

## **A checklist of the Odonata of the Cape Verde Islands**

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**Abstract:** To date, 14 species of Odonata have been recorded from the archipelago. The checklist is based on previously published records, unpublished details from the historical collection of Leonardo FEA and collections made on 8 trips from 1998 to 2007. The dragonfly fauna comprises species typical for arid conditions, being widespread in Africa and known from several other African islands.

### **Introduction**

Very little seems to have been published on Cape Verde Islands dragonflies. We are aware of only four publications. CALVERT (1893) listed some dragonflies collected from Porto Grande, St. Vincent (Mindelo bay, Sao Vicente) during the U.S. Eclipse Expedition to West Africa 1889–1890. KIRBY (1897) listed two species from the same locality, collected by the Siemens Expedition, S.S. Faraday, in 1895. During that period Porto Grande was an important station for steam ships. MARTIN (1908) reported on dragonfly collected by the Italian naturalist Leonardo FEA for the Municipal Natural History Museum of Genoa 1897 to 1898. More recent records were made by LOBIN (1982). A previous checklist on the Odonata of the Cape Verde Islands has been part of a general checklist on terrestrial arthropods (VAN HARTEN 1993). And another checklist of the part Arthropoda/Odonata in ARECHAULETA et al. (eds.) (2005) compiled by A. GARCIA, M. BÁEZ & A. CABRETA refers also only to the mentioned old reports of 11 species from 5 islands.