



# **Dragonflies and damselflies of the Howe of Fife**

**S.T. Buckland**

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This includes those species of dragonfly and damselfly that I have been able to photograph in and around the Howe of Fife.

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## Black darter

A fairly widespread species in Scotland, but much less common than the common darter in Fife. These were on Black Craig near Norman's Law.





## Common darter

A common small dragonfly that occurs around the main lochs of the Howe of Fife.





## Common hawker

A large dragonfly that occurs in relatively small numbers in the Howe of Fife. The above male was at Carphin near Luthrie, while the male below and the female were at Cairnfield Muir.





## Four-spotted chaser

A medium-sized dragonfly that can occur at drainage ditches and small pools. These were by the track from Luthrie to Norman's Law, near Black Craig.





## Migrant hawker

The migrant hawker has been spreading northwards, and may now be in the process of colonising Fife. This one was at Eden Springs (Mountcastle) in September 2026.





## Azure damselfly

Very similar to the common blue damselfly, distinguishable by the narrower blue stripes on the thorax and the shape of the black markings on the first two segments of the abdomen.



## Blue-tailed damselfly

These individuals were at Edensmuir (bottom left) and Gaddon Loch.





## Common blue damselfly

Common damselfly, especially at Gaddon Loch.





## Emerald damselfly

A common but rather inconspicuous damselfly. Common at Gaddon Loch.





## Large red damselfly

Common where there is water.

