

Beneficial Species Profile

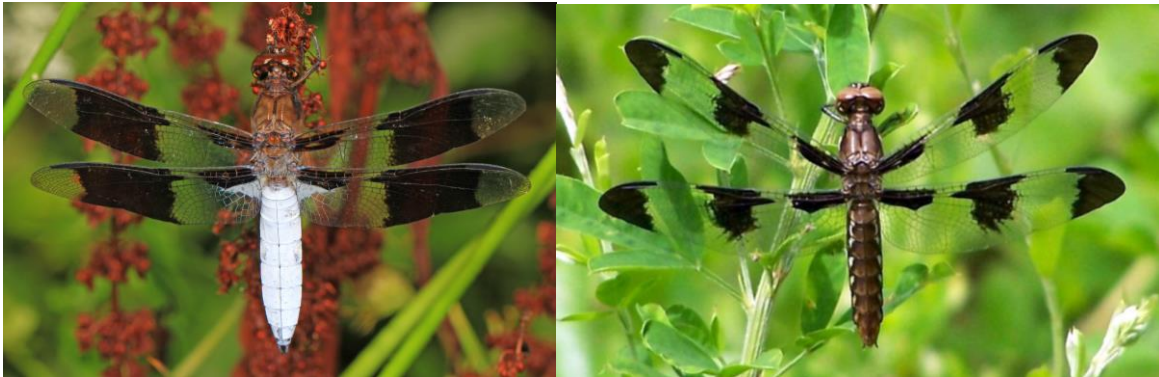


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Common Name: Common Whitetail

Scientific Name: *Plathemis lydia*

Order and Family: Odonata / Libellulidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph	21-24 mm	Medium in size, rounded abdomen, one rear facing spine on each side of segments 8 & 9, pointed hook on segments 2-6.
Adult	1.7-1.9 in 42-48 mm	Females with short abdomen and white to pale yellow spots on the sides. Dark brown in color, wings with 3 black evenly spaced spots. Immature males have the same body pattern as females, but wing patterns match mature males. Abdomens turn blue-white with age. Male wings have one large dark spot on each, and a smaller spot closer to the body.
Pupa (if applicable)		N/A

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):

Biting/Chewing mouthparts

Host/s:

Flying insects are food sources for adults.

Larvae feed on aquatic larvae and insects. Will also eat small fish, tadpoles, or shrimp.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.):

Predator; consumes soft bodied flying insect pests, such as mosquitoes. Also consumes their larvae as naiads.

References:

Species *Plathemis lydia* - Common Whitetail. (n.d.). Retrieved October 27, 2020, from <https://bugguide.net/node/view/603>

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Lung, M., & Sommer, S. (2001). *Libellula (Plathemis) lydia* (Common Whitetail). Retrieved October 27, 2020, from <https://digitalatlas.cose.isu.edu/bio/insects/drgnfly/libefam/lily/lilyfr.htm>