Resource 2.

The Emperor dragonfly is a very large, impressive dragonfly that is on the wing from June to August. It is a common species of large ponds and lakes, as well as canals and ditches, but is rarely found away from water. The female lays her eggs in floating pondweed. One of the largest dragonfly species in Europe, the Emperor Dragonfly flies up high to look for insect-prey, such as butterflies and chaser dragonflies. It catches its prey in mid-air and may eat it on the wing.

Male Emperor dragonflies are pale blue, with an apple-green thorax and a black stripe running the length of the body. Females are similar, but a duller greeny-blue. Both have greeny-blue eyes. This species is recognised by the combination of its large size and mostly blue colour.



