

***Epicordulia princeps* Hagen**

Prince Baskettail

29 May - 3 Sep

Uncommon

58-78 mm (2.3-3.1 in.)

Large

MALE: Eyes: metallic green. Thorax: brownish, dense w/ tawny hairs. Abdomen: black w/ yellow rings. Legs: brown. Wings: slender, brown w/ distinct large brown spots basal, middle/tip of each wing (but much variation); only *Epithec*a/*Epicordulia* w/ brown wingtips. Appendages: cerci dark brown/black, paraprocts paler.

FEMALE: Eyes: bronze-brown. Female seldom seen except for brief visits to water for mating/ovipositing.

JUVENILE: Eyes: red-brown.

Habitat: Slow-moving rivers, streams, lakes, occasionally ponds; clear or muddy water. Seldom seen perching, but when it does it hangs under a twig, often w/ the wings somewhat raised. May form feeding swarms in the evening. Few wing beats followed by a short sail on slightly raised wings; dawn to dusk.

Reproduction: Male patrols like a Darner at 3-6' w/ a leisurely flight, 20-30 m wide and up to 70 m long from near shore to well out over water. Mate at any time of day; pairs fly long distances along shoreline before hanging in a tree; egg ball is orange on abdomen curled vertically. Female oviposits alone, mostly in evening; deposit egg-ball on submerged plant; ball unrolls into gelatinous rope. Exuviae on broad surface (stump or rock), but may be on grass or sedge stems.

Notes: Old name: Water Prince. Was *Epithec*a *princeps*.

Locations: Avalon, Big Branch, Cattail, Centennial - L, Dunteachin Farm, Elkhorn – FB, Font Hill, Guilford Park, Hipsley Mill, Hugg-Thomas #2, Kittamaqundi, Long Corner - P, Pigtail, Sewll's Orchard, Upper Triadelphia, Warfield's Pond.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)