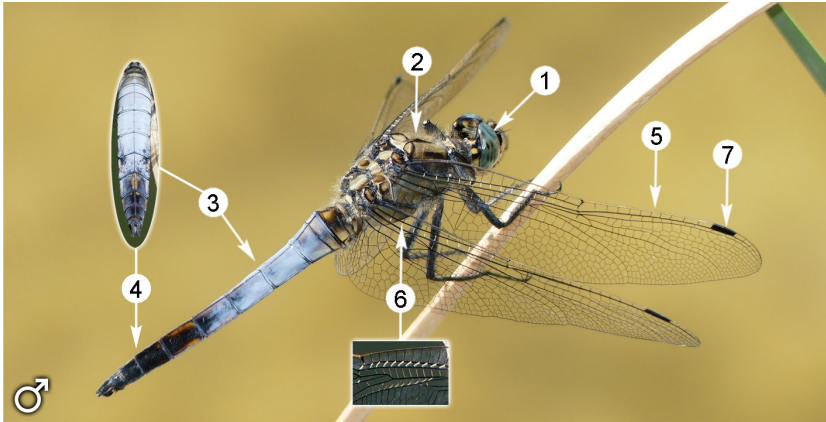




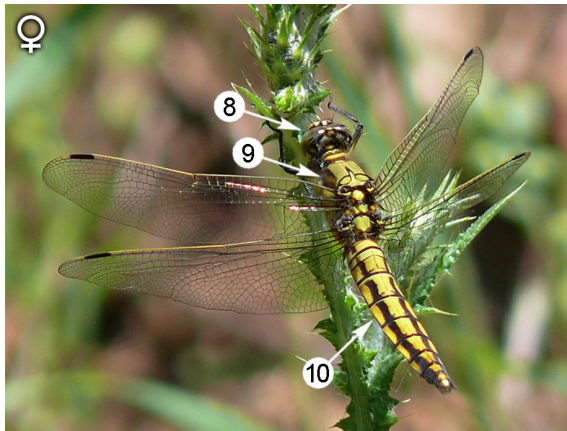
Orthetrum cancellatum



Length: From 44 to 50 mm. Hindwing span: From 35 to 41 mm.

Male: 1. Blue-greenish eyes. 2. Brown thorax without markings with waxy blue sheen at some extent. 3. Flat abdomen with waxy sheen on most of it. 4. Black S7 and S10, though lack colour can extend to S5 as well. 5. Yellow front margin of the wings (vein Costa). 6. Long black pterostigma. 7. Prolonged thin black pterostigma. **Female:** 8. Brown eyes. 9. Yellow transverse veins between the base and Nodus. 10. Flat bright yellow abdomen with two black longitudinal stripes

that are connected by black lines and create the shape of a ladder. This feature is the key to its identification, although adult females can be dark with a bit of a waxy sheen over the ladder pattern.





HABITAT

It mates in all kinds of standing water bodies, which are sunny and have little vegetation on the shore. A lot of these water bodies can be built by humans, such as reservoirs, ponds for livestock-farming, agriculture and golf, tanks and water canals. It can also live in small lakes, or pools that form part of rivers and streams.

WAY OF LIFE

The male is rather territorial, and it defends its area from other males and other species. It flies low over the water surface and rests close to the shore, on the ground and in the vegetation in a diagonal position. Its wings are leant forwards over the thorax. While it is turning into an adult, it tends to go far away from water.

WHEN TO SEE THIS SPECIES

It flies from March to October in Málaga, more commonly from May to August.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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WHERE TO SEE THIS SPECIES

It is widespread in the province, but it is confined to the coast and it decreases in range towards inland. It was recorded at Campillos lakes (stage 18 and 19) on the Great Málaga Path, when its water level was high. It was also found at the mouth of the Guadalmanza (30) and Guadalhorce (35).

SIMILAR SPECIES

Other Odonata in the genus Orthetrum.

CONSERVATION STATUS

The species is not endangered nor particularly protected by the current environmental law.