

New Species of Dragonflies

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New Species of Dragonflies Latest News

Scientists recently discovered three new species of dragonflies in Northeast India, including one from a forest trail in Assam and two from a remote valley in Arunachal Pradesh.

About New Species of Dragonflies

- Two of the newly described species—the **Clouded Boghawker (*Sarasaeschna nuboides*)** and the **Siang Boghawker (*Sarasaeschna sigotaayo*)**—were observed around a **small, shallow forest pond** in **Arunachal Pradesh's Siang Valley**, where dragonflies were seen flying rapidly and perching close to water.
- The **third species**, the **Long-tailed Boghawker (*Sarasaeschna dosdewaensis*)**, was discovered in **Assam's Karimganj district**, an area increasingly recognised as an **odonate diversity hotspot**.

Key Facts about Dragonflies

- Dragonflies are **insects** in the **order Odonata**.

- Insects in this group are characterized by **large multifaceted eyes, two pairs of wings,** and an **elongated body.**
- Their **eyes** provide them with **excellent vision** due to their very **unique structure.**
- Dragonfly **eyes have up to 30,000 “facets”** and are **arranged in a way** that gives them almost **360-degree vision.** This gives them a huge advantage when hunting for food.
- Dragonflies are **among the fastest insects known** and are **voracious predators of flying insects** such as **mosquitoes and flies.**
- Dragonflies **predate dinosaurs by over 100 million years.**
- They are most commonly **found near freshwater habitats throughout most of the world.**
- **Damselflies** are a **close relative** of the dragonfly and may easily be confused with the dragonfly. You can **tell them apart in a couple of ways.**
 - **Damselflies** are **smaller and more delicate** than dragonflies, and **when they are at rest, damselflies hold their wings straight up and together** above their body while the **wings of dragonflies remain horizontal while at rest.**

Source: EM

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