



# Dragonflies & Damselflies of the Garden

A brief guide to the commonly found species



### Brown Hawker (male)



**Females:** same **Similar species:** Norfolk Hawker (green eyes, localised in east England).

### Emperor (male)



**Females:** green with brown stripe. **Similar species:** Lesser Emperor (rare migrant)

### Migrant Hawker (male)



**Females:** similar with yellow spots and green band. **Similar species:** Hairy Dragonfly, Common and Southern Hawker.

### Southern Hawker (male)



**Females:** similar with green markings on a brown body. **Similar species:** Hairy Dragonfly, Common and Migrant Hawker.

### Four-spotted Chaser (male)



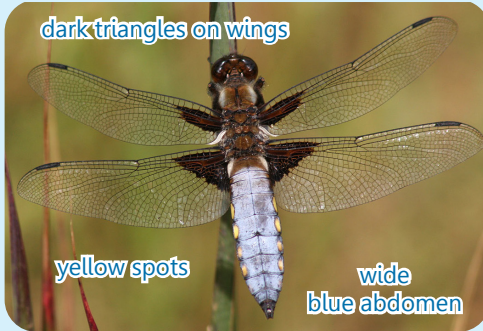
**Females:** same. **Similar species:** none

### Common Darter (male)



**Females:** yellow body, orange-grey with age. **Similar species:** Ruddy Darter

## Broad-bodied Chaser (male)



**Females:** yellow-brown body **Similar species:** Scarce Chaser

## Large Red Damselfly (male)



**Females:** similar, some gold markings.  
**Similar species:** Small Red Damselfly (rare on heath, with bright red legs).

## Common Blue Damselfly (male)



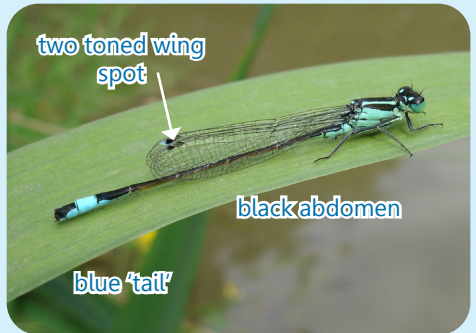
**Female:** similar, can be green and black  
**Similar species:** Variable Damselfly and several others

## Black-tailed Skimmer (male)



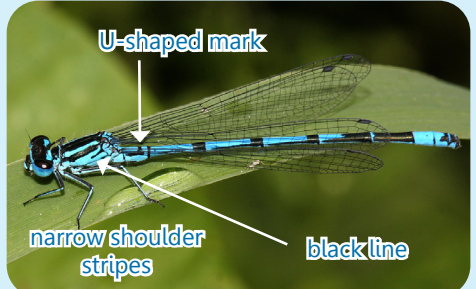
**Females:** yellow with 2 broad black lines. **Similar species:** Keeled Skimmer

## Blue-tailed Damselfly (male)



**Females:** similar with various thorax and 'tail' colours. **Similar species:** Red-eyed Damselfly, Scarce Blue-tail Damselfly (rare).

## Azure Damselfly (male)



**Females:** similar, can be green and black. **Similar species:** Variable Damselfly and several others

## Emerald Damselfly (male)



**Females:** similar with brown rather than blue markings **Similar species:** Scarce, Southern and Willow Emerald Damselfly (all less frequent)

## Willow Emerald Damselfly (male)



**Females:** same. **Similar species:** Scarce, Southern and Emerald Damselfly (possible confusion with immatures and between females)

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**The British Dragonfly Society welcomes all sightings and records of dragonflies.** We run the national dragonfly recording network, Dragonflywatch, which allows all recorders to improve their identification skills and climb the recording ladder. More details on how to record dragonflies can be found on our website.

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# The British Dragonfly Society

working to conserve dragonflies and their  
wetland habitats

[www.british-dragonflies.org.uk](http://www.british-dragonflies.org.uk)

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