

Uganda Dragonflies 2023

Dragonflies predate the dinosaurs. With each wing operating independently, they are incredible fliers in all directions. They can catch and eat their body weight in insects daily. Unfortunately, a recent guide for East Africa by Dijkstra was not available to me, but I did find useful postings in iNaturalist and a PDF for Lake Victoria species (*Damselflies and Dragonflies of Mabamba Bay and other sites of Lake Victoria, Uganda; Simalika & Diedericks*). Peak season appears to be Nov-Dec and we did not spend much time around waterholes, but below are a handful of species I or Randy was able to photograph during a Wild Latitudes trip to southern Uganda in February of 2023. *Dennis Deck*

Dragonflies



Red Basker (*Urothemis assignata*) F



Red Basker (*Urothemis assignata*) F (Randy Countryman)



**Southern Banded Groundling
(*Brachythemis leucosticta*) F**



**Southern Banded Groundling
(*Brachythemis leucosticta*) M (Randy Countryman)**



Violet Dropwing (*Trimethis annulata*) F



Gomphidae sp. M



F



Gomphidae sp. M



M

Skylight Flutterer (*Rhyothemis fenestrina*)



Julia Skimmer (*Orthetrum julia*)



Blue Marsh Hawk (*Orethrum glaucum*) or
Black-lined Skimmer (*Orethrum cancellatum*)

Damselflies



Skimmer sp. (*Orthetrum* sp.)



Sprite sp. (*Pseudodagrion* sp.) F ?