**Perithemis tenera** (Say)  
**Eastern Amberwing**  
13 May - 8 Oct

**Common**  
20-24 mm (0.8-1.0 in.)  
Tiny

**MALE:** Thorax: brown w/ 2 lateral wide pale greenish-yellow stripes covered w/ soft brown hairs. Abdomen: dark brown; short, tapered at both ends. Wings: orange, long (some have dark brown spot near triangles of each wing). Stigmas: dark red. Small size/chunky build. Legs: yellowish w/ black spines. Appendages: cerci yellow.

**FEMALE:** Thorax/Abdomen: like male (but abdomen has middorsal yellow markings). Wings: brown spots w/ wings clear (heterochromatic) or rarely amber (homeochromatic).

**Habitat:** Still waters of deeper ponds and slow parts of streams and rivers. Perches on tips of weeds or twigs; mimics wasps. Prefers sunshine. Reproduction: Male patrols territory 10-20’ diameter around protruding object. Complex courtship. Mate while perching. F oviposits alone onto floating debris or among emergent vegetation, while Male guards (infrequently in tandem). Exuviae on stumps/piers 15-30” up. Larvae needs >26 days to develop.


[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)