Celithemis eponina (Drury)

Halloween Pennant

15 Jun – 8 Oct

Uncommon 36-42 mm (1.4-1.7 in.) Medium

MALE: Abdomen: S3-7 middorsal yellow or red stripe. Legs: generally black. Wings: yellow w/ brown spots. Stigmas: colored w/ orange (or red)/black. Appendages: dark; yellow dorsally. (Markings become pale red in mature male: face, wing veins, stigmas, abdominal markings.)

FEMALE: More pale areas than male. Wing Veins, Stigmas: yellow instead of orange; some develop faintly red markings.

JUVENILE: Yellow body markings.

Habitat: Marsh-loving; ponds, lakes/marshes; adults often found in adjacent fields where they feed. Tolerates windy conditions. Most butterfly-like dragonfly; forages from the tips of tall weeds in open fields. Often perches w/ FWs vertical, HWs horizontal on tops of emergent rushes. Active in the morning.

Reproduction: Mate perched on vegetation close to shore for about 4 minutes. Female oviposits in tandem w/ dips to water in scattered locations. Exuviae on stumps 1' up.

Notes: Indicates healthy marsh.

Similar Species: Other species w/ dark wing markings have at least part of the wing clear/transparent.

Locations: Alpha Ridge, Benson Branch, Big Branch, Centennial - L/VP, Dunteachin Farm, Elkhorn, Farm Ponds, Folly Qtr - MS, Font Hill, Fox Chase, Fulton Schools, Gateway - RF, Guilford - GV/Park, High Ridge, Manor Woods, Mayfield Woods - P, Meadowbrook, Milk Plant, MPEA - P4, Pigtail, River Hill HS, Schooley Mill, Sewell's Orchard, Stanford, Stevens, UMDCF - S, Warfield's Pond, Western Regional.

MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
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