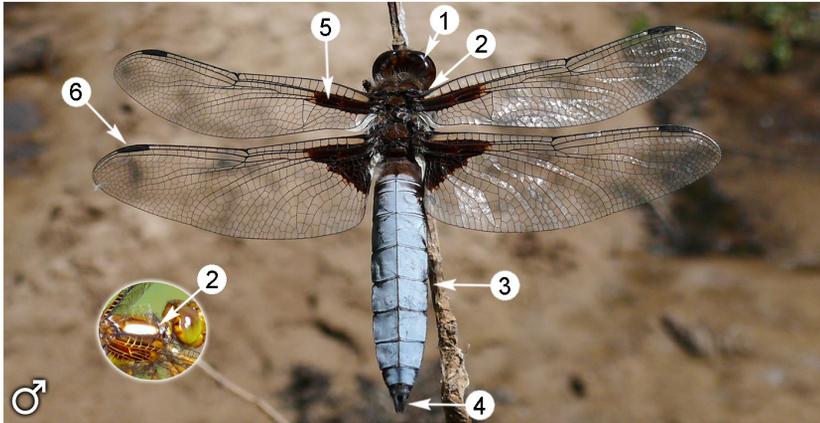




Libellula depressa



Length: From 39 to 48 mm. Hindwing span: From 32 to 48 mm.

Male: **1.** Dark brown head and eyes. **2.** Dark brown thorax with light antehumeral stripes, which get reduced or disappear in adults. **3.** Very wide and flat abdomen. Its lower part is brown and its back covered in waxy sheen. **4.** S10 and dark anal appendages. **5.** Black base of the wings. It is rectangular on forewings and triangular on hindwings. **6.** Prolonged thin black pterostigma. **Female:** With similar head thorax and wings to the male. The abdomen is wider, brown and with yellow markings on the sides (**7**), though the adult females can have waxy sheen to some extent (**8**).





HABITAT

It reproduces in small lakes in the mountains, temporary reservoirs used for cattle, springs, drinking troughs and standing water at the dams. Thanks to the fact that it is one of the first colonist that lives in recently created habitats, it can easily adapt to smaller temporary water bodies, which are shallow and have fewer plants. This is because its larva can adapt to dry locations, as it can survive for months without water by spreading in search of new places where it can grow, or by hiding under stones or even under the ground with lower amount of sediment.

WAY OF LIFE

It flies powerfully and always patrols around water. It often rests in shore vegetation or on emergent plants. It usually rests diagonally with open wings in the shape of a cross.

WHEN TO SEE THIS SPECIES

In the Province of Málaga, it was recorded in February, July, and, above all, in July.

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

It is rather rare and its range is limited in this province. It was seen along the Great Málaga path on one occasion on stage 11, at Hondonero Lake. It has not been recorded since then so we cannot be sure whether it still lives here. Considering it is a colonist, it is likely to be found in any part of the province where the necessary living conditions exist.

SIMILAR SPECIES

It cannot be confused with other species thanks to its wide flat abdomen and the black colour on the wings base.

CONSERVATION STATUS

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