NEUROCORDULIA XANTHOSOMA (WLLMSN) FROM NEW MEXICO, A SIGNIFICANT RANGE EXTENSION (ANISOPTERA: CORDULIIDAE)

On June 17, 1967 I collected a male specimen pertaining to this species along the Black River, Eddy Co., New Mexico. The locality is along New Mexico State Route No. 396, approximately 13 km (8 mi) W of Malaga (S of Carlsbad), latitude 31°11′ N, longitude 104°15′ W, approximate elevation 915 m (3000°). The dragonfly was collected near dusk as it hunted over a road about 100 m south of the Black River. The sky was cloudy. Earlier in the afternoon the weather was dominated by high winds and heavy rains.

C.F.BYERS (1937, Misc. Publs Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich. 36: 1-36) reported N. xanthosoma (as Platycordulia) from Oklahoma and Kansas. J.G. NEEDHAM & M.J. WESTFALL, Jr. (1955, A manual of the dragonflies of North America (Anisoptera), including the Greater Antilles and the provinces of the Mexican border. Univ.

California Press, Berkeley & Los Angeles) added Texas to the distribution of the species. Recently C.E. WILLIAMS (1976, Great Lakes Ent. 9: 63-73), in an excellent biological account of the species, reported it from several localities near Waco, Mc. Lennan Co., Texas. In a recent letter Williams stated (Aug. 18, 1977) that he has since collected one specimen in San Saba Co., Texas. This is approximately 130 km (80 mi) W of Waco.

The Black River, New Mexico locality is approximately 745 km (460 mi) W of WILLIAMS (1976) western extension of the species and approximately 612 km (380 mi) W of his recent unpublished collection record. This appears to be a significant range extension for N. xanthosoma far to the west of its previously known distribution.

The voucher specimen is located in the collection of the author for eventual deposition in the Museum of Natural History, College of Idaho, Caldwell, United States.

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