

***Pantala hymenaea* (Say)**

Spot-winged Glider

16 May - 7 Oct

Common

43-50 mm (1.7-2.0 in.)

Medium

MALE: Face: red. Thorax: gray, covered w/ tawny/white hairs; sides sometimes have brown bands. Abdomen: tapers to tip; mostly gray-brown/reddish w/ middorsal black arrowhead spots larger on S8-10. HW: large brown spot at anal angle (difficult to see in flight).

Appendages: pale.

FEMALE: Similar to male but face yellow to orange.

JUVENILE: Face: yellow to orange. Abdomen: mottled gray-brown.

Habitat: Open areas; ponds/pools. Feeds from dawn to dusk, often fast/erratic 2-5 m above ground. Unwary when perched-but seldom perches, then vertically on twigs. Reproduction: Male patrols larger/more linear territories than *P. flavescens*. Female oviposits alone or in tandem by tapping abdomen to water in slow hovering flight or fast, strafing runs. Breeds in temporary ponds/pools in open. Larvae need >28 days to develop.

Notes: Migratory. Old name: Spot-winged Globetrotter.

Similar Species: *P. flavescens* (Wandering G.) is more golden and does not have HW spot. Less hovering than *P. flavescens*. Old female may become reddish (lighter red than *P. flavescens*). Mixed swarms of *Pantala* are common.

Locations: Alpha Ridge, Brown's Bridge, Centennial - L/S, Elkhorn - FB, Font Hill, Fox Chase, Gateway - AE/RF/SM, Kittamaqundi, Marriottsville, Meadowbrook, MPEA - MPR, Milk Plant - Schools, Mount Pleasant, Murray Hill, Old Frederick, Pigtail, Savage Mill, Savage Park, Schooley Mill, Stevens E/W, UMDCF, Western Regional.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)