

TRAMEA LACERATA (HAG.) NEW TO BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA, WITH NOTES ON ITS STATUS IN THE NORTHWESTERN UNITED STATES (ANISOPTERA: LIBELLULIDAE)

The summer of 1996 saw an unprecedented rash of records of *Tramea lacerata* (Hagen) in coastal Washington State, U.S.A. and southern Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada. The British Columbia records are the first for the province, although a previously unreported male specimen from the Victoria area (Saanich, Swan Lake, 22-VI-1995, T. Clarke [Clarke Collection]) was collected the year before.

The 1996 records are all from Saanich: Blenkinsop Lake, 13-VII-1996 (one flying in grassy field [T. Clarke]). Durrance Road (# 277), 13-VII-1996 (one flying 10-15 m above rural garden [H. Nadel]). Lochside Drive (# 4025), 13/14-VII-1996, T. Clarke (one seen); 6-VIII-1996 (one resting on shrubs [T. Clarke]). Broadmead (Dalewood x Chatterton) E of Rithet's Bog, 27-VII-1996, G. Hutchings (♂, Royal B.C. Museum; two others seen). Swan Lake, 6-VII-1996, T. Clarke (♂, Clarke Collection); 25-VIII-1996, T. Clarke (♂, Royal B.C. Museum).

Similar collections and sightings were made in western Washington State and northwestern Oregon: WA, Thurston Co., 3.5 mi E Tumwater, pond on Yelm Rd., 30-VII-1996, M. Hukari (♂, Paulson Collection; another ♂ also seen). Clark Co., Camas, Lacamas Lake, 10-VIII-1996, J. Johnson (♂, Johnson Collection; specimen captured and another seen at a shallow lily pad marsh on E shore). This site was visited several times between 3-VIII and 6-IX-1996; up to three individuals were

seen during each visit. On 1-IX-1996 what appeared to be a female *Tramea* oviposited alone about 6 m from shore (J. Johnson, pers. comm). OR, Multnomah Co., Portland, Bybee Lake, 25-VIII-1996, J. Johnson (♂, Johnson Collection; two others seen). J. Johnson also saw up to three per visit here and at Smith Lake, Multnomah Co., 25-VIII to 1-IX-1996.

There are two coastal Washington records before 1996: San Juan Co., San Juan Island, Roche Harbor, 13-VII-1995, C.M. Anderson (♀, Paulson Collection), Grays Harbor Co., Twin Harbors State Park, 6-IX-1974, D.R. Paulson (one flew by on SW wind).

Tramea lacerata ranges transcontinentally in the United States and south into Mexico; it is also recorded from Hawaii (J.G. NEEDHAM & M.J. WESTFALL, 1955, *A manual of the dragonflies of North America*. Univ. California Press, Berkeley-Los Angeles). In the West, *T. lacerata* is widespread north to southern Idaho, east-central Washington, Oregon, Utah, Colorado, South Dakota and Minnesota; it has yet to be recorded from North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana (D.R. Paulson, pers. comm.). In eastern Canada the species lives only in extreme southern Ontario (E.M. WALKER & P.S. CORBET, 1975. *The Odonata of Canada and Alaska*, Vol. 3. Univ. Toronto Press, Toronto).

In Washington State, east of the Cascade Mountains, *T. lacerata* is a fairly common breeder in lakes and large ponds in the Columbia Basin, but it is not known west and north of the Columbia River in Kittitas and Okanogan counties. The known flight period in Washington is 21 June to 19 September (D.R. Paulson, pers. comm.).

The first records of *T. lacerata* in British Columbia might have been expected in the Okanagan Valley or some adjacent part of the southern Interior, nearer to the breeding areas in central Washington. There is no clear reason for the increased abundance of individuals in coastal Washington and the movement north to Vancouver Island in 1996. The species is a well-known migrant in eastern North America (WALKER & CORBET, 1975), but has not been considered so in the West.

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GORDON HUTCHINGS and HANNAH NADEL allowed me to report their British Columbia records.

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