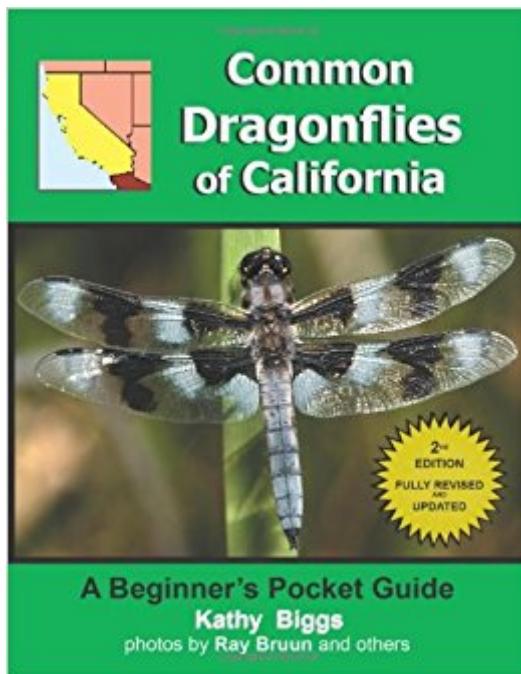


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# Common Dragonflies Of California



## Synopsis

This revised, updated and expanded version of the 2000 first edition covers 100 California species of dragonflies and damselflies. 200 all NEW LARGE full-color photographs of males, smaller images of most females. Additional new black & white line drawings illustrate the dragonfly life cycle, etc. Includes descriptions of males, females, habitat, flight periods and distribution. Checklist of ALL 113 CA species included. Companion website shows more photos, descriptions, & has links to up-to-date geographic distribution maps.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Once again, Kathy Biggs has managed to pack an enormous amount of dragonfly information into an extremely compact format. --Rick Bailowitz, Author 70 Common Butterflies of the Southwest

Common Dragonflies of California is great! It fills the niche in California Wildlife field-guides that was begging to be occupied! The color balance is dead-on reality. With its petite dimensions and light weight, it should ride in the pocket or backpack of every naturalist, hiker and biker in the state from May through September. --Rich Stallcup, PRBO CA, author Pelagic Birds of Monterey Bay

Common Dragonflies of California is an uncommon book. Full of sound advice and chock full of excellent color photos, this book will be of great interest to any California nature lover. I am the kind of person who loves to know the name of every tree, shrub, flower, reptile, bird and fish that I see. Now that I have this little jewel, I'm going to learn how to identify the dragonflies too. The more we learn about nature, the more enjoyment we get from it. I highly recommend this fine book! I

expect it would make a great present too, for the right person. --Tom Ogren, author of Allergy-Free Gardening

The ONLY guide for CA's dragonflies. Now in it's 2nd printing, this 96 page pocket guide shows you how to identify all the common dragonflies found in California and is also quite useful in all the western states. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I bought the 1st edition of this book when it came out years ago, and corresponded with Kathy, and I was so appreciative of her efforts. And now this second edition is such an improvement over what I thought then was just about perfect. The photos in this edition are orders of magnitude sharper and more beautiful, and just sitting down and reading this compact jewel makes me feel like I'm viewing a gorgeous work of art! I have other dragonfly books, including two on California/West Coast dragonflies, but this particular book is the one I've ordered extra copies of. For \$9.95, assuming you live in California (or nearby?), this will serve you extraordinarily well, both as a work of dragonfly art & wonderment, and as a handy and accurate field guide when you go for a hike or other outdoor exploration. In fact, this book makes me very much want to put a fountain or small pond or other water feature, on our property here in northern California.

I have used the book constantly for the past six months. It's a good reference especially since Kathy Biggs lives locally (one of the photographers, Chris Healvlin, and I have met several times at the same pond), and that is the best thing about the book insofar as most of the dragonflies are "commoner" to us Northern Californians. It's odd that dragonflies and damselflies can often be found in very small locations. For example, Dennis Paulson's "Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West" is a bit of a waste if you're never going to leave California. "The West" it turns out is 85 percent outside of California. In fact, much of the territory covered would be from Texas to the Mississippi. I've just ordered the newer edition of Kathy's book because it's still the quickest and best reference for novices like me. I'm very much at the red, blue, black, and bronze stage of classification. The book is 4 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches, a bit large for the average pocket. I'm sure this was done to allow for larger photographs which can be used for identification. However, since my pond hopping is done within walking distance of my home, and I don't have a camera bag, I don't usually use it until I come home and download my photos. However, that's not all that bad: I can't see the nuances between a Flame Skimmer and Cardinal in the field (or muck if you prefer) the way these pros can. One last point in favor of the book is that damselflies are covered in the book even though they're not in the

title. The reason has been explained to me, but reiterating would make this a much longer review when what I really want to reiterate is that this is the best novice guide to damselflies and dragonflies of California.

Great Product!

Not complete but I've not yet photographed a dragonfly or damsel fly in California that's not in it. Excellent photos and helpful text and index. Fairly easy to use, gets easier as you learn the different dragonfly groups. Convenient pocket size to fit in a pocket and well constructed with plastic coated pages for use out in the field, even during rain.

Amazing little book which I found very useful on my fall trip to Yosemite. Hoping to go again next year.

This book is beautiful. The glossy color photos are clear and gorgeous. It's introductory information is perfect for beginners like me. I'm looking forward to getting better acquainted with these amazing insects. I had no idea there were so many!

terrific book with good pictures

Beginner here loving this book. Great photos and a website to accompany are very helpful. Small pocket size, yet still has font big enough to not need the 2.5 reading glasses. Highly recommend this book!!

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