



the scheme for surveying Jersey's pondlife

Dr John W. Wilkinson

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation



TODAY:

- **Amphibians (and grass snake)**
- **Dragonflies and damselflies**
- **Other invertebrates**
- **Non-native plants**



Palmate newt

< 9 cm,
often much smaller

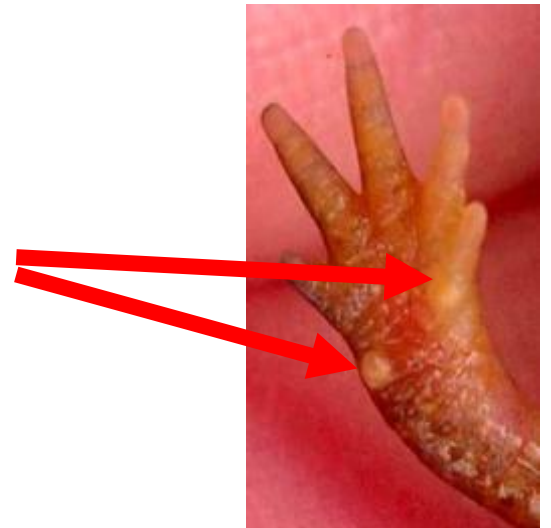


Palmate ♂



Palmate ♀

Two pale
tubercles/nodules



Comparing newts and lizards



Agile frog



< 9 cm



Toad / crapaud

< 8 cm (males)

< 12 cm (females)



Toad / crapaud

< 8 cm (males)

< 12 cm (females)



Comparing frogs and crapauds



Alien amphibians



common frog



green frog



fire-bellied toad



Japanese fire-bellied newt

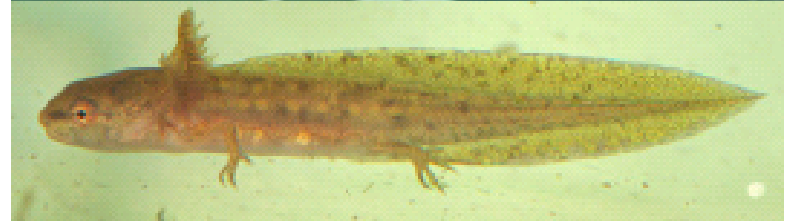
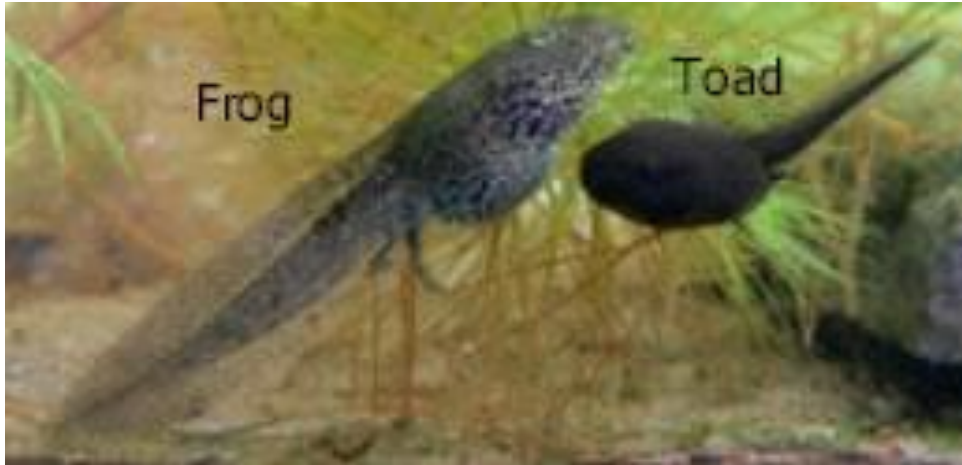


great crested newt

Amphibian eggs



Amphibian tadpoles



Grass snake



Fast and alert, slender, largest native reptile

Grass snake



Green, grey or brown, usually yellow collar



© Tracy Farrer

....and this is?



Resources

British Dragonfly Society website
(<https://british-dragonflies.org.uk>)



Includes **Dragonfly and Damselfly Identification Help** page.

Working to conserve dragonflies and their wetland habitats

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Dragonfly and Damselfly Identification Help

Have you spotted a Dragonfly or Damselfly and need help to identify it?

The following tips should help you to identify most species.

This page does not currently include most vagrant and migratory species. For these species visit our [species profile pages](#).

For a more comprehensive guide to Dragonfly identification please check out the range of fantastic Dragonfly guide books available via [our shop](#).

Is it a Dragonfly or a Damselfly?

Important ID features



Frons (face) markings and eye coloration

Side markings on the thorax.

Leg coloration.

Side markings on the abdomen.

Anal appendages.

Important ID features

Antehumeral (thorax) markings



Abdomen markings

Anal appendages

Wing markings/
coloration

Dragonfly or Damselfly?



Feature	Dragonfly	Damselfly
ADULTS		
Body	Robust	Thin and delicate
Wing position at rest	Open	Closed*
Wing shape	Different between front and back	Same between front and back
Eye position	Touching at the top of the head*	Not touching at the top of the head
Flight	Strong and purposeful	Weak and fluttering
NYMPHS		
Rear appendages	Stiff, short and spiky (x 5)	Soft and flexible gills (x 3)
Body	Stout	Long and slender

*for most species



Photo: Tim Ransom

© TIM RANSOM

Photo: Tim Ransom



© TIM RANSOM

What sort of Dragonfly?

Hawkers and similar species:

Generally dark with bright spots or stripes.

Some mostly brown. Can be brightly coloured with a thick black mid-line stripe. Never with dark wing marks other than the wingspots (rectangular marks at the tip). Generally large, robust but thin bodied.

Darters and chasers:

Generally have a blue, red, yellow or brown body or a combination of some of these colours. Sometimes with black markings. Some with additional dark marks on the wings. Generally smaller and stout bodied.

Emeralds:

Almost entirely emerald green coloured, usually metallic. Often bright green eyes. Sometimes with bronze tints.



Photo: Tim Ransom

© Tim Ransom

What species?

Compare your notes and photos against a guidebook or using the resources at <https://www.british-dragonflies.org.uk>.



Species to look out for:

Beautiful demoiselle
(*Calopteryx virgo*)



Photo: Tim Ransom

Southern emerald damselfly
(*Lestes barbarus*)



Photo: Tim Ransom

Nymphs / Larvae

Dragonfly nymph



← Stout body

← 5 stiff, short spiky appendages

Photo: Dave Huth

Damselfly nymph



Slender body →

→ 3 soft flexible gills

Photo: Charles J Sharp / Wikimedia commons







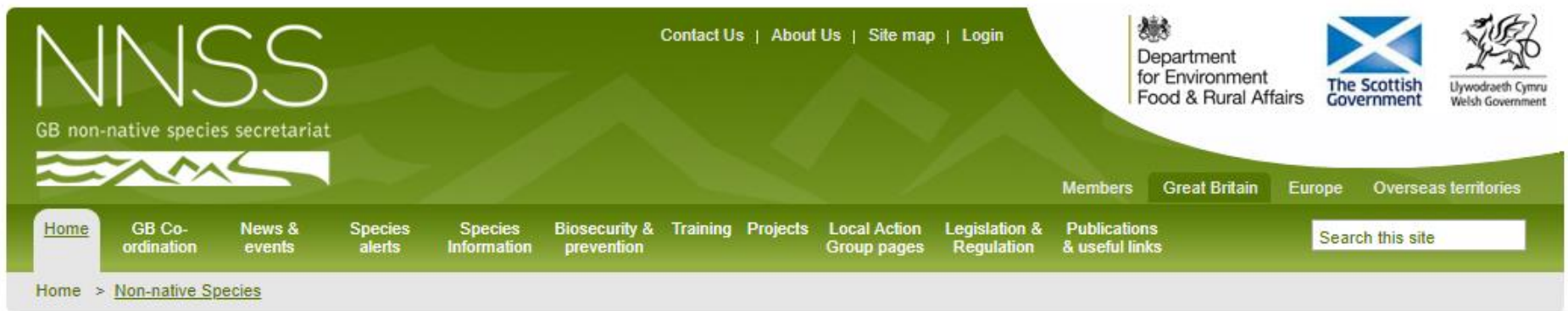


Resources

GB non-native species secretariat
(<http://www.nonnativespecies.org>)



Includes **Species Identification sheets** and an **E-learning course** (*Module 2b. Identification of Invasive Freshwater Plants*).



Welcome to the GB non-native species secretariat website

First published in 2008 and updated in 2015 the GB Invasive Non-native Species [Strategy](#) was developed to meet the challenge posed by invasive non-native species in Great Britain. This website provides tools and information for those working to support the strategy.



Be plant wise and
don't dump aquatic
plants in the wild



Search for information on a non-native species

GO



News [\(archived news\)](#)



RAPID LIFE project: Contract advertised for programme of workshops to increase awareness of 'alert' species and how to report them.

08 February 2019



New NNSS email address

03 January 2019



Report floating pennywort this winter, says Environment Agency

18 December 2018

Water fern (*Azolla filiculoides*)

Key ID Features

Usually green but often has a reddish tinge and can be completely red when exposed to stresses



New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*)

Key ID Features

Forms dense mats within the water body



- Forms dense mats within the water body
- Flowers very small, often absent, whitish-green to slightly pink
- Flowers have 4 petals

New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*)

Identification of different forms

- *Terrestrial (left)*: Growing away from water's edge or left stranded as water level falls, creeping stems and aerial, fleshy leaves.
- *Emergent (middle)*: Densely packed leaves in water, intermediate between terrestrial and submerged form (occurs in water <0.6m deep.)
- *Submerged (right)*: Elongated stems with leaves sparse and flat, able to form extensive mats on bed of water body.



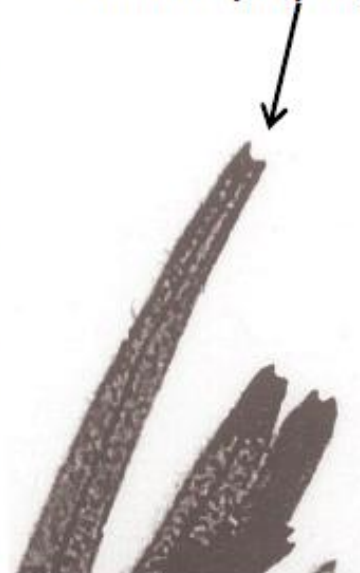
New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*)

– similar species

A group of species known as water-starworts are most likely to be confused with New Zealand pigmyweed. Water-starworts are distinguished from New Zealand pigmyweed by their non-fleshy leaves, which are usually notched at the tip (hold up to light or use hand lens), and lack of collar at leaf base.



Water-starwort leaf with typically notched tip, a hand lens is usually required to see this properly



Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*)

Canadian Waterweed
(*Elodea canadensis*)

- Flowers are small and inconspicuous and petals white or white tinged with red and borne on end of very long fine stalk.



Leaves up to 2 cm long, in whorls of 3, widest at middle and either pointed or rounded at end

Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

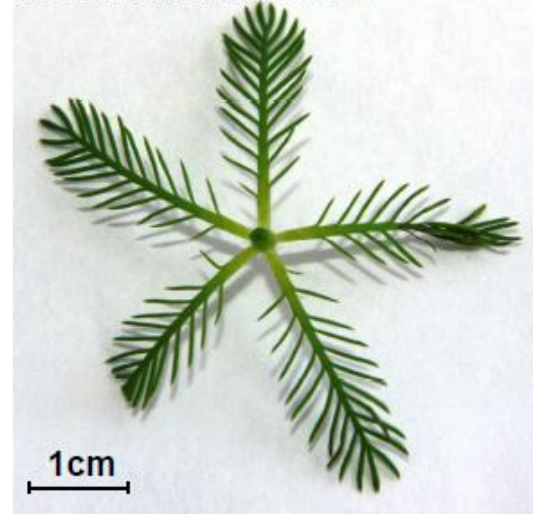
- Changes form depending on the conditions, varying between submerged to emergent foliage.
- Both forms are similar in appearance
- Emergent leaves are stiff, bright green and the most distinctive form.
- Submerged leaves are more fragile and, after death, decompose quickly.

Leaves bright to blue-grey green



Stem breaks easily, brown roots present around nodes

Leaves form in whorls of 4-6



1cm



Stems can grow to 2m tall

Emergent leaves more robust

Forms inconspicuous flowers at base of leaves between May and August. Small (2mm) and white. Can be difficult to see.



Finely divided leaves, feather-like



Thanks for listening!

