

A NOTE ON TERMITE CONSUMPTION BY
PANTALA FLAVESCENS (FABR.) (ANISOPTERA:
LIBELLULIDAE)

During the course of swarming, termites often give a big toll to various predators. As far as the dragonflies are concerned, *P. flavescens* was reported to predate at Dehra Dun, India, on the swarming adults of *Odontotermes assmuthi*, *O. feae*, *O. obesus* and *O. parvidens* (P.K. SEN-SARMA, 1974, in: M.S. Mani, [Ed.], *Ecology and biogeography of India*, pp. 421-472, Junk, The Hague).

During 6 May through 25 July, 1980, again at Dehra Dun, this species has been seen feeding on the swarming alates of a non-identified termite species. The subsequent dissection of several specimens of both sexes revealed the remains of undigested and half-digested termite mandibles, pertaining, on average, to 25 white-ant individuals per dragonfly.

On May 21, 1980, an adult male of *Anax immaculifrons* was seen hovering in a termite swarm, and on June 9, 1980, a female *Gynacantha hyalina* was noticed perched on a lighted electric pole, around which the termites were flying. However, no actual feeding upon the termites could be ascertained.

B. K. Tyagi, Editorial Office of *Indian Odonatology*, D-4, Saraswati Nagar, Jodhpur-342005, India