

Ohio Damselfly Identification: Silhouettes

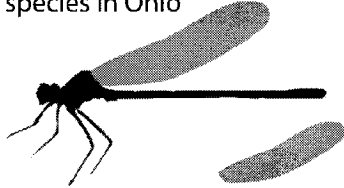
Damselfly = Suborder Zygoptera

For beginners, it helps to look at the wing positioning and shape. Ohio has 52 species of damselflies in 3 families and 11 genera. Below is a quick silhouette guide for the common genera. Illustrations and design by MaLisa Spring.

Broad-winged Damselflies: Family Calopterygidae

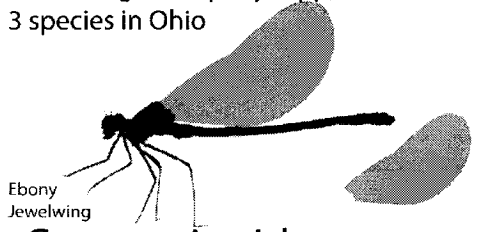
Note broad wing bases

Rubyspots (*Hetaerina* spp)
2 species in Ohio



American Rubyspot

Jewelwings (*Calopteryx* spp)
3 species in Ohio



Ebony Jewelwing

Pond Damselflies: Family Coenagrionidae

Note narrow wing bases & wing position

Dancers (*Argia* spp)
8 species in Ohio



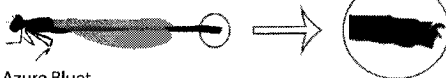
Violet Dancer

Forktails (*Ischnura* spp)
6 species in Ohio



Citrine Forktail

Bluets (*Enallagma* spp)
17 species in Ohio



Azure Bluet

Other taxa in the Family Coenagrionidae include: *Amphiagrion saucium*, *Chromagrion conditum*, *Coenagrion resolutum*, *Nehalennia gracilis*, and *Nehalennia irene*.

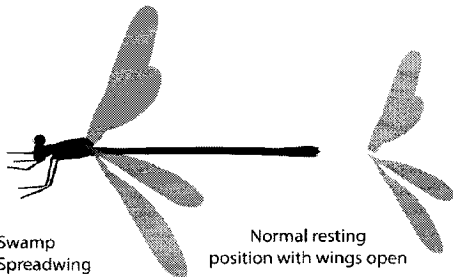
We recommend photographing male terminal appendages to confirm identifications of Bluets and Spreadwings

Spreadwing Damselflies: Family Lestidae

Pond Spreadwings (*Lestes* spp) - 10 species in Ohio

Great Spreadwing (*Archilestes grandis*)

Note narrow wing bases & wing position



Swamp Spreadwing

Normal resting position with wings open

Find something cool?

- Submit photos to iNaturalist.org
- collect a specimen if you have landowner permission
- OR email spring.99@osu.edu

Learn more at:

u.osu.edu/ohiodonatasurvey/