Revised Checklist of the Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) of Borneo

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Abstract: The previous checklist of the Odonata of Borneo, in A.G. Orr's "A guide to the dragonflies of Borneo: their identification and biology" published in 2003, is now almost 20 years old. A considerable amount of work on Borneo's Odonata has been done since 2003 and 52 new species have been described from the island in the intervening years. Here we present an updated checklist of the Odonata of Borneo, listing 371 species and subspecies. The parts of the island, using national boundaries and administrative regions within countries: Brunei; the five provinces of Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo); Sabah and Sarawak and also the Federal Territory of Labuan (Malaysian Borneo), from which each taxon has been recorded are indicated and notes are included on some taxa. The records are drawn from published literature, but some unpublished records from the work of the authors and based on material in museums and other collections are also included, also a few records from the iNaturalist website (where there is no doubt over the identification) are also included; none of the latter are additions to the known fauna of Borneo. A few recent novel records for Borneo that we regard as in need of confirmation are discussed. The history of research on Odonata in, and the current state of knowledge of the Odonata of, each of the regions of Borneo is briefly discussed. The high percentage of Odonata species endemic to Borneo (approximately 51% overall, 73% for the Zygoptera and 23% for the Anisioptera) is highlighted. It is noted that, all else remaining equal, a small drop in the numbers of endemic species is expected due to suspected synonyms and discoveries of species that had been regarded as endemic outside of Borneo, but on the other hand most new species discovered on the island in future will be endemic to Borneo. The importance of basic data collection and alpha taxonomy in research into Borneo's Odonata is emphasized.

INTRODUCTION

The Odonata are a relatively small, ancient insect order. The larvae of the vast majority of species are aquatic, and the often colourful adults are typically seen at and around freshwater habitats. The order is most diverse in the tropics and subtropics but has been most studied in the world's temperate regions. Borneo has a large and diverse odonate fauna, including a high proportion of species endemic to the island.

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