

***Nasiaeschna pentacantha* (Rambur)**

**Cyrano Darner**

**25 May - 19 Aug**

**Uncommon**

**MALE: 70-73 mm (2.7-2.9 in.) FEMALE: 62-67 (2.4-2.6)**

**Large**

**MALE:** Face: yellowish. Head: prominent blue nose. Eyes: dark blue. Thorax: brown w/ interrupted blue-green middorsal/lateral stripes. Abdomen: tapers; brown w/ black middorsal stripe interrupted by gray-blue at each segment; sides gray-blue. Legs: brown to black. Appendages: shining brown, barely longer than S10. Flight: sometimes bends tip of abdomen down.

**FEMALE:** Abdomen: cylindrical/stout. Appendages: slight scoop-like projection; only as long as S10.

**Habitat:** Woodland streams, still or slow-moving water; stays close to forests. Perches vertically on trees trunks, etc. Hunts w/ slow flight along/through branches, does not form swarms. Preys on other odonates.

**Reproduction:** Male patrols to and fro without hovering, usually in morning. Female oviposits in wet wood above or below waterline, sometimes in wet dead leaves. Larvae climbers, cling on sticks. Exuviae on wooden stub 3' above water.

**Notes:** Protrusion on head gives it its name

**Similar Species:** *Epiaeschna heros* (Swamp D.) abdomen has green markings (not rings); thorax has lateral irregular stripes; *N. pentacantha* prefers more open swamps/more sunlight.

**Locations:** Cattail, Daniels Road, Henryton Road, Howard Chapel, Kindler - D, Pigtail.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)