**Libellula vibrans** Fabricius

**Great Blue Skimmer**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Common</th>
<th>56-63 mm (2.2-2.5 in.)</th>
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<td>Large</td>
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**FEMALE**: Eyes: become blue (green). Thorax/Abdomen: brown, middorsal black stripe; S8 w/ flange. Wings: black tip extends to black stigma.


**Habitat**: Forest dragonfly of shaded slow-moving or still waters; shrub-swamp, bottomlands. Unwary.

**Reproduction**: Male makes frequent slow patrols. Mate for 25 seconds on a perch. Female oviposits by throwing droplets of water containing eggs on the bank while Male guards. Male may patrol and can mate before fully pruinose.

**Notes**: Some migrate along Atlantic Ocean.

**Similar Species**: Field i.d. of Female *L. axilena, L. incesta* and *L. vibrans*: Juveniles are similar to *L. axilena* and *L. incesta*. Appears to replace *L. axilena* (Bar-winged S.) in permanent forested ponds (compared to temporary) and *L. incesta* (Slaty S.) in shaded (compared to open) ponds.


[Phenograms](pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](in Howard County)

Identification features and odonate anatomy