

River Wey Navigations Damselfly Survey

Date..... Location.....

Weather conditions.....

- Please use a 'five bar gate' to record your sightings in the appropriate box below – eg. ||||| ||
- Use the back of this sheet to record any other butterflies you have seen today.



Beautiful demoiselle (male)

The male beautiful and the banded demoiselles are very similar with their vivid blue bodies, but if you look at the wings, you will see a definite difference. The beautiful demoiselle has wings that are more or less the same colour along the whole of their length. They don't like polluted water and prefer fast flowing streams. They fly from the end of May to September. They prefer to lay their eggs around water mint and water speedwell – and there are lots of these along the Navigations.

- Record your tally here...



Banded demoiselle (male)

If you are able to see the wings, you would not mistake the banded demoiselle for any other species of damselfly. It is also more likely to be found on slower-moving water than the beautiful demoiselle, particularly along canals. Although they are abundant in the UK, you are far less likely to see them north of the Lake District.

- Record your tally here...



Banded demoiselle and beautiful demoiselle (female)

It is very hard to tell the difference between female banded and female beautiful demoiselles, but the banded tends to emerge a little earlier in May, and continue to fly a bit later in September. They also look a bit more green all over, including the wings (see here)!

- Record your tally here...



Azure damselfly

This is one of the commonest damselflies in Europe. It prefers very slow moving water – so you will see it in ponds more often than streams. Adults feed on small flying insects. June and July are the peak times for seeing them in action.

- Record your tally here...



Large red damselfly

This is usually the first damselfly on the wing, often from late April. It is common throughout the UK, although it is declining in the east. Ponds, canals and ditches are where they are most likely to be found, but you will also see them in woodlands. The average adult life-span is just seven days!

- Record your tally here...

Thank you for your help!

Please return your form to Thames Lock, Weybridge or Dapdune Wharf, Guildford
or to a lengthsman along the waterway.