

**FIRST RECORDS OF *PANTALA FLAVESCENS* AND *ANAX EPHIPPIGER* (ODONATA, LIBELLULIDAE) IN LITHUANIA**VYTAUTAS JUSYS<sup>1</sup>, VYTAUTAS EIGIRDAS<sup>1</sup>, BERND GLIWA<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Ornithological Station Ventės Ragas, Marių g. 24, LT-99361 Ventė, Lithuania.

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**Introduction**

The recently published distribution atlas of Odonata in Lithuania covers 67 recorded and 2 expected species (Gliwa *et al.*, 2019). Both expected migratory species, *Pantala flavescens* (Fabricius, 1798) and *Anax ephippiger* (Burmeister, 1839), have been observed in Lithuania in 2019, as described in this note.

**Material and Methods**

The bird traps of Ventės Ragas ornithological station along with birds and bats catch a large number of dragonflies and few damselflies as well. In September 2016 the author (V.J.) started to mark dragonflies and damselflies with a permanent marker and identify them. Marked dragonflies have always been released. Dragonflies of rare species or such with atypical colouring or markings have also been documented using an SLR digital camera. Birds are observed and ringed at other spots in Lithuania too. Whilst doing so, the author (V.E.) took a picture and video of a teneral dragonfly.

## List of localities

Locality	Administrative district	Coordinates (LAT, LONG)
Ventės ragas, bird traps at the ornithological station	Šilutė distr.	55.341388, 21.191666
Paupys, fish farm	Raseiniai distr.	55.339444, 22.950555

**Results**

A single male of *Pantala flavescens* (22 05 2019, Vytautas Jusys, Fig. 1) was captured in the bird traps in Ventės ragas, a teneral male of *Anax ephippiger* (23 08 2019, Vytautas Eigirdas) was observed in the fish farm in Paupys, a female of *A. ephippiger* (16 10 2019, Vytautas Jusys, Fig. 2) was captured in the bird traps of Ventės Ragas.



Fig. 1. A male of *Pantala flavescens* at Ventės Ragas, 22 05 2019, Vytautas Jusys



Fig. 2. A female of *Anax ephippiger* at Ventės Ragas, 16 10 2019, Vytautas Jusys

## Discussion

*Pantala flavescens* is a migratory species with a very large, worldwide distribution. It has been recorded in 2013 very close to the Lithuanian border in a bird trap in the Kaliningrad Oblast of Russia (Buczyński *et al.*, 2014), this place is located about 40 km afar from Ventės Ragas, and again several times in Poland in 2016 (Buczyński *et al.*, 2019). Thus, observation of this species in Lithuania was expected and a matter of wind current and time.

*Anax ephippiger* is a migratory species as well. It had been recorded in the bird traps of Pape in Latvia in 1995 (Rintelen, 1997). From late spring to midsummer of 2019 a lot of observations of *A. ephippiger* was recorded especially from Poland and Holland and shown in social media, including mating couples and egg-laying females. In August, there were reports from both of these countries on emergencies, exuviae and teneral individuals of that species (Ratajczak, 2019 pers. comm.; van der Heijden, 2019 pers. comm.). At the same time, observations of *A. ephippiger* were also made in Lithuania. That means that the migration must have reached Lithuania approximately in June, and that larval development could be shorter than 3 months.

## References

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## Pirmieji *Pantala flavescens* ir *Anax ephippiger* (Odonata) stebėjimai Lietuvoje

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## Santrauka

*Pantala flavescens* buvo pirmą kartą pastebėta Lietuvoje 2019 05 22 Ventės Rago ornitologinės stoties tinkluose. *Anax ephippiger* Lietuvoje taip pat fiksuota pirmą kartą, vienas jaunas patinas 2019 08 22 Paupio žuvininkystės tvenkiniuose ir viena patelė 2019 10 16 Ventės Rago ornitologinės stoties tinkluose.

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