

RSG Project Update

ID 48328-2

Title of Application: A Survey of Odonata and Reassessment of the distribution of the Endangered Yellow Waxtail damselfly (*Ceriagrion citrinum*) Nigeria

Name of leader: Ojonugwa Ekpah

The project activities began by looking for *Ceriagrion citrinum* in other locations in Nigeria. Since the suitable habitat for this species is already known based on the previous project, it was logical to look for the species some distances away from Igele-Sunmoge in Ogun state towards Okomu in Edo state. The locations chosen were forest patches in Igbokoda and Alape River in Ipare. Unfortunately, no *C. citrinum* was found. Some distances away from the Alape River, the forest was cleared in a development supposed to be the Lagos-Calabar coastal highway construction (Fig. 1). Despite this unfortunate development, a number of odonate species were recorded from the area (Table 1). From observation, anywhere environment where *Rhyothemis notata* is found, they are usually found in large numbers. It was however surprising to record a single *R. notata* from the entire habitat; a condition that may be due to the habitat destruction for the construction of the coastal highway.



Fig. 1. Forest cleared to give way for the Lagos-Calabar coastal highway.

That *C. citrinum* could not be found in other locations in Nigeria is a significant find indicating that this species is rare in Nigeria. A preliminary checklist of Odonata species in Nigeria is already published in which The Rufford Foundation was acknowledged (<https://www.worlddragonfly.org/article/tijo20-v028-a13-ekpah>).

Table 1. Odonata species recorded from Forest patches in Igbokoda and Alape River in Ipare

S/N	Odonata species	No. of Individual found
1	<i>Ceriagrion glabrum</i>	3 males and equal females
2	<i>Ceriagrion corallinum</i>	2 (male and female)
3	<i>Pseudagrion camerunense</i> (Fig. 2)	Up to 9 adults
4	<i>Tholymis tilarga</i>	2 females
5	<i>Palpopleura lucia</i>	5 adults
6	<i>Palpopleura portia</i>	2 adults
7	<i>Chalcostephia flavifrons</i>	6 individuals
8	<i>Urothemis edwardsii</i>	4 individuals
9	<i>Urothemis assignata</i>	4 individuals
10	<i>Acisoma inflatum</i>	More than 10 individuals
11	<i>Acisoma trifidum</i>	3 individuals
12	<i>Hemistigma albipunctum</i>	5 males and 3 females
13	<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	2 individuals

14	<i>Themochroria equivocata</i>	2 individuals
15	<i>Rhyothemis notata</i> (Fig. 3)	1 individual
16	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	2 individuals
17	<i>Agriocnemis maclachlani</i>	2 individuals
18	<i>Diplacodes luminans</i>	1 mature male



Fig. 2. *Pseudagrion camerunense*



Fig. 3. *Rhyothemis notata*