

Species *Pantala hymenaea* - Spot-winged Glider

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Classification

Kingdom Animalia (Animals)
 Phylum Arthropoda (Arthropods)
 Subphylum Hexapoda (Hexapods)
 Class Insecta (Insects)
 Order Odonata (Dragonflies and Damselflies)
 Suborder Anisoptera (Dragonflies)
 Family Libellulidae (Skimmers)
 Genus *Pantala* (Rainpool Gliders)
 Species *hymenaea* (Spot-winged Glider)

Size

43-51 mm length

Identification

Similar to Rainpool Glider, but abdomen mottled gray-brown, more tapered. Round spot at base of hindwings is characteristic but may be difficult to see.

Flies almost continuously, but does perch sometimes, vertically on twigs of trees, bushes.

Range

Much of North America, also Antilles, Central and South America, Galapagos. Ranges northward into Canada earlier in year than Wandering Glider. (A generational migrant--spring generations fly north, late summer and fall generations fly south.)

Habitat

Open areas with temporary ponds, including brackish waters.

Season

All year in southern United States, e.g., Texas, Florida. Late spring to fall in central areas. June-August in Canada.

Food

Predatory on other insects.

Life Cycle

Larval development is rapid--may be as short as five weeks.

See Also

Wandering Glider
