



Dragonflies at KAUST

The species shown in this presentation are found in the KAUST area according to the Annotated Checklist of Dragonflies of Saudi Arabia, compiled by W. Schneider and F. Krupp.

To date, just 4 species have been recorded at KAUST. There maybe a number of reasons for this. Firstly it reflects a lack of observers as much as a lack of dragonflies, and also the difficulty of positively identifying a species, even with good photographic records. Dragonflies are also usually associated with water and the lack of suitable habitats at KAUST means many species will not occur here.

The pools at the golf course are the most reliable to find them.

Please forward any sightings you make.

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Most photographs are taken from Shutterstock

Dragonfly or a damselfly?

Both dragonflies and damselflies belong to the Odonata, which is a subgroup of insects. The easiest way to differentiate between the two is by observing them at rest. A dragonfly holds its wings out flat whilst the damselfly folds its wings along the body. The body of a damselfly is also slimmer than a dragonfly.



Sub-order - Zygoptera
Family - Coenagrionidae
Scientific name-Ischnura evansi
Common name- Desert Bluetail



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Aeshnidae
Scientific name- Anax speratus
Common name- Orange Emperor



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Aeshnidae
Scientific name- *Hemianax ephippiger*
Common name- Vagrant Emperor



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Orthetrum anceps
Common name- (a freshwater species)



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Orthetrum chrysostigma
Common name- Epaulet Skimmer



unrecorded at KAUST



Sub-order -
Family -
Scientific name- *Orthetrum sabina*
Common name- Green Marsh Hawk or Slender Skimmer



recorded near KAUST
at Wadi Haqqaq
31 October 2017



Sub-order -
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- orthetrum taeniolatum
Common name- Small Skimmer



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Orthetrum trincaria
Common name- Long Skimmer



Recorded at the
Safaa Golf Club
11, August 2018

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Crocothemis erythraea
Common name- Scarlet Darter

Recorded at the
Safaa Golf Course
9 April 2017.



Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- *Sympetrum decoloratum*
Common name- Desert Darter



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- *Sympetrum fonscolombii*
Common name- Red-veined Darter (Nomad)



Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Trithemis annulata
Common name- Violet Dropwing

Recorded at the
Safaa Golf Club
31 October 2017.



Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Trithemis arteriosa
Common name- Red-veined Dropwing



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- Trithemis kirby
Common name- Orange-winged Dropwing



Recorded at the
Safaa Golf Course
31 October 2017.

Sub-order - Anisoptera

Family - Libellulidae

Scientific name- Pantala flavescens

Common names- Globe Skimmer, (Wanderer) or Wandering Glider



unrecorded at KAUST

Sub-order - Anisoptera
Family - Libellulidae
Scientific name- *Zygornis torridus*
Common name- Ringed Cascader



unrecorded at KAUST