

ABSTRACTS OF THE ODONATE PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE XLVIII CONVEGNO DELL'UNIONE ZOOLOGICA ITALIANA / VII CONVEGNO DELLA SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI ETOLOGIA, Firenze, Italy, March 3-7, 1981

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REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOUR OF *LESTES BARBARUS* (FABR.) AND *L. VI-RENS* (CHARP.) AT A TEMPORARY POND (ZYGOPTERA: LESTIDAE)

The reproductive behaviour of the two species was studied at a temporary pond in Central Italy by means of field observation and photography. Tandem formation, intra-male sperm translocation, copulation and oviposition were analysed and timed. The behavioural patterns are similar in the two species, but *virens* seems to be more active than *barbarus*. The ratio, duration of actual oviposition : duration of total oviposition, is higher in the former species.

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OBSERVATIONS ON THE OVIPOSITION OF *AESHNA AFFINIS* (VANDER L.) AT A DRIED UP POND (ANISOPTERA:

AESHNIDAE)

Oviposition in dry substrates was recorded at various ponds in Central Italy, and a breeding population of this species was studied in August, 1980. The following behavioural aspects could be observed: tandem seizure, sperm transfer (always after tandem formation!), copulation and oviposition. Oviposition was performed either in tandem or by unaccompanied females, and took place exclusively into holes dug by wild boars in the bottom of the pond. The guarding function of the male in tandem is apparent: the ovipositing tandems could not be approached by the observers, while the females ovipositing alone could be always easily caught by hand.

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