



# Calico Pennant

*Celithemis elisa*

**FAMILY: SKIMMER**

- Percher
- Common in weedy ponds
- Red, heart-shaped markings on abdomen

## MALES VS FEMALES

Females have the same small heart pattern on top of the abdomen but are yellow instead of red.

## LAYING EGGS

A calico pennant dragonfly lays eggs by flying low over the water surface and tapping her abdomen on the water, allowing the eggs to be washed off and sink into the water; she typically does this near the edge of a pond, often while still flying in tandem with the male after mating, depositing hundreds of eggs at a time.

## FUN FACT

They are called Pennants because they often perch on tiny grass stems and blow with the breeze like a flag.

## ABOUT

The Calico Pennant is one of our most beautiful small dragonflies. Many people think it should have been named Valentine Pennant because of the small red hearts on top of the abdomen. When hunting, they are often found in meadows, but they breed in small ponds. They are common in the right habitat and are seen all summer long.

## WHAT DO THEY EAT?

Calico Pennant dragonflies eat flies, mosquitoes, and other small insects. They are usually found perched low to the ground waiting for prey to fly by.

## LEARN MORE

<https://tinyurl.com/CalicoPennant>