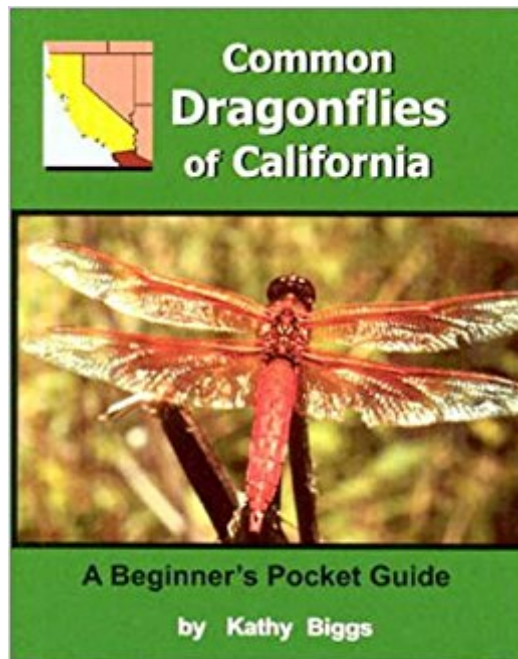




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# Common Dragonflies Of California : A Beginner's Pocket Guide



## Synopsis

Learn how to identify the dragonflies and damselflies you see in your yards and on your outings - softbound (laminated cover), 96 pages - fits in your pocket (5.75" X 4.5") - dragonflies and damselflies included - 77 species covered: 6 family pages with live scanned dragonflies; 58 species pages with photos; 2 pages with anatomical sketches; species paired by similarities - sizes (including a bold line the length of the dragonfly), descriptions, comparisons, habitats, flight periods, behavior, distribution - includes a checklist of all CA species - 119 color photos/scans, inc. some nymph The book has a companion website showing ALL of California's Dragonflies with distribution maps, which are updated twice yearly. The website contains additional information on each speices and has links to CalOdes, the California dragonfly discussion group, sightings within the state, and updated flight periods as well as addtional photos of all species.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

".... a nice little pocket-sized guide,.... photographs are clear.....I recommend this ...to anyone interested in Odonata, ... it's a bargain." -- Mark O'Brien - Williamsonia, Michigan Odonata Survey, Vol. 4, No. 3, Summer, 2000".... beautifully laid out, concise, informative, .... a little jewel, ...'good things come in small packages'." -- Ty Brown - Salazar Library, Sonoma State University"...charming! ... perfect for carrying around in a pack.... much information in a very small space without ever appearing crowded." -- Lynn Monroe - Colorado author"...clear, concise identification information ...stunning clear color photos.... a compact, affordable, accurate and

fascinating 'must-have' for western nature lovers." -- Bob Lorenzen - Publisher, Bored Feet Press; author of the "...fills niche that was begging to be occupied! Petite dimensions, light weight: should be carried by naturalists, hikers, bikers." -- Rich Stallcup, PRBO CA, author "I'm sure it will be a great success" -- Doris Kretschmer, UC Press "It's about time somebody put together a dragonfly guide. I'm looking forward to putting the names with the faces." -- Victoria Smith - an ordinary customer who sums it up nicely "It's been much needed for a long time!" -- Wendy Dreskin - College of Marin "The booklet is nice - a handy format and friendly approach." -- Roy J. Beckemeyer, Kansas

Dragonfly Guides Fills niche that was begging to be occupied! Petite dimensions, light weight: should be carried by naturalists, hikers, bikers. -- Rich Stallcup, PRBO CA, author

The ONLY guide for CA's dragonflies. Now in its 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.

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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