphasising the need for further integrative studies.

Ecological observations indicate strong associations of many species with shaded, fast-flowing forest streams, as well as habitat-specific behavioural patterns. Sampling effort (16 effective fieldwork days) was influenced by logistical constraints, which should be considered when interpreting species richness and record numbers.

The findings suggest that the current knowledge of Odonata diversity in the Solomon Islands remains incomplete and likely underestimated. Conservation recommendations are proposed, focusing on the preservation of riparian habitats, maintenance of aquatic habitat heterogeneity, and the promotion of citizen science initiatives such as iNaturalist.

Abstrak

Dragonfly fauna blong Solomon Islands no bin olketa documentim gud yet, especially long olketa island wea olketa no study tumas finis. Disfala study hem presentim olketa re-

sult blong wan field survey wea olketa mekem long 2023 long Guadalcanal and Choiseul Island, based mainly long material wea olketa collect during wan multi-institutional expedition.

Total 40 species (and wan zygopteran species wea no identify kasem species level) olketa recordim, wea hem representim about 59% blong total dragonfly fauna wea olketa save long Solomon Islands distaem. Long olketa species ia, five species (including *Anax insulanus*, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. A, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. B, and *Solomonargiolestes* sp. nov.) olketa first record blong Guadalcanal and Solomon Archipelago, while *Gynacantha mocsaryi* hem first record blong sovereign state blong Solomon Islands. Long sem taem, 11 species olketa first record blong Choiseul Island. Disfala olketa finding mekem total number blong dragonfly species wea olketa save long Solomon Islands increase kasem 72 species (excluding wan zygopteran taxon wea no identify kasem species level). Study ia tu givim first description blong female blong *Teinobasis chionopleura*.

Olketa result confirmim high level blong endemism long region ia and improve understanding blong species distribution, including confirmation blong *Anax guttatus* long Solomon Islands and exclusion blong *Anax gibbosulus* from regional fauna. Samfala taxonomic issue olketa highlightim, especially long *Agrionoptera*, *Lathrecista*, and *Rhyothemis*, wea showim need blong further integrative olketa study.

Ecological observation olketa showim that planti species hem strongly associated witim shaded, fast-flowing forest streams, and olketa showim habitat-specific behavioural pattern tu. Sampling effort (16 effective fieldwork days) hem affected by olketa logistical constraint, wea olketa mas consider taem olketa interpretim species richness and number blong records.

Olketa finding blong study ia suggestim that present knowledge blong Odonata diversity long Solomon Islands hem still incomplete and that actual species richness hem probably underestimate. Samfala conservation recommendation olketa propose, including protection blong riparian habitat, maintenance blong diversity blong aquatic habitat, and promotion blong citizen-science initiative olsem iNaturalist.

Key words: Odonata, Choiseul, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, fauna, Melanesia, Pacific Islands, endemism, *Teinobasis chionopleura*.

Introduction

Knowledge of the fauna and species composition of a given area, constitutes a fundamental basis for a wide range of subsequent biological and ecological studies. Dragonflies are comparatively well-studied insects, with more than 6,400 species described worldwide listed in Paulson et al. (2026). Nevertheless, new species continue to be described annually, indicating that, from a taxonomic perspective, the group cannot yet be considered fully explored. Correspondingly, knowledge of dragonfly biology and ecology remains comparatively limited.

Dragonflies play a significant role in ecosystems. They serve as prey for a variety of animals, including other insects, fish, amphibians, birds, and, to a lesser extent, mammals (Corbet 1999; Córdoba-Aguilar 2008). As predatory insects, they are important regulators of other insect populations, particularly Diptera such as flies and mosquitoes. In tropical regions, where mosquitoes act as vectors of diseases such as malaria and dengue fever, dragonflies

may contribute indirectly to reducing disease transmission (Priyadarshana & Slade 2023). Owing to their life cycle, which spans both aquatic and terrestrial environments, dragonflies are also regarded as valuable bioindicators of environmental quality (Oertli 2008).

With the increasing popularity of nature-based tourism, insect observation is gaining recognition alongside traditional activities such as birdwatching. Nature tourists typically select destinations based on available information regarding species diversity and the likelihood of encountering particular taxa, highlighting the importance of comprehensive faunistic data.

The dragonfly fauna of the Solomon Islands has been summarised in a single comprehensive publication listing 64 species (Marinov & Pikacha 2013). Subsequent studies added three further species, increasing the total to 67 (Marinov 2016). Furthermore, *Anax insulanus* was described from material originating from the present study (Theischinger, Kalnins & Marinov 2024), bringing the total number of recorded species to 68.

At present, there is no continuous or coordinated research programme dedicated to Pacific Odonata, largely due to limited human resources and insufficient funding (Marinov 2016). Consequently, current knowledge of this group in the Pacific region is based primarily on sporadic and geographically fragmented studies. The present paper contributes to the knowledge of Odonata in the Solomon Islands, with particular emphasis on Choiseul Island.

The study area corresponds to the political boundaries of the Solomon Islands; however, the geographically defined Solomon Archipelago is more extensive and also includes the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (Papua New Guinea). In this study, distributional data are considered for the entire Solomon Archipelago, which forms a central part of Melanesia.

Geologically, the Solomon Islands archipelago is a relatively recent formation, dating back at least to the Pliocene. Only Guadalcanal and Bougainville possess extensive coastal plains; elsewhere, mountainous terrain rises steeply from the coastline, and rivers are typically fast-flowing and cool. The interior landscapes are characterised by steep and often unstable ridges and peaks. The archipelago ranks among the wettest regions within the humid tropics, with a climate best described as tropical maritime. Seasonal climatic patterns are influenced by the movement of the southeast trade winds, which shift northwards between mid-April and mid-May, bringing regular precipitation. Around August–September, these winds are gradually replaced by equatorial air masses moving southwards, resulting in more variable wind patterns for the remainder of the year. Although rare, cyclones may reach the Solomon Islands during the early months of the year and can cause significant damage (Whitmore 1969). For a more detailed biogeographical overview, see Polhemus (2008).

Material and Methods

This study is primarily based on material collected during a multi-institutional expedition conducted by the Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom, the Latvian National Museum of Natural History, and Daugavpils University between 18 April and 16 May 2023. Individuals were collected from Guadalcanal and Choiseul Island (Lauru) (Table 1).

The primary objective of this study was to assess species composition and distribution of Odonata; consequently, sampling efforts focused mainly on adult individuals. Habitat associations were recorded in general terms in the field, but no detailed ecological analyses were undertaken.

Adult individuals were collected using aerial insect nets and euthanised either in ethanol (predominantly Zygoptera) or ethyl acetate (predominantly Anisoptera). A portion of the material was preserved and transported in ethanol-filled tubes, whereas the remainder was air-dried, placed in paper envelopes, and transported dry. Species identification was based primarily on the diagnostic keys provided by Michalski (2012), supplemented where necessary by original species descriptions and taxonomic revisions.

To document coloration, individuals were photographed on the day of capture. Teneral individuals were maintained alive whenever possible to allow for maturation and the development of characteristic adult coloration prior to preservation. In addition to collected material, field observations were recorded without specimen collection; however, only records with unequivocal species identification were included in the species list.

Table 1. List of the sampling localities (locality name, habitat, coordinates and sampling date), which are mapped on Figures 1-3.

No	Locality name, habitat	Coordinates	Date
	The Guadalcanal Island		
1.	Honiara, city center, small basin, muddy roadside puddles	Lat: -9.4307 Lon: 159.9529	19.04.2023; 03.05.2023
2.	Honiara Botanical Garden, Salapuka River, fast-flowing, shady river	Lat: -9.4356 Lon: 159.9409	19., 25.04.2023; 04.05.2023
3.	Honiara Botanical Garden, overgrown artificial pond	Lat: -9.4327 Lon: 159.9421	25.04.2023; 04.05.2023
4.	Honiara S env., ~2 km SE from Barana village, Davigori, gardens in semi-open landscape	Lat: -9.4827 Lon: 159.9828	20.-23.04.2023; 05.05.2023; 14.05.2023
5.	Honiara S env., ~2 km SSE from Barana village, Davigori, lowland rainforest in temporary stream ravine (stream A)	Lat: -9.4848 Lon: 159.9779	21.-23.04.2023; 05.05.2023
	Honiara S env., ~2.5 km SE from Barana village, Davigori, lowland rainforest in temporary stream ravine (stream B)	Lat: -9.4867 Lon: 159.9837	
6.	Honiara S env., Lunga river, ~4 km S from Barana village, fast-flowing river in a large valley (place A)	Lat: -9.4942 Lon: 159.9796	21.04.2023
	Honiara S env., Lunga river, ~4 km S from Barana village, fast-flowing river in a large valley (place B)	Lat: -9.5041 Lon: 159.9882	
7.	Honiara S env., ~1 km S from Barana village, Davigori, roadside & gardens in semi-open landscape	Lat: -9.4798 Lon: 159.9746	23.04.2023; 14.05.2023
8.	Honiara S env., ~1 km S from Barana village, Davigori, a fast-flowing, shady forest stream	Lat: -9.4806 Lon: 159.9710	23.04.2023
9.	Honiara S env., ~2.5 km S from Barana village, Davigori, lowland rainforest in temporary stream ravines	Lat: -9.4883 Lon: 159.9747	14.05.2023
10.	Honiara NW env., between Mbonehe river and Poha river, old logging road (lower part) & gardens in semi-open landscape	Lat: -9.3944 Lon: 159.8707	06.05.2023
	old logging road (upper part) in forest landscape	Lat: -9.4067 Lon: 159.8651	
11.	Honiara NW env., Mbonehe river downstream, fast-flowing river with small tributary in open landscape	Lat: -9.3836 Lon: 159.8554	06.05.2023

No	Locality name, habitat	Coordinates	Date
	The Choiseul (Lauru) Island		
12.	Sasamunga village, village center, coastal area	Lat: -7.0316 Lon: 156.7621	26.-30.04.2023
13.	Sasamunga village, Vavudu/Vanakurega Stream middle course, fast-flowing stream in gardens in disturbed lowland rainforest	Lat: -7.0289 Lon: 156.7698 Lat: -7.0284 Lon: 156.7682	27., 29.04.2023
14.	Sasamunga village, tributary of Vavudu Stream (Lokataveva Stream), fast-flowing, shady stream in lowland rainforest	Lat: -7.0272 Lon: 156.7772	27., 29.04.2023
	Sasamunga village, tributary of Vanakurega Stream, fast-flowing, shady stream and pool in lowland rainforest	Lat: -7.0255 Lon: 156.7766	
15.	Sasamunga village environment, Kolombangara River, Karupese stream (tributary of Kolombangara river), fast-flowing, shady stream in lowland rainforest	Lat: -6.9930 Lon: 156.7760	28.04.2023
	tributary of Karupese stream, fast-flowing, shady stream in lowland rainforest	Lat: -7.0026 Lon: 156.7827	
16.	Sasamunga village environment, Kolombangara River, fast-flowing river valley	Lat: -6.9883 Lon: 156.7713	28.04.2023
17.	Sasamunga village, trail to school, gardens and taro swamp in disturbed lowland rainforest	Lat: -7.0103 Lon: 156.7449	30.04.2023
	small, fast-flowing stream in disturbed lowland rainforest	Lat: -7.0019 Lon: 156.7492	
18.	Choiseul Province, Taro Island, Taro village center village center, coastal area	Lat: -6.7105 Lon: 156.3988	01.05.2023
19.	Choiseul Bay area Sui River near the waterfall, fast-flowing, shady stream in primary lowland rainforest	Lat: -6.6955 Lon: 156.4411	01.05.2023
20.	Choiseul Bay area Sui River near the waterfall environment, in primary lowland rainforest	Lat: -6.7019 Lon: 156.4372	01.05.2023
21.	Choiseul Bay area, Bali village, primary coastal; rainforest	Lat: -6.7417 Lon: 156.4287	01.05.2023
	The Guadalcanal Island		
22.	Marau area, Puatanarau village, village center, coastal area	Lat: -9.7540 Lon: 160.7755	09.-12.05.2023
23.	Marau area, Puatanarau village, Bauvi Stream, wet coastal Pandanus rainforest with fast-flowing, shady stream in primary lowland rainforest	Lat: -9.7606 Lon: 160.7793	09.-10.05.2023
24.	Marau area, Puatanarau village environment, primary lowland rainforest ~200-300 m a.s.l.	Lat: -9.7724 Lon: 160.7780	10.05.2023.
25.	Marau area, Puatanarau village environment, wet primary lowland rainforest ~200-300 m a.s.l.	Lat: -9.7682 Lon: 160.7834	10.05.2023.
26.	Marau area, Puatanarau village, Bauvi Stream, fast-flowing, shady stream in primary lowland rainforest ~150 m a.s.l.	Lat: -9.7661 Lon: 160.7778	10.05.2023
27.	Marau area, Puatanarau village, Suiupaina Stream, fast-flowing, shady stream in primary lowland rainforest ~200 m a.s.l.	Lat: -9.7603 Lon: 160.7740	11.05.2023
28.	Marau area, Puatanarau village environment, garden in primary lowland rainforest ~200 m a.s.l.	Lat: -9.7547 Lon: 160.7694	12.05.2023

Additional material from the Solomon Islands National Herbarium was examined. Of these, 19 specimens are displayed in the Nature Education Center exhibition, while 22 specimens are preserved in the herbarium collection.

In the laboratory, selected specimens (primarily Anisoptera) were flattened and mounted on entomological pins. Morphological examination was conducted using a Leica S6D stereomi-

croscope. Images of diagnostic structures were obtained using a Canon EOS 2000D digital SLR camera equipped with a Canon MP-E 65 mm macro lens. Image stacking was performed using Helicon Focus 7 software.

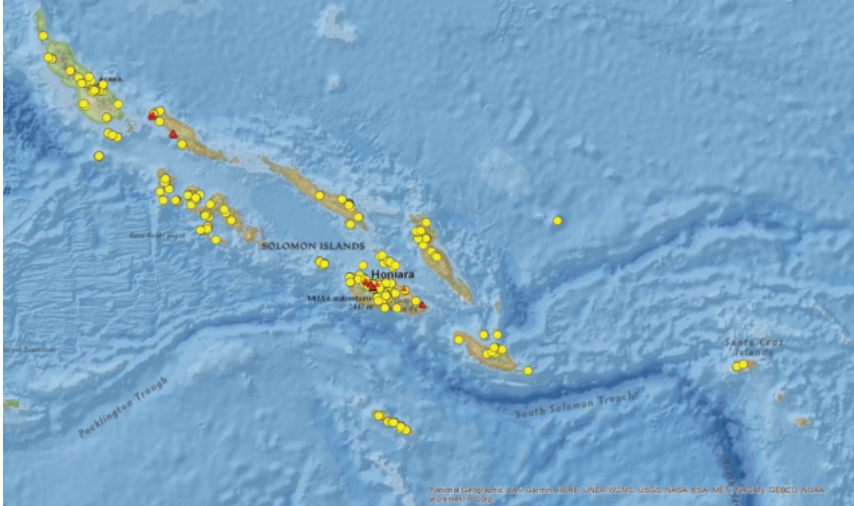


Figure 1. Solomon Archipelago with known (GBIF 2026) Odonata records (yellow dots) and sampling localities (red triangles) of current expedition on the National Geographic World Map (National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.).



Figure 2. Choiseul (Lauru) Island with known (GBIF 2026) Odonata records (yellow dots) and sampling localities (red triangles) of current expedition on the National Geographic World Map (National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.).

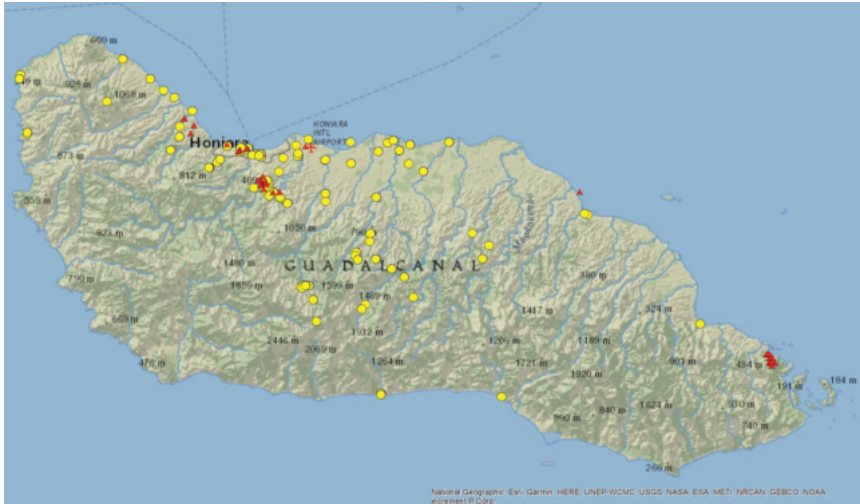


Figure 3. Guadalcanal Island with known (GBIF 2026) Odonata records (yellow dots) and sampling localities (red triangles) of current expedition on the National Geographic World Map (National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.).

Descriptive terminology follows Chao (1953) and Garrison et al. (2006). Color descriptions are based on preserved material. All measurements are given in millimetres (mm). Images are not presented to scale.

Abbreviations used are as follows: Arc = arculus; Ax = antenodal crossvein(s); Fw = forewing; Hw = hindwing; Px = postnodal crossvein(s); Pt = pterostigma; S = abdominal segment(s).

All individuals were collected or observed by the author unless stated otherwise. With the exception of material housed in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium, all examined specimens are deposited in the collection of the Institute of Life Sciences and Technology, Department of Biosystematics, Daugavpils University, Latvia, within the subcollection "Martins Kalnins Invertebrate Collection" (MKinC). The holotype and one paratype of *Anax insulanus* are deposited in the Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia. All records have been incorporated into the author's database and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF).

Species distribution within the Solomon Islands and the wider Solomon Archipelago is synthesised using GBIF data (1,120 occurrence records; GBIF 2026), the Pacific Odonata database compiled by Milen Marinov (c. 14,400 records), and additional sources. Species are arranged alphabetically by family and species.

Each species account was cross-checked using the iNaturalist platform. GBIF records were cited according to GBIF guidelines, while observations not yet incorporated into GBIF were critically evaluated and cited following iNaturalist recommendations (<https://help.inaturalist.org/en/support/solutions/articles/151000170344-how-should-i-cite-inaturalist->).

The term “record” refers to a documented occurrence of a species at a given locality on a specific date (species/locality/date). The term “locality” denotes a site supporting a local population. “Individual” refers to an organism observed or collected in the field, whereas “specimen” denotes an individual preserved in a scientific collection.

The images accompanying this publication, including those of lower technical quality, are intended to provide specialists with essential information on morphological characters and habitat context. Additionally, they aim to present visually accessible material to a broader audience, thereby promoting interest in the diversity, study, and conservation of Odonata.

Results

A total of 485 individuals were collected during the 2023 expedition, and an additional 418 individuals were recorded through field observations without specimen collection. Combined, these data comprise 210 records in the database (Tables 2, 3). In total, 40 species (and one undetermined zygopteran species) were documented: 23 species of Anisoptera and 17 species, plus one undetermined taxon, of Zygoptera.

Table 2. List of species found in the Solomon Islands during the study and the number of database records for collection specimens (MKInC), observations in the wild (NA) and local materials (SINH).

Taxon	MKINC	NA	SINH	Total
Anisoptera				
Aeshnidae	7			7
<i>Agyrtacantha browni</i> Marinov & Theischinger, 2012	1			1
<i>Anax insulanus</i> Theischinger, Kalniņš & Marinov, 2024	3			3
<i>Gynacantha amphora</i> Marinov & Theischinger, 2012	2			2
<i>Gynacantha mocsaryi</i> Förster, 1898	1			1
Corduliidae	7			7
<i>Guadalca insularis</i> Kimmins, 1957	1			1
<i>Hemicordulia</i> sp. nov. A	3			3
<i>Hemicordulia</i> sp. nov. B	2			2
<i>Procordulia valevahaloi</i> Marinov, 2016	1			1
Libellulidae	87	34	14	135
<i>Agrionoptera insignis similis</i> Selys, 1879	8			8
<i>Brachydiplax duivenbodei</i> (Brauer, 1866)	4	3	3	10
<i>Camacinia othello</i> Tillyard, 1908		4		4
<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i> (Rambur, 1842)	4			4
<i>Lathrecista asiatica</i> (Selys, 1879)	2			2
<i>Nesoxenia mysis cingulata</i> Kirby, 1889	9			9
<i>Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina</i> (Guérin-Ménéville, 1832)	14	7	8	29
<i>Orthetrum serapia</i> Watson, 1984	5	1		6
<i>Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum</i> Ris, 1898	10	3	1	14
<i>Pantala flavescens</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	4	9		13
<i>Protorthemis woodfordi</i> (Kirby, 1889)	11	2		13
<i>Rhyothemis resplendens</i> Selys, 1878	3	2		5
<i>Rhyothemis variegata</i> (Linnaeus, 1763)	9	2	2	13
<i>Tapeinothemis boharti</i> Lieftinck, 1950	3			3
<i>Tramea liberata</i> Lieftinck, 1949	1	1		2
TOTAL: Anisoptera	101	34	14	149

Taxon	MKINC	NA	SINH	Total
Zygoptera				
Argiolestidae	3			3
<i>Solomonargiolestes</i> sp. nov.	3			3
Chlorocyphidae	5	1		6
<i>Rhinocypha liberata</i> Lieftinck, 1949	1			1
<i>Rhinocypha tincta semitincta</i> Selys, 1869	4	1		5
Coenagrionidae	32	5	5	42
<i>Agriocnemis femina</i> (Brauer, 1868)	2		2	4
<i>Agriocnemis salomonis</i> Lieftinck, 1949	2	2		4
<i>Pseudagrion coarctatum</i> Lieftinck, 1932	3		1	4
<i>Pseudagrion incisurum</i> Lieftinck, 1949	9	3	2	14
<i>Teinobasis bradleyi</i> Kimmins, 1957	3			3
<i>Teinobasis chionopleura</i> Lieftinck, 1987	4			4
<i>Teinobasis rufithorax</i> (Selys, 1877)	4			4
<i>Teinobasis</i> sp.	2			2
<i>Xiphiagrion cyanomelas</i> Selys, 1876	3			3
Isostictidae	2			2
<i>Cnemisticta latilobata</i> Donnelly, 1993	2			2
Platycnemididae	25	2	3	30
<i>Lieftinckia isabellae</i> Lieftinck, 1987	1			1
<i>Lieftinckia lairdi</i> Lieftinck, 1963	1			1
<i>Lieftinckia ramosa</i> Lieftinck, 1987	2			2
<i>Nososticta salomonis</i> (Selys, 1886)	20	2	3	25
<i>Salomocnemis gerdae</i> Lieftinck, 1987	1			1
TOTAL: Zygoptera	67	8	8	83
TOTAL: Anisoptera & Zygoptera	168	42	22	232

Material examined from the Solomon Islands National Herbarium comprises 41 specimens representing eight species and corresponding to 22 records. All of these species were also recorded during the 2023 expedition, specifically at the Honiara Botanical Garden, where the herbarium specimens were originally collected.

Anisoptera

Family Aeshnidae Rambur, 1842

1. *Agrytaecantha browni* Marinov & Theischinger, 2012 (Fig. 4)

Material examined. Locality 9: 1 ♂ (14 May 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_034).

Habitat and field observations. The specimen was collected in lowland rainforest, within a temporary stream ravine characterised by dense undergrowth.

Distribution and remarks. The species was originally described from a single male collected on 26 April 2012 along a forest track above Kongulae Village, en route to the Kovi River (Marinov & Theischinger 2012; Marinov & Pikacha 2013). The holotype locality is situated approximately 8 km northwest of the site recorded in the present study. Both localities lie within the same continuous lowland rainforest massif (up to ca. 400 m a.s.l.), characterised by a dense network of ravines.

The specimen recorded in this study was collected within the forest interior, in an area with particularly dense vegetation. An additional record is available in the Pacific Odonata data-

Table 3. List of species found in the Solomon Islands during the study and the number of database records for collection specimens (MKInC), observations in the wild (NA) and local materials (SINH).

Taxon	Unidentified sex	Males	Females
Anisoptera			
Aeshnidae		5	2
<i>Agyrtacantha browni</i>		1	
<i>Anax insulanus</i>		3	
<i>Gynacantha amphora</i>			2
<i>Gynacantha mocsaryi</i>		1	
Corduliidae		4	3
<i>Guadalca insularis</i>		1	
<i>Hemicordulia</i> sp. nov. A		1	2
<i>Hemicordulia</i> sp. nov. B		2	
<i>Procordulia vaelevahalo</i>			1
Libellulidae	280	130	113
<i>Agrionoptera insignis similis</i>		8	16
<i>Brachydiplax duivenbodei</i>	74	20	
<i>Camacinia othello</i>	5		
<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i>		2	2
<i>Lathrecista asiatica</i>			2
<i>Nesoxenia mysis cingulata</i>		10	10
<i>Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina</i>	114	30	49
<i>Orthetrum serapia</i>	1	5	1
<i>Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum</i>	8	18	6
<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	40	2	7
<i>Protorthemis woodfordi</i>	2	19	5
<i>Rhyothemis resplendens</i>	1	8	1
<i>Rhyothemis variegata</i>	30	6	10
<i>Tapeinothermis boharti</i>		1	3
<i>Tramea liberata</i>	5	1	1
TOTAL: Anisoptera	280	139	118
Zygoptera			
Argiolestidae		8	4
<i>Solomonargiolestes</i> sp. nov.		8	4
Chlorocyphidae		19	4
<i>Rhinocypha liberata</i>		5	
<i>Rhinocypha tincta semitincta</i>		14	4
Coenagrionidae	68	109	32
<i>Agriocnemis femina</i>		14	6
<i>Agriocnemis salomonis</i>	25	11	7
<i>Pseudagrion coarctatum</i>		6	1
<i>Pseudagrion incisurum</i>	43	38	4
<i>Teinobasis bradleyi</i>		8	
<i>Teinobasis chionopleura</i>		20	6
<i>Teinobasis rufithorax</i>		7	5
<i>Teinobasis</i> sp.		1	1
<i>Xiphiagrion cyanomelas</i>		4	2
Isostictidae		3	
<i>Cnemisticta latilobata</i>		3	

Taxon	Unidentified sex	Males	Females
Zygoptera			
Platycnemididae	70	56	34
<i>Lieftinckia isabellae</i>		2	
<i>Lieftinckia lairdi</i>		2	
<i>Lieftinckia ramosa</i>		2	
<i>Nososticta salomonis</i>	70	49	33
<i>Salomocnemis gerdae</i>		1	1
TOTAL: Zygoptera	138	195	74
TOTAL: Anisoptera & Zygoptera	418	334	192

base: an adult male observed on 23 February 1987 by T. Donnelly in Guadalcanal, Verandua, approximately 6 km south of Tenaru. In the original publication (Donnelly 1987), this record was listed as *Agyrtacantha* sp. without precise locality data. This site is located within the same forest–mountain massif as the previously known localities, approximately 8 km east of the present record.

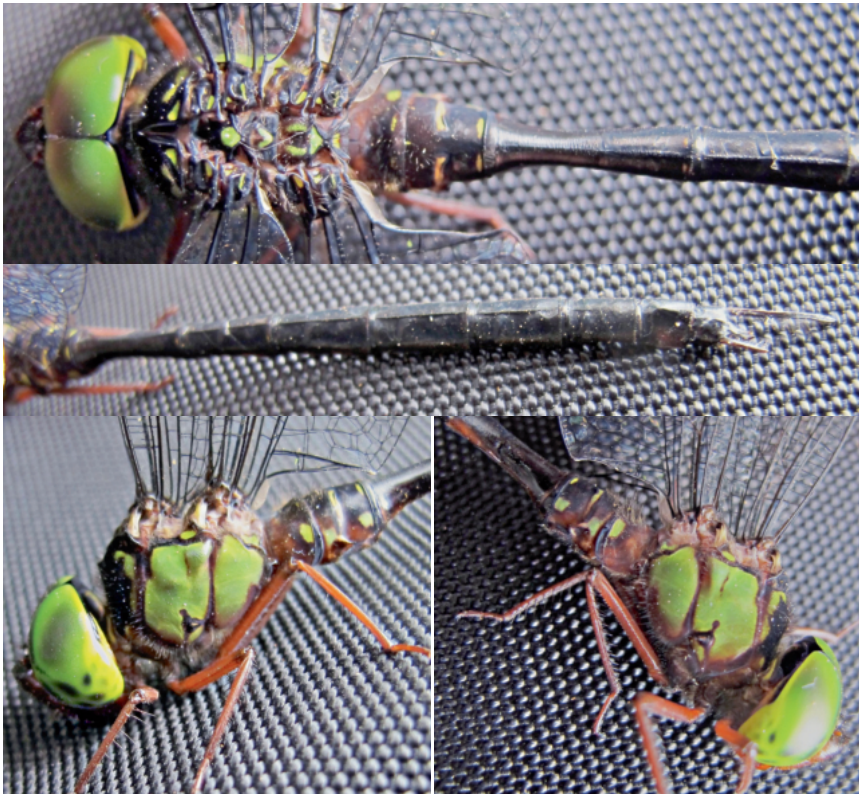


Figure 4. *Agyrtacantha browni* ♂ (live individual): a) head, thorax, and anterior abdomen, dorsal view; b) posterior abdomen and anal appendages, dorso-lateral view; c–d) head, thorax, and anterior abdomen, lateral views.

Figure 5. *Agyrtacantha browni* ♂, terminal abdominal segments (preserved specimen): a) lateral view; b) dorsal view; c) ventral view.

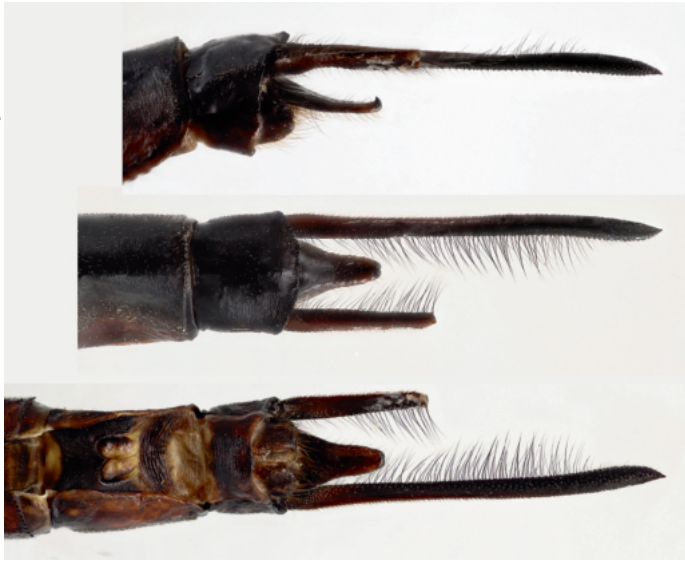


Figure 6. *Agyrtacantha browni* ♂, accessory genitalia (preserved specimen), ventral view.



The original species description (Marinov & Theischinger 2012) includes limited morphological illustration, consisting of two images of the head, one of the thorax, and a drawing of the anal appendages. To supplement this, the present study provides additional photographic documentation, including images of live individuals illustrating body coloration and its variation (Fig. 4), as well as images of preserved specimens showing the terminal abdominal segments and accessory genitalia in ventral view (Figs 5–6).

2. *Anax insulanus* Theischinger, Kalnins & Marinov, 2024 (figs 8-10)

Material examined. Locality 4: 3 ♂♂ (1 ♂ on 21 April 2023; 2 ♂♂ on 14 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. All three males were recorded in a highly disturbed, open garden landscape adjacent to secondary forest, in the vicinity of a small artificial concrete pool used for rainwater collection. One patrolling individual was captured on 21 April 2023. On 14 May 2023, a second patrolling individual was recorded at the same site. Later that day, a third individual occupied the same territory, suggesting repeated territorial use of the site.

Distribution and remarks. *Anax insulanus* is a species erected based on material collected during the present study (Theischinger, Kalnins & Marinov 2024). It is currently known from Guadalcanal and New Georgia (Solomon Islands), where it occurs sympatrically with *A. guttatus*. For a detailed species description, see the original paper (Theischinger, Kalnins & Marinov 2024).

During the preparation of the present paper, additional historical records attributable to *A. insulanus* were identified. The earliest known *Anax* specimens from the Solomon Islands are two females collected on 25 January 1944 on Guadalcanal by Virgil R. Knapp (Fig. 7) and currently deposited in the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History. These specimens were originally identified as *A. guttatus* by M. A. Liefstinck. Re-examination based on photographic material confirmed their identity as *A. guttatus*, based on head pattern, the area between MP and CuA, and observable abdominal characters (det. Günther Theischinger, 2026).



Figure 7. *Anax guttatus* specimens from the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History collections (Orell 2026ab) (images are not in copyright).

Donnelly (1987) reported two unidentified aeshnids from Guadalcanal, one of which was noted as an *Anax* “most like *gibbosulus*” (collected on 22 February 1987). This specimen (male), also deposited in the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, was subsequently identified as *A. gibbosulus* (Fig. 8). However, re-examination of photographic evidence indicates that this specimen represents *A. insulanus*, based on head and abdominal patterning and the proportion of abdomen to hindwing length (Hw ratio < 1.2) (det. Günther Theischinger, 2026).

Further records include observations reported by Marinov & Pikacha (2013), who documented *Anax* sp. (patrolling adults over rice fields) on 29 April 2012. Subsequently, a female speci-

Figure 8. *Anax insulanus* specimen from the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of Natural History collections (Orrell 2026c), previously identified as *Anax gibbosulus* (image are not in copyright).



Figure 9. *Anax insulanus* female (preserved specimen): a) whole body, lateral view; b) head, lateral view; c) part of abdomen, lateral view. Image: Jack Whisenant (Cornell University Insect Collection, USA).





Figure 10. *Anax insulanus* female tip of abdomen (preserved specimen): a) lateral view; b) dorsal view c) ventral view. Image: Jack Whisenant (Cornell University Insect Collection, USA).

men collected on 10 September 2015 was identified as *Anax* sp. cf. *gibbosulus* (Marinov 2016). This specimen was later re-examined and assigned to *A. insulanus* (Theischinger, Kalnins & Marinov 2024).

An additional specimen was identified from the Cornell University Insect Collection: a preserved female from Banika (= Mbanika) Island, Russell Islands, collected by Adrian C. Fox (date unknown). Examination of photographic material (provided by J. Whisenant) confirmed its identity as *A. insulanus* (Figs 9–10) based on head pattern, S3 index (ca. 3.9), general body proportions (notably a stouter habitus compared to *A. guttatus*), wing infumation, venation characteristics (particularly posterior to Rspl), and the morphology of the cerci bases (det. Günther Theischinger & Milen Marinov, 2026).

Additionally, a single unidentified *Anax* individual was observed in flight on 29 April 2023 on Taro Island (Choiseul Bay area), patrolling above buildings and streets. However, due to insufficient diagnostic detail, this record cannot be reliably assigned to species.

3. *Gynacantha amphora* Marinov & Theischinger, 2012 (Figs 11–13)

Material examined. Locality 5: 2 ♀♀ (5 May 2023; specimen IDs: Odo_2023_035, Odo_2023_036).

Habitat and field observations. Both females were collected in lowland rainforest, within a temporary stream ravine characterised by dense vegetation (Fig. 14). The individuals were observed resting beneath leaves, suspended approximately 1–2 m above ground level.

Distribution and remarks. The species was originally described from a single male collected on 26 April 2012 along a forest track above Kongulae Village, en route to the Kovi



Figure 11. *Gynacantha amphora* ♀ (live individual): a) head, thorax, and basal abdominal segments, lateral view; b) head, frontal view; c) head, thorax, and anterior abdomen, dorso-lateral view; d) head and thorax, dorsal view.

River (Marinov & Theischinger 2012; Marinov & Pikacha 2013). A female was subsequently recorded and described from Haviha Camp on 11 September 2015 (Marinov 2016).

The holotype locality is situated approximately 9 km northwest of the present study site, while the previously recorded female locality lies approximately 22 km to the southeast. The holotype locality and the present records are located within the same lowland rainforest massif (up to ca. 400 m a.s.l.), characterised by a dense network of ravines. The



Figure 12. *Gynacantha amphora* ♀, terminal abdominal segments (preserved specimen, Odo_2023_035): a) lateral view; b) dorsal view; c) ventral view.



Figure 13. *Gynacantha amphora* ♀ (preserved specimen, Odo_2023_035): a) terminal abdominal segments, caudal view; (b) frons marking, dorsal view.

Haviha Camp locality, although part of the same broader forest system, is separated by mountainous terrain reaching elevations of up to 1,200 m.

Additional records of *G. amphora* are available from historical and database sources. An observation of an adult male from Guadalcanal (Verandua, ca. 6 km south of Tenaru; 23 February 1987; observer: T. Donnelly) is included in the Pacific Odonata database; in the original publication (Donnelly 1987), this specimen was reported as *Agyrtacantha* sp. with-

Figure 14. Habitat of *Gynacantha amphora*: lowland rainforest stream ravine with dense vegetation (Locality 5, Stream B).

out precise locality data. Further material is deposited in the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History, including:

- one female from Honiara, Guadalcanal Island, 9 December 1974, recorded by H. Wimmer, identified by G. Theischinger, image not available (Orrell 2026d);
- one male from “Banika” (also known as Mbanika), Russel Islands, 29 October 1944, recorded by C. Gibson (Orrell 2026e);
- one female from “Banika” (also known as Mbanika), Russel Islands, 29 October 1944, recorded by C. Gibson (Orrell 2026f);
- one female from Cavaga Creek, Tetere Area, Guadalcanal Island, 21 October 1943, recorded by V. Knapp (Orrell 2026g);
- one female from Lower Balesuma River, old gravel pit, Tetere Area, Guadalcanal Island, 25 December 1943, recorded by V. Knapp (Orrell 2026h);
- female from Tetere Area, Balesuma Water Point, Guadalcanal Island, 19 December 1943, recorded by V. Knapp (Orrell 2026i).



All specimens were identified by Günther Theischinger; photographic material is not available. The original description of the female (Marinov 2016) includes several images of diagnostic structures and a drawing of the anterior abdominal segments. The present study supplements this with photographs of live individuals illustrating coloration (Fig. 11), as well as images of preserved specimens showing terminal abdominal structures and diagnostic characters (Figs 12–13).

4. *Gynacantha mocsaryi* Förster, 1898 (Figs 15–18)

Material examined. Locality 9: 1 ♂ (14 May 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_037). First record for the country of the Solomon Islands.

Habitat and field observations. The specimen was collected in lowland rainforest within a temporary stream ravine characterised by dense vegetation (Fig. 19). The individual was



Figure 15. *Gynacantha mocsaryi* ♂ (live individual): a) dorsal view; b) lateral view.



Figure 16. *Gynacantha mocsaryi* ♂ (live individual): a) head and thorax, dorso-frontal view; b) head, thorax, and anterior abdomen, ventral view.

Figure 17. *Gynacantha mocsaryi* ♂, terminal abdominal segments (preserved specimen): a) lateral view; b) dorsal view; c) ventral view.



Figure 18. *Gynacantha mocsaryi* ♂, accessory genitalia (preserved specimen), ventral view.



observed resting beneath plant leaves at a height of approximately 3 m above ground level. Additional observations of unidentified Aeshnidae were made at dusk in several localities, where individuals were seen foraging in open areas (forest clearings and gardens) at heights of approximately 1–2 m above ground level, typically above herbaceous vegetation. These individuals were not collected and could not be identified to species level.

Distribution and remarks. According to the catalogue of Odonata of the Papuan region (Liefstinck 1949a), *G. mocsaryi* is listed for the Solomon Islands; however, detailed locality data were not provided. In a subsequent publication, Liefstinck (1949b) specified that *G. mocsaryi* was recorded from Bougainville Island twice, whereas *Gynacantha rosenbergi* (two males) was reported from Guadalcanal (353 p.). The latter species has since been re-



Figure 19. Habitat of *Gynacantha mocsaryi*: lowland rainforest stream ravine with dense vegetation (Locality 9).

peatedly recorded from the Solomon Islands and is considered to have a wide Australo-Papuan distribution (Lieftinck 1975).

Despite its inclusion in earlier catalogues, the present record represents the first confirmed occurrence of *G. mocsaryi* within the political boundaries of the Solomon Islands.

Illustrative material for species of the genus *Gynacantha* is available in the literature (cf. Theischinger et al. 2020), but is generally limited and often inconsistent in the morphological characters depicted. The present study supplements existing documentation by providing photographs of live individuals illustrating body coloration (Figs 15–16), as well as images of preserved specimens showing diagnostic structures, including the terminal abdominal segments and accessory genitalia (Figs 17–18).

Family Corduliidae Kirby, 1890

5. *Guadalca insularis* Kimmins, 1957 (Figs 20–22)

Material examined. Locality 8: 1 ♂ (23 April 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_038).

Habitat and field observations. The specimen was collected in lowland rainforest along a fast-flowing, shaded forest stream (Fig. 23). The individual was observed patrolling at a height of approximately 0.5–1 m above the water surface, along a relatively long (>100 m) stretch of the stream.

Distribution and remarks. This species remains poorly known. It was originally described based on material collected between 10 and 23 December 1953 on Guadalcanal (Tapenanje), where nine males and one female were recorded (Kimmins 1957). The lectotype is deposited in the Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom.

Donnelly (1987) reported the occurrence of *Guadalca* sp. on Guadalcanal and Malaita Island. According to the Pacific Odonata database, an adult male was collected between



Figure 20. *Guadalca insularis* ♂ (fresh specimen), dorsal view.

Figure 21. *Guadalca insularis* ♂, terminal abdominal segments (preserved specimen): a) lateral view; b) dorsal view; c) ventral view.



13 and 24 February 1987 in Honiara (Rove Creek reservoir, Guadalcanal), and an adult female was recorded on 19 February 1987 from the Kware'a River and its tributary, approximately 8 km east of Dala (ca. 100 m a.s.l.), Malaita Island.

Published illustrative material for *G. insularis* is extremely limited and largely restricted to museum specimens. To address this gap, the present study provides photo-

graphic documentation of a freshly collected individual illustrating body coloration (Figs 20, 22), as well as images of preserved material showing diagnostic structures, including the terminal abdominal segments (Fig. 21).



Figure 22. *Guadalca insularis* ♂ (fresh specimen): a) head, thorax, and anterior abdomen, ventro-lateral view; b) lateral view; c) abdomen, dorsal view; d) head with labrum, frontal view; e) head with frons and clypeus, frontal view.

6. *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. A

Material examined. Locality 7: 1 ♂ (14 May 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_043), 1 ♀ (14 May 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_044); Locality 28: 1 ♀ (12 May 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_045).

Remarks. The specimens may represent an undescribed species. It is referred to here as *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. A for faunistic purposes. The formal description, including diagnostic characters and taxonomic treatment, will be provided elsewhere.

7. *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. B

Material examined. Locality 11: 2 ♂♂ (6 May 2023; specimen IDs: Odo_2023_041, Odo_2023_042).



Figure 23. Habitat of *Guadalca insularis*: shaded lowland rainforest stream (Locality 8).

Remarks. The specimens may represent an undescribed species. It is referred to here as *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. B for faunistic purposes. The formal description, including diagnostic characters and taxonomic treatment, will be provided elsewhere.

8. *Procordulia vaelevahalo* Marinov, 2016 (Figs 24–28)

Material examined. Locality 4: 1 ♀ (23 April 2023; specimen ID: Odo_2023_046).

Habitat and field observations. The specimen was collected in a semi-open garden landscape adjacent to primary lowland rainforest (ca. 400 m a.s.l.). The individual was observed foraging along the forest edge and within open garden areas at a height of approximately 1–2 m above ground level.

Distribution and remarks. *Procordulia vaelevahalo* is the only representative of the genus known from the Solomon Islands, with both male and female described (Marinov 2016). The holotype male and allotype female were collected in a montane area (ca. 700–1200 m a.s.l.), approximately 20 km southeast of the locality reported in the present study. Both localities are situated within the same broader forest massif, characterised by

lowland to lower montane rainforest (up to ca. 800 m in surrounding areas) and a dense network of ravines, but they belong to different river catchments.

The original description includes photographic documentation; however, the available images are of moderate quality. Here provided additional photographic documentation

– images of live individuals illustrating body coloration (Figs 25–27) and images of preserved specimens showing diagnostic morphological structures, including the head, thorax, terminal abdominal segments, and accessory genitalia (Figs 24, 26–28).



Figure 24. *Procordulia valevahaloo* ♀ (preserved specimen): a) dorsal view; b) ventral view.



Figure 25. *Procordulia valevahaloo* ♀ (live individual), thorax and abdomen, lateral view.

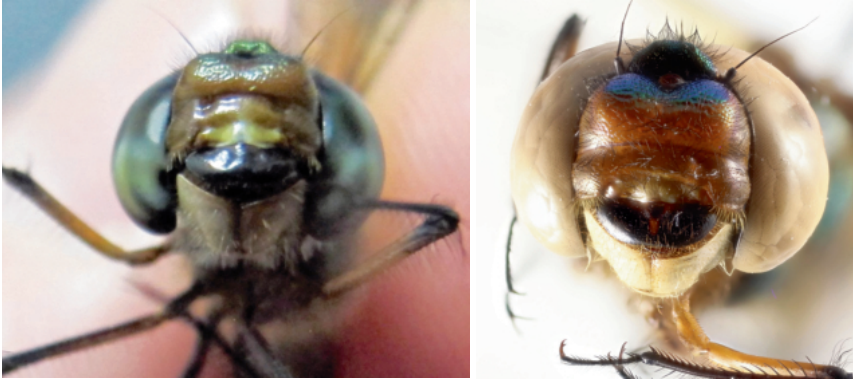


Figure 26. *Procordulia vlevahalo* head, frontal view: a) live individual; b) preserved specimen.

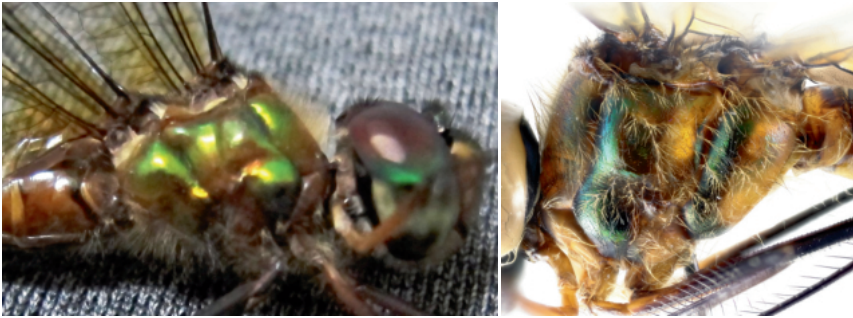


Figure 27. *Procordulia vlevahalo* thorax, lateral view: a) live individual; b) preserved specimen.

Family Libellulidae Leach, 1815

9. *Agrionoptera insignis similis* Selys, 1879

Material examined. Localities: 9 (1 ♂ on 14 May 2023), 17 (4 ♂♂, 1 ♀ on 30 April 2023), 21 (1 ♀ on 1 May 2023), 23 (4 ♀♀ on 10 May 2023), 24 (1 ♀ on 10 May 2023), 26 (3 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀ on 10 May 2023), 28 (4 ♀♀ on 12 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. This subspecies was recorded across multiple localities on Guadalcanal and Choiseul Island, from sea level up to approximately 250 m a.s.l. Adults were observed inhabiting a range of habitat types, including primary coastal rainforest, wet coastal *Pandanus* forest, disturbed garden environments adjacent to lowland rainforest, and primary lowland rainforest associated with temporary stream ravines.

Individuals were most frequently observed perched on green leaves or on the upper branches of fallen trees within shaded stream ravines. Occasional observations were also made in more open environments, such as along logging tracks and within garden areas.



Figure 28. *Procordulia vaevalahalo* ♀, terminal abdominal segments (preserved specimen) : a) lateral view; b) dorsal view; c) ventral view.

Distribution and remarks. Within the Solomon Islands, *A. insignis similis* is widely distributed, with records spanning from Santa Ana Island (Kirby 1889) and Rennell Island (cf. Kimmins 1959) in the southeast, to Choiseul Island (Polhemus et al. 2008) and the Shortland Islands (cf. Kirby 1889; Förster 1898) in the northwest.



Figure 29. *Brachydiplax duivenbodei* mature ♂ in typical perching position.

10. *Brachydiplax duivenbodei* (Brauer, 1866) (Fig. 29)

Material examined. Localities: 3 (5 ♂ collected; ca. 70 individuals observed on 25 April 2023), 4 (1 ♂ on 22 April 2023), 11 (1 ♂ collected; 3 individuals observed on 6 May 2023), 21 (1 ♂ collected; 1 individual observed on 1 May 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded in a variety of lowland habitats. At Bali village (Locality 21), individuals were observed in primary coastal rainforest within a partially shaded area adjacent to a ditch influenced by tidal saltwater. At Barana village (Locality 4; ca. 400 m a.s.l.), the species occurred in a semi-open garden landscape; individuals were not observed directly at a nearby artificial rainwater pool, possibly due to interference from larger territorial species such as *A. insulanus*.

The highest abundance was recorded at the Honiara Botanical Garden (Locality 3), where numerous individuals (Fig. 29) were observed at a sunlit pond with partial shading and a water surface largely covered by aquatic vegetation (Fig. 30).

Distribution and remarks. The species has been previously recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with individuals collected by Y. Ogawes (1 ♂, 9 October 2018), I. Selanate (1 ♂, 11 October 2018; collector name uncertain), and Tesny Baisi (10 ♂♂, 23 November 2021). These specimens are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium and partly displayed in the Nature Education Center exhibition.

Within Guadalcanal, *B. duivenbodei* has been recorded on multiple occasions, with most records originating from the Honiara and Tetere areas (cf. Lieftinck 1949b; Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026). Additional recent observations from Honiara are available via the iNaturalist platform (Bigonneau 2022; Kim 2025).



Figure 30. Pond at the Honiara Botanical Garden (Locality 3; image shows approximately one-third of the pond), habitat of *Brachydiplax duivenbodei*, *Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina*, *Orthetrum villosiovittatum bismarckianum* (several individuals), *Rhyothemis variegata* (single individual), *Agriocnemis femina*, and *Xiphiagrion cyanomelas*.

11. *Camacinia othello* Tillyard, 1908

Material examined. Localities: 4 (1 ♂ observed on 22 April and 14 May 2023, at the same even tree), 10 (1 ♂ observed on 6 May 2023), 24 (2 ♂♂ observed on 10 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. All individuals were observed resting on relatively large leaves at heights of approximately 2–5 m above ground level. When disturbed, individuals flew upwards into the tree canopy. Observation sites ranged from sea level up to ca. 400 m a.s.l.

Distribution and remarks. In the Solomon Islands, this species has been recorded only rarely, with historical records from the Shortland Islands (Tillyard 1910; Ris 1913b) and Guadalcanal (Donnelly 1987). A recent observation from Guadalcanal (7 November 2024) includes two closely spaced records on the iNaturalist platform; based on identical wing damage (left forewing), these likely represent the same individual (iNaturalist 2026b, c).

12. *Diplacodes trivialis* (Rambur, 1842)

Material examined. Localities: 4 (1 ♂ on 20 April 2023), 7 (1 ♂ on 14 May 2023), 11 (1 ♀ on 6 May 2023), 24 (1 ♀ on 10 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded from sea level up to ca. 400 m a.s.l. in a range of habitats, including roadsides and gardens within both disturbed and primary lowland rainforest. Individuals were typically observed in open, sunlit areas.

Distribution and remarks. More than 30 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from Sikaiana, Vella Lavella, Gizo Island, and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Bigonneau 2023).

13. *Lathrecista asiatica festa* (Selys, 1879)

Material examined. Localities: 7 (1 ♀ on 14 May 2023), 9 (1 ♀ on 14 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. Both individuals were observed in garden environments within disturbed and primary lowland rainforest. Observations were made in partially shaded conditions.

Distribution and remarks. To date, this taxon has been recorded only twice within the Solomon Islands archipelago, both records originating from Guadalcanal (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; Maynard 2018). The present records therefore represent additional confirmed occurrences within the region.

In the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), records of this taxon are currently distributed across two entries: *Lathrecista asiatica festa* (Selys, 1879) and *Lathrecista asiatica* (Fabricius, 1798) (GBIF Backbone Taxonomy 2026c).

14. *Nesoxenia mysis cingulata* Kirby, 1889

Material examined. Localities: 14 (1 ♀ on 27 May 2023), 15 (1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 28 April 2023), 17 (2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ on 30 April 2023), 20 (1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ on 1 May 2023), 21 (2 ♂♂ on 1 May 2023), 23 (4 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀ on 10 May 2023), 28 (1 ♀ on 12 May 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The species was observed in shaded forest environments, primarily along fast-flowing streams within primary coastal and lowland rainforest, as well as in wet coastal *Pandanus* forest. Individuals were typically perched on leaves at heights ranging from approximately 1 m to several metres above ground or water level.

Distribution and remarks. A total of 14 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including records from the Shortland Islands, Treasury Islands, Gizo Island, Guadalcanal, and Bougainville Island (GBIF 2026).

15. *Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina* (Guérin-Ménéville, 1832) (Figs 31-32)

Material examined. Localities: 3 (2 ♂♂ collected; ca. 25 individuals observed on 25 April 2023), 4 (1 ♂, 6 ♀♀ on 20 April 2023; 2 ♂♂, 7 ♀♀ on 21 April 2023; 2 ♀♀ on 5 May 2023), 6 (>45 individuals observed; 5 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀ collected on 21 April 2023), 10 (2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ on 6 May 2023), 11 (3 ♂♂, 1 ♀ collected; ca. 3 individuals observed on 6 May 2023), 17 (4 ♀♀ on 30 April 2023), 20 (5 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀ collected; >10 individuals observed on 1 May 2023), 21 (1 ♂ collected; 4 individuals observed on 1 May 2023), 23 (1 ♀ on 9 May 2023), 24 (4 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀ on 10 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded from sea level up to ca. 400 m a.s.l. across a wide range of habitats, including roadsides and gardens in both disturbed and primary lowland rainforest, as well as wet coastal *Pandanus* forest.

In the Lungga River valley (Guadalcanal), along an approximately 4.5 km stretch, the species was recorded at only a limited number of sites: one locality with ca. 5 individuals, another with >30 individuals (including teneral individuals), and a third with ca. 10 individuals – both males (Fig. 31) and females (Fig. 32). Spatial distribution patterns and behavioural characteristics of the species have been described in detail by Marinov & Pikacha (2013). Additionally, foraging activity was observed at dusk.



Figure 31. *Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina* male warming up/resting.



Figure 32. *Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina* female warming up/resting, isochrome individual.

Distribution and remarks. The species has also been previously recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with individuals collected by Y. Ogawas (1 ♀ on 9 October 2018; 1 ♂ on 11 October 2018), Wendy Lae (3 ♂ ♂ on 11 October 2018), and Tesny Baisi (1 ♂, 5 ♀ ♀ between 29 October and 23 November 2021). These specimens are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium and partly displayed in the Nature Education Center exhibition.

More than 140 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, covering nearly all major islands (with the exception of Santa Isabel Island), including Nendö, Rennell Island, Bougainville Island, San Cristobal Island, and Malaupaina Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026).

In the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), records of this taxon are currently distributed across two entries: *Neurothemis stigmatizans* (Fabricius, 1775) and *N. stigmatizans bramina* (Guérin-Ménéville, 1832).

16. *Orthetrum serapia* Watson, 1984 (Fig. 33)

Material examined. Localities: 1 (1 ♂ observed on 4 May 2023), 4 (1 ♂ on 20 April 2023; 1 ♂ on 21 April 2023; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 22 April 2023; 1 ♂ on 5 May 2023; 1 ♂ on 14 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. All individuals were recorded in the vicinity of a small artificial concrete pool used for rainwater collection (Fig. 34), situated within a highly disturbed, open garden landscape adjacent to secondary forest. Individuals exhibited territorial behavior (Fig. 33), with typically no more than two individuals present simultaneously at the site.

When *A. insulanus* was present near the pool, *O. serapia* individuals were displaced; however, they returned within a few minutes after the larger species departed, indicating competitive interactions for the same microhabitat.

Despite previous reports describing this species as “very common in all localities” (Marinov & Pikacha 2013) and the same phenological period of studies, it was not recorded at other sites during the present study. Notably, it was also absent from a previously known locality — an overgrown artificial pond at the Honiara Botanical Garden.

Distribution and remarks. More than 20 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from the Shortland Islands, Vella Lavella, New Georgia, Santa Isabel Island, Malaita Island, Rennell Island, San Cristobal Island, Malaupaina Island, Nendö (Santa Cruz Islands), and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Paxton 2021, 2023).



Figure 33. *Orthetrum serapia* ♂ warming up and guarding territory (pool).



Figure 34. Habitat (caught place) of *Orthetrum serapia* and *Anax insulanus* at a small artificial concrete rainwater pool (Locality 4). Other species observed at this site include *Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum* (single individual) and *Protorthemis woodfordi* (several individuals).

17. *Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum* Ris, 1898

Material examined. Localities: 2 (3 individuals observed on 19 April 2023; 5 ♂♂ collected on 25 April 2023), 3 (2 individuals observed on 25 April 2023), 4 (1 ♂ on 20 April 2023), 5 (5 ♂♂ on 23 April 2023), 7 (1 ♀ on 23 April 2023), 8 (1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ on 23 April 2023), 11 (3 individuals observed; 2 ♂♂ collected on 6 May 2023), 17 (1 ♂ on 30 April 2023), 26 (1 ♀ on 10 May 2023), 28 (2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ on 12 May 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded from sea level up to ca. 400 m a.s.l., primarily in association with fast-flowing, shaded streams and rivers, including temporary watercourses. Adults were typically observed perching on green stems, leaves, or dead branches at heights of approximately 0.5–1 m above ground or water level, usually in small openings within the forest canopy. Additional observations were made along roadsides and in gardens within semi-open landscapes (Fig. 35).

Males exhibited territorial behaviour, including guarding small pools (ca. 0.5–2 m²) within the beds of temporary or partially dried streams. Frequent intraspecific interactions were observed, as well as occasional interactions with *Protorthemis woodfordi*. Although typically only 1–5 individuals were recorded along ca. 100 m sections of streams, rapid replacement of individuals (within 10–15 minutes) following capture suggests the presence of additional individuals in adjacent forested microhabitats.

Compared to *P. woodfordi*, *O. villosovittatum bismarckianum* appears to prefer more open, better-lit microhabitats and pools with less stagnant water and cleaner substrates (i.e., reduced accumulation of leaf litter and detritus).

Distribution and remarks. The species has also been previously recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, where individuals were collected by Y. Ogawes (1 ♂, 1 ♀

on 9 October 2018) and are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium.

More than 50 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including the Treasury Islands, Gizo Island, Kolombangara, New Georgia, Santa Isabel Island, Guadalcanal, Nggela Islands, Malaita Island, San Cristobal Island, and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026).

In the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), records of this taxon are currently distributed across two entries: *Orthetrum villosovittatum* (Brauer, 1868) and *O. villosovittatum bismarckianum* Ris, 1898.



Figure 35. Habitat of *Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum*: gardens within a larger primary lowland rainforest area on a hillslope with small stream ravines (Locality 28). Other species recorded at this site include *Agrionoptera insignis similis*, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. A (single ♀), and *Nesoxenia mysis cingulata* (single ♀).

18. *Pantala flavescens* (Fabricius, 1798)

Material examined. Localities: 1 (14 individuals observed across four sites in Honiara on 18–19 April and 4, 6 May 2023), 4 (1 ♂ on 21 April 2023; ca. 20 individuals observed and 4 ♀ ♀ collected on 5 May 2023; 2 ♀ ♀ on 14 May 2023), 6 (1 ♂, 1 ♀ in copula on 21 April 2023), 10 (1 individual observed on 6 May 2023), 11 (1 individual observed on 6 May 2023), 12 (3 individuals observed on 30 April 2023), 16 (1 individual observed on 28 April 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. During the present study, *P. flavescens* was recorded at multiple localities, typically with low numbers (2–5 individuals per site). In one instance, a larger aggregation of approximately 20 individuals was observed actively foraging above garden areas, together with *Rhyothemis variegata*, *Hemicordulia* sp., and *Tramea liberata*.

A single mating pair (in copula) was observed in a large river valley, representing the only confirmed reproductive behaviour recorded during the study.

Distribution and remarks. This species is a well-known migratory dragonfly with a broad distribution across tropical and subtropical regions. Within the Solomon Islands, it appears to occur sporadically, often in low numbers, but may form temporary aggregations under suitable conditions.

19. *Protorthemis woodfordi* (Kirby, 1889) (Fig. 36)

Material examined. Localities: 4 (3 ♂♂ on 22 April 2023; 3 ♂♂ observed and 1 ♀ collected on 5 May 2023), 5 (3 ♂♂ on 21 April 2023; 1 ♂ on 22 April 2023), 8 (1 ♂ on 23 April 2023), 9 (3 ♀♀ on 14 May 2023), 14 (1 ♂ on 29 April 2023), 15 (2 ♂♂; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ in copula on 28 April 2023), 20 (2 ♂♂ on 1 May 2023), 21 (2 individuals observed on 1 May 2023), 26 (2 ♀♀ on 10 May 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded from sea level up to ca. 400 m a.s.l., primarily in association with fast-flowing, shaded streams and rivers, including temporary watercourses. Adults were typically observed perching on green stems, leaves, or dead branches at heights of approximately 0.5–1 m above ground or water level (Fig. 36).



Figure 36. *Protorthemis woodfordi* ♂ guarding territory.

Males exhibited territorial behaviour, including guarding small pools (ca. 1–3 m²) within the beds of temporary or partially dried streams (Fig. 37). Frequent intraspecific interactions were observed, as well as occasional interactions with *O. v. bismarckianum*. Although typically only 1–3 individuals were recorded along ca. 100 m sections of streams, rapid replacement of individuals (within 10–15 minutes) following capture suggests the presence of additional individuals in adjacent forest microhabitats.

Compared to *O. v. bismarckianum*, *P. woodfordi* appears to prefer more shaded habitats, larger pools, and to avoid more open canopy conditions. Only rarely was the species ob-



Figure 37. Habitat of *Protorthemis woodfordi*: small pool (puddle) in the bed of a dried stream within primary lowland rainforest (Locality 5). Other species recorded at this site include *Teinobasis rufithorax*.

served in more open environments, including gardens near artificial rainwater pools (Fig. 34) and a single clearcut area adjacent to a stream.

At Karupese stream valley (Locality 15), two males were observed perching in a canopy opening created by a fallen tree approximately 15–20 m from the river, while a mating pair was recorded in a nearby opening.

Distribution and remarks. *Protorthemis woodfordi* is endemic to the Solomon Islands. Approximately 40 occurrence records are known from across the archipelago, ranging from San Cristobal Island and Rennell Island to Bougainville Island, with no previous records from Choiseul Island (GBIF 2026).

20. *Rhyothemis resplendens* Selys, 1878

Material examined. Localities: 7 (1 individual observed on 14 May 2023), 11 (3 ♂♂ collected; 4 ♂♂ observed on 6 May 2023), 15 (1 ♀ on 28 April 2023), 17 (1 ♂ on 30 April 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 30 to 300 m a.s.l. One male was observed flying along a roadside in a semi-open garden landscape. At Locality 11, multiple males were observed perching in sunlit conditions on taro leaves at heights of approximately 0.3–1.0 m above a moderately flowing stream within a semi-open garden environment, occasionally engaging in short chases (Fig. 39).

Another male was recorded perching in a sunlit location near a fast-flowing stream within disturbed lowland rainforest. The single female was collected near a small but permanent fast-flowing stream in primary lowland rainforest, in a more shaded microhabitat (Fig. 38).

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 20 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including records from Guadalcanal and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).



Figure 38. Habitat of *Rhyothemis resplendens*: permanent, fast-flowing stream in primary lowland rainforest (Locality 15). Other species recorded at this site include *Nesoxenia mysis cingulata*, *Rhinocypha tincta semitincta*, *Pseudagrion incisurum*, and *Nososticta salomonis*.



Figure 39. Habitat of *Rhyothemis resplendens*: small tributary of a larger fast-flowing river in a semi-open landscape (Locality 11). Other species recorded at this site include *Brachydiplax duivenbodei*, *Diplacodes trivialis*, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. B, *Neurothemis stigmatizans bramina*, *Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum*, *Rhyothemis variegata*, *Agriocnemis femina*, *Pseudagrion coarctatum*, *Xiphiagrion cyanomelas*, and *Nososticta salomonis* (single ♂).

21. *Rhyothemis variegata* (Linnaeus, 1763)

Material examined. Localities: 3 (1 ♂ on 25 April 2023), 4 (1 ♂ on 21 April 2023; 1 ♀ on 22 April 2023; 15 individuals observed and 2 ♀ ♀ collected on 5 May 2023), 7 (15 individuals observed and 2 ♀ ♀ collected on 23 April 2023; 2 ♀ ♀ on 14 May 2023), 10 (1 ♂ on 6 May 2023), 11 (2 ♂ ♂ on 6 May 2023), 17 (1 ♀ on 30 April 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. Most records were obtained at elevations of approximately 200–400 m a.s.l., where individuals were observed flying (presumably foraging) in open or semi-open environments, including roadsides, gardens, and disturbed lowland rain-forest. Observations were typically made away from water bodies. Flight height was generally 3–7 m above ground or vegetation.

The species (Fig. 40) was observed in proximity to water only on two occasions: at an overgrown artificial pond at the Honiara Botanical Garden (Locality 3), and along a fast-flowing river with a small tributary in a relatively open landscape (Locality 11), where at least two individuals were observed patrolling at heights of approximately 0.5–1 m above the water surface.



Figure 40. *Rhyothemis variegata* ♀ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).

Distribution and remarks. The species has previously been recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with individuals collected by Y. Ogawes (1 ♂ on 9 October 2018) and Tesny Baisi (2 ♀ ♀ on 23 November 2021). These specimens are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium and partly displayed in the Nature Education Center exhibition.

More than 20 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from the Shortland Islands and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026).

In the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), records attributable to this taxon are currently assigned to three different taxa: *Rhyothemis variegata* (Linnaeus, 1763), *R. phyllis* (Sulzer, 1776), and *R. phyllis marginata* Ris, 1913 (GBIF Backbone Taxonomy 2026d).

22. Tapeinothemis boharti Lieftinck, 1950

Material examined. Localities: 2 (1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 19 April 2023; 1 ♀ on 4 May 2023), 14 (1 ♀ on 29 April 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. All records were obtained at elevations of approximately 50–80 m a.s.l. The species was consistently associated with permanent, fast-flowing streams in both disturbed and primary lowland rainforest. Individuals were observed perching on the apical parts of plant stems at heights of approximately 0.5 m above ground level, typically in shaded microhabitats (Fig. 41).

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 20 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including records from Rendova Island, Kolombangara, Guadalcanal, Ngela Islands, and Malaita Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.



Figure 41. Habitat of *Tapeinothemis boharti*: permanent, fast-flowing stream in disturbed lowland rainforest (Locality 2). Individuals were observed perching on plant stems (foreground, right side of image) at approximately 0.5 m above ground level. Other species recorded at this site include *Orthetrum villosovittatum bismarckianum*, *Pseudagrion coarctatum*, *Pseudagrion incisurum*, and *Nososticta salomonis*.

23. *Tramea liberata* Lieftinck, 1949

Material examined. Locality 4: 5 individuals observed on 22 April 2023; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ collected on 14 May 2023.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at approximately 400 m a.s.l. in a semi-open garden landscape within disturbed lowland rainforest. Adults were typically observed flying at relatively high elevations (ca. 5–10 m above ground level), often together with *P. flavescens*, *R. variegata*, and *Hemicordulia* sp.

Occasionally, individuals descended to lower flight heights (ca. 3 m above ground), possibly influenced by wind conditions.

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 10 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including records from the Shortland Islands, New Georgia, Guadalcanal, and Malaupaina Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).

Zygoptera

Family Argiolestidae Fraser, 1960

24. *Solomonargiolestes* sp. nov.

Material examined. Localities: 23 (1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 9 May 2023), 25 (7 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, including teneral individuals on 10 May 2023).

Remarks. The specimens may represent an undescribed species. It is referred to here as *Solomonargiolestes* sp. nov. for faunistic purposes. The formal description, including diagnostic characters and taxonomic treatment, is provided elsewhere.

Family Chlorocyphidae Cowley, 1937

25. *Rhinocypha liberata* Lieftinck, 1949

Material examined. Locality 26: 5 ♂♂ on 10 May 2023.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at approximately 150 m a.s.l. along a permanent, fast-flowing stream in primary lowland rainforest (Fig. 42). The stream was surveyed along most of its length. In its upper reaches, the stream was ca. 0.5 m wide, increasing to 3–5 m in the middle reaches, with a substrate composed of pebbles and stones. These sections were located on a hillslope, whereas the lower reaches (ca. 5 m wide) occurred in flatter terrain, with a sandy–pebble substrate and reduced flow velocity.

Throughout its course, the stream was bordered by relatively dense herbaceous and shrubby vegetation. The tree canopy above the stream was predominantly closed, with intermittent openings. The species was recorded exclusively in the middle reaches of the stream, where males selected perching sites along the banks or directly above the water at heights of approximately 0.5–2 m. Preferred perching substrates included terminal twigs of dead woody debris and green leaves.

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 25 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from Malaita Island, Ugi Island, and Kolombangara (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Anderson 2023; Pacific Odonata database). Outside the Solomon Islands, the species is known only

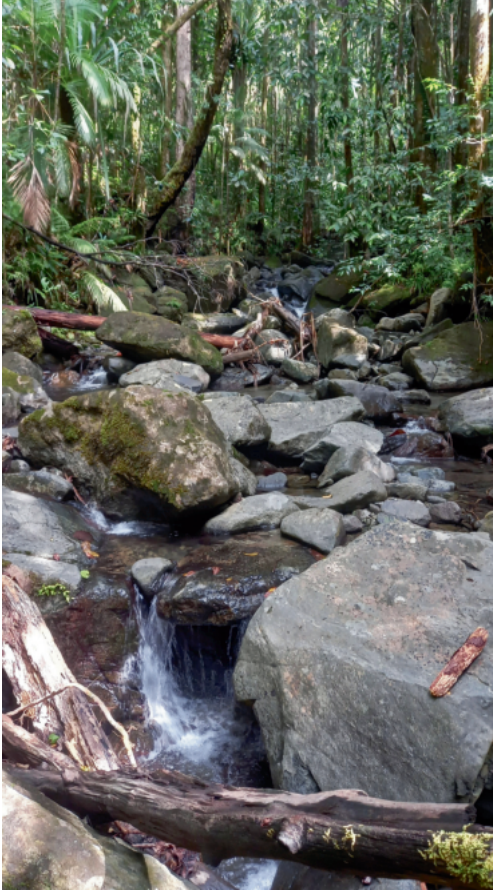


Figure 42. Habitat of *Rhinocypha liberata*: permanent, fast-flowing stream in primary lowland rainforest (Locality 26).

from New Britain (Gassmann & Richards 2011).

26. *Rhinocypha tincta semitincta* Selys, 1869 (Fig. 43)

Material examined. Localities: 13 (1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 29 April 2023), 14 (8 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ on 27 April 2023), 15 (3 ♂♂ on 28 April 2023), 19 (1 ♂ collected; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ observed on 1 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. All records were obtained at elevations of approximately 20–80 m a.s.l., in association with permanent, fast-flowing streams within primary lowland rainforest. Males were observed selecting perching sites along the banks or directly above the water at heights of approximately 0.5–2 m. Preferred substrates included terminal twigs of dead woody debris and green leaves (Fig. 43).

Distribution and remarks. More than 50 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, covering most major islands, including San Cristobal Island and Bougainville Island, but notably excluding Guadalcanal, Rennell Island, and the Santa Cruz Islands (GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).



Figure 43. *Rhinocypha tincta semitincta* ♂ in typical perching position.

Family Coenagrionidae Kirby, 1890

27. *Agriocnemis femina* (Brauer, 1868) (Figs 44-45)

Material examined. Localities: 3 (8 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ on 25 April 2023), 11 (4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ on 6 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species (Figs 44-45) was recorded near an overgrown artificial pond at the Honiara Botanical Garden and along a fast-flowing river with a small tributary in a relatively open landscape.

Distribution and remarks. The species has previously been recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with individuals collected by Y. Ogawes (1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 9 October 2018; 1 ♂ on 11 October 2018). These specimens are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium.

More than 15 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including Rennell Island, Uki Ni Masi, Guadalcanal, Malaita Island, New Georgia, Gizo Island, and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).



Figure 44-45. *Agriocnemis femina* immature ♂ (left) and immature ♀ (right) (image courtesy Milen Marinov).

28. *Agriocnemis salomonis* Lieftinck, 1949 (Fig. 46)

Material examined. Localities: 13 (20 individuals observed on 27 April 2023; 9 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀ on 29 April 2023), 14 (2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ on 27 April 2023), 17 (5 individuals observed on 30 April 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. All records were obtained in proximity to small but permanent fast-flowing streams within disturbed and primary lowland rainforest. The species was most frequently observed in sunlit or partially shaded stream sections with well-developed grassy vegetation along the banks (Fig. 46). Numerous additional individuals (several dozens) were observed but not collected.

Distribution and remarks. Only eight occurrence records are currently known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including Guadalcanal, Santa Isabel Island, Vella Lavella, and Ranongga (GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).

GBIF indicates the occurrence of this species in Fiji (GBIF Backbone Taxonomy 2026a). Examination of the underlying records suggests that this is erroneous, most likely resulting from

the digitisation or subsequent interpretation of collection data. All eight occurrence records are supported by images of museum specimens and their labels, which identify the material as *Agriocnemis vitiensis* Tillyard, 1924. This scientific name is currently regarded as a junior synonym of *Agriocnemis exsudans* Selys, 1877 (Fraser 1925; Endersby 2012), and therefore these records do not provide evidence for the occurrence of the focal species in Fiji.



Figure 46. *Agriocnemis salomonis* ♂ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).

29. *Pseudagrion coarctatum* Lieftinck, 1932

Material examined. Localities: 2 (2 ♂♂ on 4 May 2023), 11 (2 ♂♂; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ in copula on 6 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. All records were obtained at approximately 50 m a.s.l., in association with permanent, fast-flowing rivers. One site was a medium-sized river (ca. 5–10 m width) within disturbed lowland rainforest, in a predominantly shaded river stretch. The second site was a larger river (>50 m width) in an open landscape.

Adults were observed perching on the upper parts of vegetation. Copulation was recorded in close proximity to water.

Distribution and remarks. The species has previously been recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with a specimen collected by Tesny Baisi (1 ♂ on 11 November 2021), currently displayed in the Nature Education Center exhibition.

Approximately 30 occurrence records traditionally identified as *Pseudagrion microcephalum* (Rambur, 1842) are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal and Rennell Island, with additional records from the Russell Islands (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database). According to the revision of the *P. microcephalum* species complex by Seehausen & Marinov (2026), the known range of *P. coarctatum* Lieftinck, 1932, a species previously recorded only from the Jayapura area and Lake Sentani in northeastern Indonesian West Papua, is extended to Sulawesi, the Moluccas, and the Solomon Islands. Accordingly, records from the Solomon Islands previously attributed to *P. microcephalum* are referable to *P. coarctatum*.

30. *Pseudagrion incisurum* Lieftinck, 1949 (Figs 47-48)

Material examined. Localities: 2 (3 ♂♂ on 19 April 2023; >30 individuals observed on 25 April 2023), 8 (11 ♂♂, 1 ♀; 2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ in copula on 23 April 2023), 11 (3 ♂♂ on 6 May 2023), 13 (1 ♂ collected; 10 individuals observed on 27 April 2023), 14 (7 ♂♂ on 29 April 2023), 15 (6 ♂♂; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ in copula on 28 April 2023), 19 (3 individuals observed on 1 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 20 to 250 m a.s.l., in association with permanent, fast-flowing rivers and streams across primary and disturbed lowland rainforest, as well as in more open landscapes. Adults were typically observed perching on the upper parts of vegetation (Fig. 48).

Copulation was observed in close proximity to water. At several sites, small groups of males (2–3 individuals) were observed guarding territories on exposed plant roots within the water (Fig. 47). In contrast to *Nososticta salomonis*, no oviposition behaviour was recorded on these root structures.

Distribution and remarks. The species has previously been recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with individuals collected by Y. Ogawes (2 ♂♂ on 11 October 2018) and Cynthia Houniuihi (2 ♂♂ on 11 October 2018). These specimens are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium.

Approximately 30 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from Choiseul Island, Santa Isabel Island, and Malaita Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.



Figure 47. *Pseudagrion incisurum* ♂ guarding territory on plant roots in the water (Locality 2).



Figure 48. Perching position of *Pseudagrion incisurum* tandem (image courtesy Milen Marinov).



Figure 49. *Teinobasis bradleyi* ♂ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).

31. *Teinobasis bradleyi* Kimmins, 1957 (Fig. 49)

Material examined. Localities: 8 (5 ♂♂ on 23 April 2023), 14 (2 ♂♂ on 29 April 2023), 19 (1 ♂ on 1 May 2023). First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 50 to 250 m a.s.l., in association with small (ca. 1–2 m width), permanent fast-flowing forest streams in primary lowland rainforest. Individuals were typically found in heavily shaded microhabitats.

In some cases, individuals were observed in sections where streams broadened and deepened, with reduced current velocity. Adults were usually observed perching on, or concealed beneath, green leaves (Fig. 49).

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 25 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, including Guadalcanal, Malaita Island, Santa Isabel Island, and Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.

32. *Teinobasis chionopleura* Lieftinck, 1987 (Figs 50–52)

Material examined. Localities: 23 (12 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ on 9 May 2023; 1 ♂ on 10 May 2023), 25 (6 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ on 10 May 2023), 28 (1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 12 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 10 to 250 m a.s.l., with higher abundances at lower elevations. All individuals were associated with small (ca. 1–3 m width), permanent, fast-flowing forest streams (Fig. 53) in wet coastal Pandanus rainforest (Fig. 54) and disturbed lowland rainforest, typically in shaded microhabitats.

Adults were observed perching on green leaves at heights of approximately 1–3 m above ground level. Copulating pairs were observed but not collected.

Distribution and remarks. The species was originally described based on three male specimens from the Nggela Islands (Lieftinck 1987). Subsequently, a single additional record has been reported from Santa Isabel Island (Polhemus et al. 2008). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.

Female description

Since the female of the species has not previously been described, a description is provided here. The description is based on a single specimen (specimen A); any variation observed among additional examined material is noted where relevant. All examined specimens are relatively well preserved, except for one specimen with a broken leg (retained in the same tube) and another with a broken antenna. Descriptions of the color pattern are based primarily on freshly preserved specimens; some features are additionally described from older material, in which the light greenish coloration of the face and the azure coloration of the face, thorax, and abdomen have partially faded.

Measurements (mm). Female: total body length (including appendages) 48; abdomen (S1–S10, including appendages) 40; forewing (Fw) 29.5; hindwing (Hw) 29. Pterostigma (Pt): Fw 1.0 (costal length), 1.6 (maximum length); Hw 1.0 (costal length), 1.6 (maximum length). Range in examined material: total body length 48–51; abdomen 40–44.

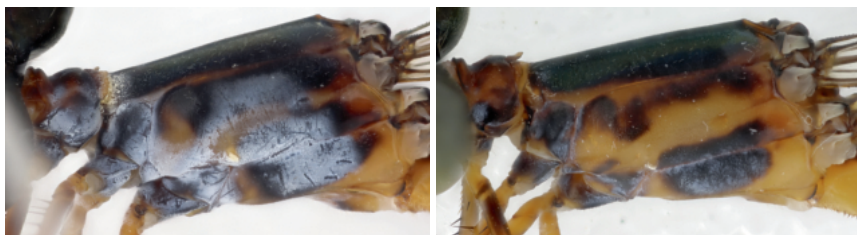


Figure 50. *Teinobasis chionopleura* ♀ prothorax and thorax (preserved specimens), lateral views: a) specimen A; b) specimen B.

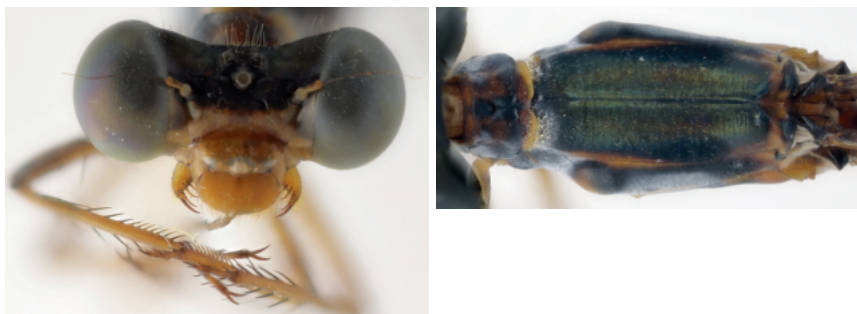


Figure 51. *Teinobasis chionopleura* ♀ (preserved specimen): a) head, frontal view; b) thorax, dorsal view.



Figure 52. *Teinobasis chionopleura* ♀ abdomen apex (preserved specimen): a) lateral view; b) dorsal view c) caudal view.

Head (Fig. 51). Labium yellow; mandibles yellow basally with deep red apices. Labrum rusty; anteclypeus rusty (darker than labrum) with three azure spots; postclypeus predominantly light brown with dark rusty margins. Frons and gena light greenish in live individuals; occiput

dark (almost black) with a greenish metallic sheen and weakly developed pruinosity between the antennae and ocelli. Antennae: scape dark brown with pale apex; pedicel dark rusty; flagellum dark brownish. Posterior part of head black.

Thorax (Figs. 50, 51). Prothorax distinctly bicoloured; the proportion between the dark brown areas (with a greenish metallic sheen) and the rusty-yellow areas varies among specimens. The description is based primarily on specimen A, which exhibits a greater extent of dark brown coloration than the other examined specimens. Dorsal median and ventral parts dark brown; pruinosity more pronounced laterally. Posterior margin produced into two elevated, bulging lobes, with the connecting margin appearing undulated; hind lobe margins bright yellow.

Pterothorax dark green with metallic sheen on mesepisternum, with narrow rusty areas along the mesopleural (humeral) suture and antealar sinus. Mesepimeron rusty with a dark longitudinal marking (interpleural stripe), varying in size and shape between specimens but generally covering most of the mesepimeron. Area along interpleural suture dark yellow with a thin azure stripe in the middle third. Metepisternum and metepimeron rusty (brighter than mesepimeron), with a smaller dark spot near the metapleural suture close to the coxa and a larger longitudinal marking along the suture; both markings variable in size and shape. Mesinfraepisternum dark. Posterior lower corner of metepimeron and metasternum with a weak azure spot. Pruinosity more pronounced on the anterior part of mesepisternum and across much of the lateral pterothorax.

Legs (Fig. 50). Coxae dark (almost black) with pruinosity; trochanters, femora, tibiae, and tarsi rusty, with outer surfaces of femora dark brown. The number of spines on the outer margins of femora and tibiae varies considerably (3–12, typically 6–7), both among specimens and between left and right legs of the same individual.

Wings. Forewings (Fw) and hindwings (Hw) hyaline; venation dark brown. Both wings with 2 antenodal crossveins (Ax). Fw with 16–17 postnodal crossveins (Px); Hw with 15–16 Px. Arculus slightly distal to Ax2. Discoidal cell in Fw simple, quadrilateral, distally widened. Three cells present between discoidal cell and subnodus. Pterostigma dark brown, with 5–6 cells distal, undivided. One row of cells between anal vein and hind margin of Hw. Fields between IR2–R3, R3–IR3, and IR3–R4 each with a single row of cells distally.

Abdomen (Fig. 52). S1 dorsally anterior brown, dorsally posterior dark green with metallic sheen; laterally and ventrally with weak azure marking. S2 rusty, with dark green metallic sheen ventrally. S3–S6 dark brown to black dorsally and pale brown to rusty ventrally; each segment lighter basally and darker apically. S7 dark brown to black dorsally and dark rusty ventrally, lighter basally and yellowish-white apically. S8 dark brown to black dorsally and dark rusty ventrally, basally darker and yellowish-white at segment apex. S9–S10, ovipositor, and stylus predominantly black. Anal appendages and apical part of stylus rusty; apical part of ovipositor yellowish-white.

33. *Teinobasis rufithorax* (Selys, 1877) (Fig. 55)

Material examined. Localities: 5 (2 ♂♂ on 22 April 2023; 1 ♂ on 5 May 2023), 17 (3 ♂♂, 1 ♀ on 30 April 2023), 20 (1 ♂, 4 ♀♀ on 1 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 30 to 350 m a.s.l., in association with small (ca. 1–2 m width) temporary



Figure 53. Habitat of *Teinobasis chionopleura*: permanent fast-flowing stream in wet coastal *Pandanus* rainforest (Locality 23).



Figure 54. Habitat of *Teinobasis chionopleura*: wet coastal *Pandanus* rainforest (Locality 23).

forest streams containing permanent pools within the stream bed, as well as in a small sago swamp. Stream habitats were located in primary lowland rainforest, whereas the sago swamp occurred within disturbed lowland rainforest.

Adults were typically observed perching on or beneath green leaves in shaded microhabitats (Fig. 55). Males were observed guarding small pools (ca. 1–3 m²) within partially dried stream beds (Fig. 37).

Distribution and remarks. More than 40 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from Rennell Island, Santa Isabel Island, Rendova Island, Gizo Island, and Shortland Islands (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).



Figure 55. *Teinobasis rufithorax* ♂ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).

-. *Teinobasis* sp. (Fig. 56)

Material examined. Localities: 8 (1 ♀ on 23 April 2023), 23 (1 ♂ on 10 May 2023).

Remarks. Two teneral individuals were collected and one additional teneral individual was observed and photographed in the field (Fig. 56). All individuals are attributable to the genus *Teinobasis*, but could not be identified to species level. Additional comparative material is required for reliable identification.



Figure 56. *Teinobasis* sp., teneral ♀ observed in the field (Locality 23).

34. *Xiphiagrion cyanomelas* Selys, 1876

Material examined. Localities: 3 (2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ in copula on 25 April 2023), 11 (2 ♂♂ on 6 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. All records were obtained at approximately 50 m a.s.l. The species was observed near an overgrown artificial pond at the Honiara Botanical Garden and along a fast-flowing river with a small tributary in a relatively open landscape.

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 20 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, primarily from Guadalcanal, with additional records from Rennell Island, Malaita Island, New Georgia, and Gizo Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026; Pacific Odonata database).

Family Isostictidae Fraser, 1955

35. *Cnemisticta latilobata* Donnelly, 1993



Material examined. Localities: 14 (2 ♂♂ on 29 April 2023), 26 (1 ♂ on 10 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 80 to 150 m a.s.l., in association with small (ca. 1–2 m width), permanent, fast-flowing forest streams in primary lowland rainforest. All individuals were observed in shaded microhabitats, typically hiding beneath green leaves close to the water surface (Figs. 57–58).

Distribution and remarks. The species was originally described from six individuals collected on Malaita Island, Guadalcanal, Gizo Island, and Bougainville Island (Donnelly 1993). Subsequently, only two additional records have been reported, from Santa Isabel Island and Choiseul Island (Polhemus et al. 2008). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.

Figure 57. Habitat of *Cnemisticta latilobata*: permanent, fast-flowing stream in primary lowland rainforest (Locality 14).



Figure 58. Habitat of *Cnemisticta latilobata*: permanent, fast-flowing stream in primary lowland rainforest (Locality 14).

Family Platystictidae Kennedy, 1920

36. *Lieftinckia isabellae* Lieftinck, 1987

Material examined. Locality 19: 2 ♂♂ on 1 May 2023. First record for Choiseul Island.

Habitat and field observations. The observation site is located at approximately 50 m a.s.l. Both individuals were recorded near a permanent, fast-flowing stream (ca. 1–2 m width) with numerous smaller tributaries (both permanent and temporary) in primary lowland rainforest. The stream sections were predominantly shaded (Fig. 60). Adults were observed hiding within vegetation close to the water in dark, shaded microhabitats.

Distribution and remarks. The species was originally described from three individuals collected on Santa Isabel Island (Lieftinck 1987), and no additional localities have been reported prior to the present study. The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.

37. *Lieftinckia lairdi* Lieftinck, 1963 (Fig. 59)

Material examined. Locality 26: 2 ♂♂ on 10 May 2023.

Habitat and field observations. The observation site is located at approximately 150 m a.s.l. Both individuals were recorded along a fast-flowing, shaded stream in primary lowland rainforest. Adults were observed hiding within vegetation near the stream in dark, shaded microhabitats (Fig. 59).

Distribution and remarks. Approximately 10 occurrence records are known for this species, all from Guadalcanal. The earliest record originates from Tapenanje, where the species was initially reported as *Lieftinckia* ? sp. (Kimmins 1957). Additional records were later included in the species description (Lieftinck 1963) and subsequent publications (Lieftinck 1987). Further records include a locality at Charebuma River (Lat: -9.5943, Lon: 160.1245), above the Gold Ridge mine (tributary of the Matepono River) (Polhemus et al. 2008), and several additional records reported by Marinov (2016). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.

38. *Lieftinckia ramosa* Lieftinck, 1987

Material examined. Localities: 15 (1 ♂ on 28 April 2023), 19 (1 ♂ on 1 May 2023).

Habitat and field observations. Both individuals were recorded near permanent, fast-flowing streams (ca. 1–2 m width) with numerous smaller tributaries (both permanent and



Figure 59. *Lieftinckia lairdi* ♂ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).



Figure 60. Habitat of *Lieftinckia isabellae* and *L. ramosa*: permanent, fast-flowing stream with numerous smaller tributaries (permanent and temporary) in primary lowland rainforest.

temporary) in primary lowland rainforest. Stream sections were predominantly shaded (Fig. 60). Adults were observed hiding within vegetation close to the water in dark, shaded microhabitats.

Distribution and remarks. The species was described from two individuals collected on Santa Isabel Island (San Jorge) and Bougainville Island (Lieftinck 1987). Subsequently, three additional localities were reported: two from Choiseul Island and one from Santa Isabel Island (Polhemus et al. 2008). The species is endemic to the Solomon Islands.

39. *Nososticta salomonis* (Selys, 1886) (Figs 61-62)

Material examined. Localities: 2 (8 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀ on 19 April 2023; >50 individuals observed and 6 ♂♂, 10 ♀♀ collected on 25 April 2023; 3 ♀♀ on 4 May 2023), 8 (2 ♂♂ on 23 April 2023), 11 (1 ♂ on 6 May 2023), 13 (4 ♂♂ collected and 20 individuals observed on 27 April 2023), 14 (6 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀ on 27 April 2023), 15 (14 ♂♂, 8 ♀♀ on 28 April 2023), 17 (1 ♀ on 30 April 2023), 19 (2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ on 1 May 2023), 26 (2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ on 10 May 2023). Copulating or tandem pairs were observed at most localities.

Habitat and field observations. The species was recorded at elevations ranging from approximately 50 to 250 m a.s.l., in association with permanent, fast-flowing rivers and streams (ca. 2–7 m width) in both primary and disturbed lowland rainforest. Only a single individual was observed in a more open landscape, near a stream.

Males (Fig. 61) and tandem pairs were typically observed in the immediate vicinity of water, whereas females were more frequently encountered at distances of approximately 5–10 m from the stream margins. Females (Fig. 62) are more likely to be observed further from the water. Oviposition was observed on exposed plant roots within the water. The number of ovipositing pairs varied among sites; in one instance, approximately 15 pairs were observed simultaneously ovipositing on a root “island” of ca. 1 m² (Fig. 63).



Figure 61. *Nososticta salomonis* ♂ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).



Figure 62. *Nososticta salomonis* ♀.



Figure 63. Oviposition site of *Nososticta salomonis*: root “island” on which approximately 15 pairs were observed ovipositing simultaneously (only three pairs visible in the image – the blue dots, which are the color of the male’s thorax; others were disturbed during photography).

Distribution and remarks. The species has previously been recorded from the Honiara Botanical Garden, with individuals collected by Y. Ogawes (2 ♂ on 9 October 2018; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 11 October 2018) and Cynthia Houniuihi (1 ♂ on 11 October 2018). These specimens are deposited in the Solomon Islands National Herbarium.

More than 110 occurrence records are known from the Solomon Islands archipelago, spanning all major islands from Nendö to Bougainville Island (Marinov & Pikacha 2013; GBIF 2026). However, according to a recent revision of the *Nososticta salomonis* complex (Theischinger et al. 2023), populations from Bougainville Island should be referred to *Nososticta hedigeri*.

40. *Salomocnemis gerdae* Lieftinck, 1987 (Fig. 64)

Material examined. Locality 26: 1 ♂, 1 ♀ on 10 May 2023.

Habitat and field observations. The observation site is located at approximately 150 m a.s.l. Both individuals were recorded along a fast-flowing, shaded stream in primary lowland rainforest. Adults (Fig. 64) were observed hiding beneath green leaves close to the water (Figs. 65–66).

Distribution and remarks. The species was originally described from three individuals collected at a single locality on Guadalcanal (Lieftinck 1987). Subsequently, only one additional record has been reported, also from Guadalcanal (Polhemus et al. 2008).

The first locality is reported at approximately 360 m a.s.l. (“1200 ft”) under the name “Komugelea”, which cannot be reliably matched to any currently recognised locality. A potentially corresponding place name is Komulevugha (Longgu area, Guadalcanal Province), situated near Simiu Bank and Mboko (<https://mapcarta.com/16560484>); however, this represents a relatively extensive lowland area, and the exact correspondence remains uncertain. According to data available in GBIF, this record has been georeferenced to the Paripao area (Lat: -9.5833 Lon: 160.3333).

The second known locality is situated at approximately 340 m a.s.l. (Lat: -9.5943 Lon: 160.1245), in the Charebuma River above the Gold Ridge mine (a tributary of the Matepono River).

Salomocnemis gerdae is endemic to the Solomon Islands.



Figure 64. *Salomocnemis gerdae* ♂ (image courtesy Milen Marinov).



Discussion

The 40 dragonfly species (and one undetermined zygopteran species) recorded during this study represent approximately 59% of the total number of species currently known from the Solomon Islands. Of these, five species (including *Anax insulanus*, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. A, *Hemicordulia* sp. nov. B, *Solomonargiolestes* sp. nov.) are newly recorded for Guadalcanal and the Solomon Archipelago (with the exception of *Gynacantha mocsaryi*, which is newly recorded for the country), and 11 species are newly recorded for Choiseul Island. These findings increase the total number of known dragonfly species in the Solomon Islands to 72 (excluding one undetermined zygopteran species). The expedition resulted in the recognition of four species new to science.

The findings of the previous study on *Anax insulanus* (Theischinger, Kalnins & Marinov 2024), together with the new

Figure 65–66. Habitat of *Salomocnemis gerdae*: permanent, fast-flowing stream (Locality 26).



data presented here, and records from Bougainville, New Georgia, Munda and Malaita (Theischinger & Richards 2026), expand the known distribution of this species and support the previously proposed hypothesis that it is endemic to the Solomon Archipelago. In contrast, *Anax guttatus* is here confirmed for the first time from the Solomon Islands, whereas *Anax gibbosulus* should be excluded from the fauna of both the Solomon Archipelago and the country.

The dragonfly fauna of the Solomon Islands is characterised by a high level of endemism. According to Polhemus et al. (2008), four genera and 28 species are endemic, corresponding to approximately 11% endemism at the generic level and 44% at the species level. With the inclusion of newly discovered taxa, the actual level of endemism is likely higher at both levels.

Polhemus et al. (2008) distinguished seven major areas of freshwater endemism within the Solomon Islands, with several additional subareas, based on the distribution of aquatic insects. Material collected in the present study originates from two of these regions: the Choiseul–Santa Isabel area of endemism (including the individual island subareas of Choiseul and Santa Isabel) and the Guadalcanal area of endemism. The discovery of *Lieftinckia isabellae* on Choiseul Island suggests that this species cannot be considered a reliable indicator for delimiting an endemic subarea. At the same time, species of the genus *Solomonargiolestes* can be regarded as potential indicator taxa for specific areas of endemism: *Solomonargiolestes* sp. nov. for the Guadalcanal area of endemism, *Solomonargiolestes bougainville* (Kalkman 2008) for the Bougainville and Shortland Islands area of endemism, and *Solomonargiolestes malaita* (Kalkman 2008) for the Malaita Island area of endemism.

Pantala flavescens is a species with a cosmopolitan distribution and has been characterised as a “very common species” on Guadalcanal (Marinov & Pikacha 2013). However, only slightly more than 20 occurrence records are available from the entire Solomon Islands archipelago (GBIF 2026), including records from Treasury Islands, New Georgia, Guadalcanal, and San Cristobal. The species has not been recorded from Bougainville Island. This discrepancy may be explained by sampling bias, as suggested by Marinov & Pikacha (2013), with common species often underreported. Additionally, the species typically occurs in open habitats and flies at relatively high altitudes (>5 m), making it difficult to detect or capture. A similar situation appears to apply to *Tramea liberata*, another large and conspicuous species.

Several taxa require further taxonomic investigation. The status of *Agrionoptera insignis similis* remains unresolved and has previously been discussed without a definitive conclusion (Marinov & Pikacha 2013).

Procordulia vaevalhalo was described as the only representative of the genus known from the Solomon Islands, with both the male and female described (Marinov, 2016). The original description includes photographic documentation; however, the available images are of only moderate quality. The description of the male does not mention the characters traditionally used to justify placement in the genus *Procordulia*, such as the acute anal angle of the hindwing and the auricles on abdominal segment 2 (S2). These characters have previously been regarded as the principal features distinguishing *Procordulia* from *Hemicordulia* (Michalski 2012; Orr & Kalkman 2015). Following the phylogenetic revision of Goodman et

al. (2025), *Procordulia* Martin, 1907 was synonymised with *Hemicordulia* Selys, 1870. Consequently, *Procordulia vaevalahalo* Marinov, 2016 should now be referred to as *Hemicordulia vaevalahalo* (Marinov, 2016).

The situation is more complex in *Rhyothemis variegata*. Michalski (2012) reports the subspecies *R. phyllis marginata* Ris, 1913 from the Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal and southwestern Bougainville) and the Bismarck Archipelago (Duke of York Islands). Records from the latter region may be associated with material collected on Mioko Island (Ris 1913b; Liefinck 1949). However, da Silva Pinto et al. (2020) questioned the validity of subspecies within this group, and recent molecular studies show that *R. phyllis* is a junior subjective synonym of *R. variegata*. The nominotypical subspecies has consequently been re-assigned as *R. variegata phyllis* comb. nov., whereas the status of the remaining former *R. phyllis* subspecies, including *R. phyllis marginata*, remains unresolved pending further study (Kosterin et al. 2025).

The present study did not include a detailed analysis of climatic data; however, observations by local residents indicate that small watercourses are drying more frequently and for longer periods. This trend may pose a significant threat to dragonfly species associated with such habitats.

A total of 29 days were spent on the expedition in the Solomon Islands. However, due to various logistical and situational constraints—including permit processing, illnesses of expedition participants, and limited transport availability—only 14 full days and an additional 4 partial days were devoted to fieldwork, resulting in a total of 16 effective fieldwork days (Fig. 69). These constraints should be taken into account when interpreting the results, as they directly influenced sampling intensity and spatial coverage.

The relationship between sampling effort and results can be expressed using several comparative indices:

- 41 species (taxa) / 29 expedition days = 1.4 species (taxa) per expedition day;
- 41 species (taxa) / 16 fieldwork days = 2.5 species (taxa) per fieldwork day;
- 210 records / 29 expedition days = 7.2 records per expedition day;
- 210 records / 16 fieldwork days = 13.1 records per fieldwork day.

When analysing the number of records, it is important to consider the methodology of data registration. In some cases, a single species recorded at a single locality on the same day may correspond to multiple database records. For example, in *Anax insulanus*, each specimen was registered separately to distinguish the holotype from paratypes and to document their respective repository locations. Similarly, individuals collected in copula, as well as collected individuals and observational records of the same species, were recorded as separate entries. Consequently, record counts do not directly correspond to the number of independent occurrence events.

Additional factors also influenced the effectiveness of species detection. Another expedition participant, an entomologist primarily engaged in beetle research, contributed significantly by reporting observations of dragonflies and providing preliminary identifications at the level of family, genus, or species group. This collaboration increased the number of species detected. Furthermore, the contribution of local knowledge was particularly important. A local guide, Mr. Francies Liumai, rapidly developed the ability

to recognise target organisms (both dragonflies and other invertebrates), detect them efficiently, and capture individuals without disturbance, thereby substantially improving sampling success compared to typical expedition conditions.

Not all observed dragonflies were collected or identified. Although the number of unidentified observations was relatively small, these records suggest the possible presence of additional taxa not documented in the present study. For example, at least five *Gynacantha*? individuals were observed at different sites, including forest interiors and forest edges near Barana village, particularly at dusk. A small (~5 cm) unidentified dragonfly was observed in a dried stream bed, flying rapidly a few centimetres above the water surface, possibly engaged in oviposition. Additional observations include a dragonfly flying together with *Pantala flavescens* at heights of approximately 5–15 m above a clearing in the Barana area, an *Anax* individual patrolling above the urban area of Taro, and a *Procordulia*? individual observed near Vavudu Streams on Choiseul Island, patrolling at approximately 1 m above the water surface. In several cases, unidentified Zygoptera individuals were also observed in forested stream habitats.

In discussions with local communities and officials, dragonflies (and other invertebrates) are generally perceived as common and non-threatened components of the natural environment. However, given their ecological roles and potential economic importance, several general recommendations for local-scale dragonfly conservation can be proposed:

- Preserve shaded riparian zones (protective buffer zones). Maintain or restore natural forest vegetation along stream margins, including large trees, which provide the microclimatic conditions and structural complexity required by stream-associated species. Further research is needed to determine optimal buffer widths; however, a preliminary recommendation is a zone of approximately 30 m on each bank of the stream.
- Prevent complete overgrowth of standing water bodies. Ensure that at least part of the water surface remains open, maintaining habitat heterogeneity and suitability for species associated with lentic environments.
- Enhance aquatic habitat availability where limited. In areas with few water bodies, the creation of additional standing or flowing water bodies may be beneficial, particularly if designed to include partial shading and natural vegetation.
- Promote research and citizen science. Encourage both scientific studies and public participation in biodiversity monitoring. With the increasing availability of mobile technologies, dragonflies can be photographed and observations recorded in biodiversity platforms such as iNaturalist. These platforms allow specialists to verify identifications while engaging a broader audience in data collection, thereby contributing to both scientific knowledge and public awareness.
- Increase local awareness of ecosystem services provided by dragonflies (Figs 67–68). Promote understanding of dragonflies as valuable natural resources. They contribute to the regulation of mosquito populations and associated diseases, and they have potential value in nature-based tourism. Importantly, dragonfly conservation is compatible with sustainable land use and does not require the exclusion of economic activities.



Figure 67. Lunch break during a field excursion near Sasamungga Village, Choiseul Island. Myknee Qusa Sirikolo (The Solomon Islands National Herbarium, Ministry of Forestry and Research) is in the foreground on the left, accompanied by local community members and children. One of the village elders is visible in the background (centre). On the right are Kristīne Greķe (Latvian National Museum of Natural History, Latvia) and Dmitry Telnov (Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom), participants of the expedition and fieldwork activities.



Figure 68. Members of the local community of Puatanarau Village, Marau area, who assisted the expedition during fieldwork and showed a strong interest in the research and its focal organisms. Peter Mane, the village chief, is standing first from the right, and Francis Liumai, local hunter and field guide, is third from the right.

Acknowledgements

I am greatly indebted to Dr. Dmitry Telnov (Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom) for initiating and inspiring this expedition, for his extensive organizational support ranging from permit arrangements to numerous practical matters during fieldwork, for drawing attention to dragonflies observed in the field, and for his valuable comments on the manuscript. I also sincerely thank Kristīne Greķe (Latvian National Museum of Natural History, Latvia) for her assistance during the expedition.

My sincere thanks to Zane Pīpkalēja (NGO "Zaļā upe" (Green River), Sigulda, Latvia) for her support in planning the expedition.

I am deeply indebted to Joseph Hurutarau, Veira Pulekera, Rose Babaua and their colleagues at the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (Honiara, Solomon Islands) for the friendly attitude, professional and prompt support of the 2023 multi-institutional expedition to the Solomon Islands, providing the research and export permits.

I am thankful to the local counterparts and guides Francies Liulai and Peter Mane (both Puatanarau, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands), Peter Besi (Barana, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands), Denver Newter (Honiara, Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands) and Myknee Qusa Sirikolo (The Solomon Islands National Herbarium, Ministry of Forestry & Research) for their assistance during the fieldwork in the country. I thank to all local people from Barana village (Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands), Sasamungga village (Choiseul, Solomon Islands), Taro village (Choiseul, Solomon Islands), Marau village (Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands) for the warm welcome and support.

The author sincerely thanks Martin Schorr (International Dragonfly Fund, Germany) and the "Arbeitskreis Libellen in der Hessischen Gesellschaft für Ornithologie und Naturschutz e.V." for financial support of the expedition; Milen Marinov (National Museum of Natural History, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria) for valuable comments on the manuscript, for providing access to the Pacific Odonata database, and for permission to use his field photographs of odonates; and Günther Theischinger (Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia) for assistance with the identification of several *Anax* specimens.



Figure 69. The author conducting fieldwork near Puatanarau Village, Marau area, Guadalcanal Island.

Thanks to Jason J. Dombroskie and Jacki Whisenant (Cornell University, USA) for the images from the insect collection.

This research partly supported by the International Dragonfly Fund and NGO “Zaļā upē” (Green River).

References

- Anderson, B. 2023. *Rhinocypha liberata*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/174437366>. Accessed on 2026-02-17.
- Bigonneau, R. 2022. Darkmouth *Brachydiplax duivenbodei*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/139612714>. Accessed on 2026-02-15.
- Bigonneau, R. 2023. Chalky Percher *Diplacodes trivialis*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/192978286>. Accessed on 2026-02-15.
- Chao, H. F. 1952. The external morphology of *Onychogomphus ardens* Needham. Smithsonian miscellaneous Collections, 122 (6): 1–56.
- Corbet, P.S. 1999. Dragonflies: Behaviour and Ecology of Odonata. Colchester: Harley Books, 829 pp.
- Córdoba-Aguilar, A. (Ed.) 2008. Dragonflies and Damselflies: Model Organisms for Ecological and Evolutionary Research. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 304 pp.
- Dombroskie, J. 2024. Cornell University Insect Collection (CUIC). Version 1.2. Cornell University Insect Collection (CUIC). Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/w9b6ap> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/4998687799>
- Donnelly, T. W. 1987. Return to the South Pacific - collections in Fiji, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands, 1987. Selysia 16(2): 4.
- Endersby, I.D. 2012. Etymology of the dragonflies (Insecta: Odonata) named by R.J. Tillyard, F.R.S. Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales 134: 1-16.
- Förster, F. 1898. Odonaten aus Neu-Guinea. Természetrájsi Füzetek XXI: 272-302.
- Fraser, M.F.C. 1925. A preliminary report on the dragonflies of Samoa. Transactions of the Entomological Society London: 429-438.
- Gassmann, D. & Richards, S. J., 2011. Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) of the Nakanai Mountains, East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea. In: Richards, S. J. & Gamui, B. G.: Rapid Biological Assessments of the Nakanai Mountains and the Upper Strickland Basin. Surveying the biodiversity of Papua New Guinea's sublime karst environments. RAP Bulletin of Biological Assessment 60. Conservation International, Arlington.
- Garrison, R.W., von Ellenrieder, N. & Louton, J.L. 2006. Dragonfly Genera of the New World. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore.
- GBIF. 2026. GBIF.org (13 February 2026) GBIF Occurrence Download <https://doi.org/10.15468/dl.nbfdy4>
- GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. 2026a. *Agriocnemis salomonis* Lieftinck, 1949 in GBIF Secretariat (2023).. <https://www.gbif.org/species/1423185> GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. Checklist dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/39omei> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-17.

- GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. 2026b. *Agrionoptera insignis* subsp. *similis* Selys, 1879 in GBIF Secretariat (2023). <https://www.gbif.org/species/6134062> GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. Checklist dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/39omei> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-15.
- GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. 2026c. *Lathrecista asiatica* subsp. *festa* (Selys, 1879) in GBIF Secretariat (2023). <https://www.gbif.org/species/6242709> GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. Checklist dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/39omei> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-16.
- GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. 2026d. *Rhyothemis phyllis* subsp. *marginata* Ris, 1913 in GBIF Secretariat (2023). <https://www.gbif.org/species/6242582> GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. Checklist dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/39omei> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-16.
- Goodman, A., Abbott, J. C., Bybee, S., Ehlert, J., Frandsen, P. B., Guralnick, R., Kalkman, V., Newton, L., Pinto, Â. P. & Ware, J. L. 2025. Systematic and taxonomic revision of emerald and tigertail dragonflies (Anisoptera: Synthemistidae and Corduliidae). *Systematic Entomology*, 2025(e70000). <https://doi.org/10.1111/syen.70000>
- iNaturalist. 2026. Available from <https://www.inaturalist.org>. Accessed on 2026-02-15.
- iNaturalist contributors, iNaturalist. 2026a. iNaturalist Research-grade Observations. iNaturalist.org. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/ab3s5x> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-15. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/5892409479>
- iNaturalist contributors, iNaturalist. 2026b. iNaturalist Research-grade Observations. iNaturalist.org. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/ab3s5x> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-15. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/6131530683>
- Kim, H. 2025. Darkmouth *Brachydiplax duivenbodei*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/334784349>. Accessed on 2026-02-15.
- Kimmins, D. E. 1957. Odonata collected by Mr. J. D. Bradley on Guadalcanal Island, 1953-54. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History), Entomology Series* 5(8): 309-320.
- Kimmins, D. E. 1959. 16. Odonata, Neuroptera and Trichoptera. In: Wolf, T. (ed.). *The natural history of Rennell Islands, British Solomon Islands*, Copenhagen 2: 67-70.
- Kirby, W. F. 1889. A revision of the subfamily Libellulinae, with descriptions of new genera and species. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London* 12(9): 249-348.
- Kosterin, O. E., Vshitseva, E. I. & Blinov, A. G. 2025. What was known as *Rhyothemis variegata* (Linnaeus, 1763) and *R. phyllis* (Sulzer, 1776) (Odonata, Libellulidae) are the same species. *Zootaxa* 5725(4): 567-582. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5725.4.7>
- Lieftinck, M. A. 1949a. The dragonflies (Odonata) of New Guinea and neighbouring islands. Part VII. Results of the Third Archbold Expedition 1938-1939 and of the Le Roux Expedition 1939 to Netherlands New Guinea (II. Zygoptera). *Nova Guinea (N.S.)* 5: 1-271.
- Lieftinck, M. A. 1949b. Synopsis of the Odonate fauna of the Bismarck Archipelago and the Solomon Islands. *Treubia* 20: 319-374.
- Lieftinck, M. A. 1987. New and little known Platycnemididae and Coenagrionidae from New Guinea and the Solomon Islands (Odonata). *Tijdschrift voor Entomologie* 129: 263-291.

- Lieftinck, M. A. 1963. Contributions to the odonate fauna of the Solomon Islands with notes on zygoterous larvae. *Nova Guinea (Zoology)* 21: 523-542, pl. 26.
- Maynard, A. 2018. Australasian Slimwing *Lathrecista asiatica* ssp. *festu*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/256610176>. Accessed on 2026-02-16.
- Marinov, M. & Theischinger, G. 2012. Description of two new aeshnids from Solomon Islands (Anisoptera: Aeshnidae). *International Dragonfly Fund-Report* 53: 1-8.
- Marinov, M. & Pikacha, P. 2013. On a dragonfly collection from the Solomon Islands with overview of fauna from this Pacific archipelago (Insecta: Odonata). *Faunistic Studies in South-East Asian and Pacific Island Odonata* 4: 1-48.
- Marinov, M. 2016. A contribution to the dragonfly fauna of Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands (Insecta: Odonata) with description of two new species. *Faunistic Studies in South-East Asian and Pacific Island Odonata* 17: 1-34.
- Michalski, J. 2012. A Manual for the Identification of the Dragonflies & Damselflies of New Guinea, Maluku and the Solomon Islands. Morristown, New Jersey, USA, Kanduanum Books: 561 pp.
- Natural History Museum. 2026. Natural History Museum (London) Collection Specimens. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.5519/qd.mmzxfkp> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-02-15. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/2350457396>
- Oertli, B. 2008. The use of dragonflies in the assessment and monitoring of aquatic habitats. In: Córdoba-Aguilar, A. (Ed.), *Dragonflies and Damselflies: Model Organisms for Ecological and Evolutionary Research*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 79-96.
- Orr, A. G. & Kalkman, V. 2015. Field Guide to the dragonflies of New Guinea. *Brachytron* 17 Supplement 3: 1-156.
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026a. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1317630030>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026b. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1319229613>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026c. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1321002598>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026d. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1317234973>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026e. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1317715225>

- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026f. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1317948127>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026g. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1317282016>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026h. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1319271093>
- Orrell, T. Informatics and Data Science Center - Digital Stewardship 2026i. NMNH Extant Specimen Records (USNM, US). Version 1.104. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/hnhrg3> accessed via GBIF.org on 2026-01-17. <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/1321121639>
- Paulson, D., Schorr, M., Abbott, J., Bota-Sierra, C., Deliry, C., Dijkstra, K.-D. & Lozano, F. (Coordinators). 2026. World Odonata List. OdonataCentral, University of Alabama. Available at: <https://www.odonatacentral.org/app/#/wol/>. (Accessed: 01/30/2026).
- Paxton, E. 2021. Green Skimmer *Orthetrum serapia*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/285091699>. Accessed on 2026-02-16.
- Paxton, E. 2023. Green Skimmer *Orthetrum serapia*. iNaturalist observation: <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/175978581>. Accessed on 2026-02-16.
- Polhemus, D. A., Englund, R. A., Allen, G. R., Boseto, D. & Polhemus, J. T. 2008. Freshwater biotas of the Solomon Islands analysis of richness, endemism, and threats. Bishop Museum Technical Report 45: 126 pp.
- Priyadarshana, T.S. & Slade, E.M. 2023. Dragonflies and damselflies as biological control agents of mosquitoes: a global meta-analysis. *Journal of Animal Ecology*, 92: 1705-1718. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2656.13965>
- Ris, F. 1909-1919. Collections Zoologiques du Baron Edm. de Selys Longchamps, Catalogue Systematique et descriptif. Libellulinen monographisch bearbeitet. Vol. 1, Fascicule IX (1909): 1-120, Fascicule X (1910): 121-244, Fascicule XI (1910): 245-384; Vol. 2, Fascicule XII (1911): 385-528, Fascicule XIII (1911): 529-700, Fascicule XIV (1912): 701-830; Vol. 3 Fascicule XV (1913): 837-964, Fascicule XVI, part 1(1913): 965-1042, Fascicule XVI, part 2(1919): 1043-1278.
- da Silva Pinto, R. M., Lopes, J. P., Trainor, C. R. & Seehausen, M. 2020. New records of Odonata from the eastern Lesser Sunda Islands of Timor, Semau, Rote, and Alor, with discovery of *Hemicordulia eduardi* (Odonata: Corduliidae). *Faunistic Studies in South-East Asian and Pacific Island Odonata*, 33: 1-60.
- Seehausen, M. & Marinov, M. 2026. *Pseudagrion microcephalum* (Rambur, 1842) - shifting through a putative familiar species, with erection of two new species (Odonata: Coenagrionidae). *Zootaxa* 5810(1): 1-48. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5810.1.1>

- Theischinger, G., Mitchell, A., Richards, S. J. & Polhemus, D. A. 2023. Systematics of the *Nososticta salomonis* complex (Odonata: Zygoptera: Platycnemididae). *Zootaxa* 5296(2): 101-146. <http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5296.2.1>
- Theischinger, G., Marinov, M., Bybee, S., Jensen, C., Theuerkauf, J. & Rashni, B. 2020. The genus *Gynacantha* Rambur, 1842 in the South Pacific (Odonata: Anisoptera: Aeshnidae). *Zootaxa* 4778(1): 171-195. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4778.1.7>
- Theischinger, G., Kalnins, M. & Marinov, M. 2024. Two new species of *Anax* Leach, 1815 from the Solomon Islands and Tonga (Odonata: Aeshnidae). *Zootaxa* 5519(2): 215-242. <https://doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.5519.2.3>
- Theischinger, G. & Richards S. 2026. A surprising new species of *Anax* Leach in Brewster, 1815, from Papua New Guinea (Odonata: Aeshnidae). *Odonatologica* 55(1/2): 129-143. DOI:10.60024/odon.v55i1-2.a7
- Tillyard, R. 1910. On some remarkable Australian Libellulinae. Part III. Further notes on *Camacinia othello* Tillyard. The Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales 35(4): 859-861.

INSTRUCTION TO AUTHORS

Faunistic studies of South-East Asian and Pacific islands Odonata is a journal of the International Dragonfly Fund (IDF). It is referred to as the journal in the remainder of these instructions. Transfer of copyright to IDF is considered to have taken place implicitly once a paper has been published in the journal.

The journal publishes original papers only. By original is meant papers that: a) have not been published elsewhere before, and b) the scientific results of the paper have not been published in their entirety under a different title and/or with different wording elsewhere. The republishing of any part of a paper published in the journal must be negotiated with the Editorial Board and can only proceed after mutual agreement.

Papers reporting studies financially supported by the IDF will be reviewed with priority, however, authors working with Odonata from the focal area (as defined on the back page of the front cover) are encouraged to submit their manuscripts even if they have not received any funds from IDF.

Manuscripts submitted to the journal should preferably be in English; alternatively German or French will also be accepted. Every manuscript should be checked by a native speaker of the language in which it is written; if it is not possible for the authors to arrange this, they must inform the Editorial Board on submission of the paper. Authors are encouraged, if possible, to include a version of the abstract in the primary language of the country in which their study was made.

Authors can choose the best way for them to submit their manuscripts between these options: a) via e-mail to the publisher, or b) on a CD, DVD or any other IBM-compatible device. Manuscripts should be prepared in Microsoft Word for Windows. While preparing the manuscript authors should consider that, although the journal gives some freedom in the style and arrangements of the sections, the editors would like to see the following clearly defined sections: Title (with authors names, physical and e-mail addresses), Abstract, Introduction, Material & Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments and References. This is a widely used scheme by scientists that everyone should be familiar with. No further instructions are given here, but every author should check the style of the journal.

Authors are advised to avoid any formatting of the text. The manuscripts will be stylised according to the font type and size adopted by the journal. However, check for: a) all species names must be given in italic, b) the authority and year of publication are required on the first appearance of a species name in the text, but not thereafter, and c) citations and reference list must be arranged following the format below.

Reference cited in the text should read as follows: Tillyard (1924), (Tillyard 1924), Swezey & Williams (1942).

The reference list should be prepared according to the following standard:

Swezey, O. & F. Williams, 1942. Dragonflies of Guam. Bernice P. Bishop Museum Bulletin 172: 3-6.

Tillyard, R., 1924. The dragonflies (Order Odonata) of Fiji, with special reference to a collection made by Mr. H.W. Simmonds, F.E.S., on the Island of Viti Levu. Transactions of the Entomological Society London 1923 III-IV: 305-346.

Citations of internet sources should include the date of access.

The manuscript should end with a list of captions to the figures and tables. The latter should be submitted separately from the text preferably as graphics made using one of the Microsoft Office products or as a high resolution picture saved as a .jpg .tif or .ps file. Pictures should be at least 11 cm wide and with a minimum 300 dpi resolution, better 360 dpi. Line drawings and graphics could have 1200 dpi for better details. If you compose many pictures to one figure, please submit the original files as well. Please leave some space in the upper left corner of each picture, to insert a letter (a, b, c...) later. Hand-made drawings should be scanned and submitted electronically. Printed figures sent by the post could be damaged, in which case authors will be asked to resubmit them.

Manuscripts not arranged according to these instructions may also be accepted, but in that case their publication will be delayed until the journal's standards are achieved.

