

***Pachydiplax longipennis* (Burmeister)**

Blue Dasher

10 May - 13 Oct

Abundant

28-45 mm (1.1-1.8 in.)

Small/Medium

MALE: Eyes: green. Face: creamy-white. Thorax: olivaceous to yellow w/ 3 brown stripes. Abdomen: tapered, blue pruinosity and black tip. Legs: black. Wings: FW sometimes has smoky brown stain near stigma; HW has 2 black streaks within an amber spot basal. Stigmas: brown. Appendages: blackish.

FEMALE: Abdomen: short, blunt; dark brown w/ 2 dorsal yellow stripes, may also have pruinosity in age. HW: no black streaks.

JUVENILE: Eyes: red-brown. Abdomen: black w/ 2 dorsal yellow stripes.

Habitat: Almost anything w/ water. Still or slow-moving weedy water. Often seen perched on tips of stems or twigs, sun or shade w/ lowered wings. May defend a feeding perch.

Reproduction: Male patrols shoreline territory. Mating begins in air and continues after pair lands. Female oviposits by flying close to surface and dipping abdomen in water while male guards, occasionally alone. Larvae are underwater climbers; need >26 days to develop. Exuviae in trash near shore or up to 6' up bank. Two generations/year (bivoltine).

Notes: Old name: Blue Pirate. Varies greatly in size, largest individuals in spring. Migration along Atlantic Coast.

Locations: Alpha Ridge - M/P3-4/TcP, APL - BP, Benson Branch, Big Branch, Brown's Bridge, Carmax, Cattail, Centennial - L/S/VP/WD, Cent HS, Coca Cola Drive, Corridor, David Force, Deep Run, Dorsey Hall, Dunteachin Farm, Emerson - GC, Elkhorn - FB/L, Coca Cola Drive - BEL/ES, Farm Ponds, Font Hill, Forest Ridge, Frederick Road, Fulton Schools, Gateway - AE/JM/LP/RF/SM, Guilford GV/Park, Gwynn Acres - BR, High Ridge, Hipsely Mill, Hollofield, Homespun, Hugg-Thomas #1/#2, Jackson Pond, Kindler - P/D/OCP, Kittamaqundi, Long Corner - P, Manor Woods, Mayfield Woods - P/GG, Meadowbrook, MPEA - CC/P1/P2/P3/P4/SL, Milk Plant - FP/LP/UP * Schools, Mission - US1, Murray Hill, Nichols Cove, Old Frederick, Pigtail, Plum Tree, River Hill HS, Rockburn, Savage Mill, Savage Park, Schooley Mill, Sewell's Orchard, Stevens - E/W, Trinity, UMDCF - S, Vantage Point - S, VFW Pond, Warfield's Pond, Wesley Lane, West Friendship, Western Regional, Wilde Lake, Wincopin, Woodstock.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)