

***Libellula auripennis* Burmeister**

Golden-winged Skimmer

1 Jul – (?31 Jul?)

Uncommon

51-58 mm (2.1-2.3 in.)

Medium

MALE: Eyes: chestnut brown. Face: orange. Thorax: chestnut-brown w/ 2 lateral pale stripes. Clear demarcation between top (dark) and pale (sides) along humeral suture. Abdomen: reddish-orange w/ middorsal dark stripe. Legs: hind tibia and spines blackish; not valid for F. Wings: reddish-orange (some only yellowish). Stigmas: crimson to yellow. Appendages: reddish.

FEMALE: Brown vice reddish-orange. Thorax: sides tan or yellow. Abdomen: yellow w/ middorsal black stripe; S8 w/ flange. Wings: costa vein all pale. Stigmas: yellow. Appendages: pale.

Habitat: Grassy edges of freshwater ponds. Forages in open fields near water. Male perches conspicuously but is wary, swift on wing, difficult to approach at rest.

Reproduction: Male patrols from tip of emergent plants or Juncus (rush). Female oviposits alone into water while male guards.

Notes: Old name: Goldenwings. Easily confused with *L. needhami* (Needham's Skimmer) unless in hand.

Locations: Centennial - VP, Font Hill, Gateway - RF, Guilford - GV. Others may have been confused with *L. needhami*: Alpha Ridge, Homespun, Meadowbrook, VFW Pond.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)