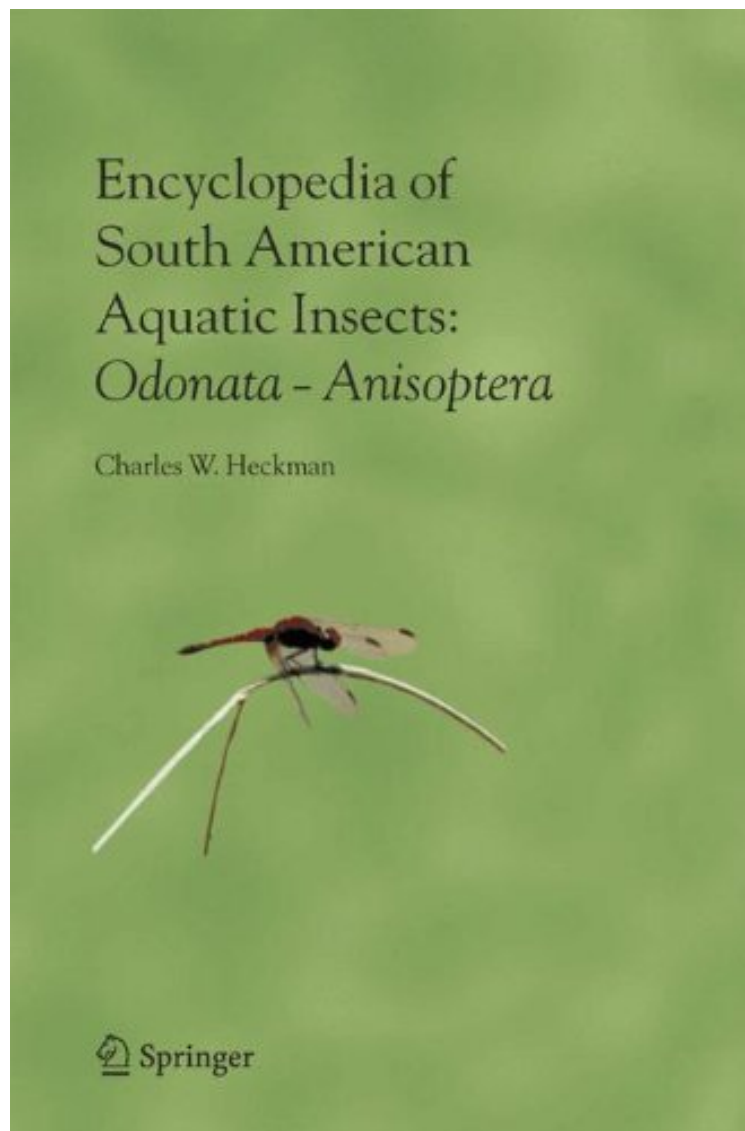


[E-BOOK] Encyclopedia of South American Aquatic Insects: Odonata - Anisoptera: Illustrated Keys to Known Families, Genera, and Species in South America

## Encyclopedia of South American Aquatic Insects: Odonata - Anisoptera: Illustrated Keys to Known Families, Genera, and Species in South America

Charles W. Heckman

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Charles W. Heckman : Encyclopedia of South American Aquatic Insects: Odonata - Anisoptera: Illustrated Keys to Known Families, Genera, and Species in South America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of South American Aquatic Insects: Odonata -

## Anisoptera: Illustrated Keys to Known Families, Genera, and Species in South America:

Anisoptera, the first of two volumes on the Odonata, encompasses the large dragonfly species. To help readers understand naming conventions, a brief introductory biological review of the group includes illustrations of the main morphological features as well as explanations of alternative systems for naming the wing veins and other structures. The text introduces keys to facilitate identification of adult dragonflies and the known larvae. Beyond anatomical features, the keys include the known ranges of the species, synonyms, and citations of literature. The book is richly illustrated with pen and ink drawings of thousands of individual morphological structures.

From the reviews: 'Students of odonates of South America should be grateful that Heckman has successfully finished this compilation of more than 500 primary publications, and no such work was available for this continent up to now. Heckman's Encyclopedia is far more complete for identification of adults to species level, and also for identification of larval stages' Jan van Tol, *Tijdschrift voor Entomologie*, Volume 150, 2007. "Heckman has provided an excellent compilation of keys to species. It will prove useful to specialists in many areas of science who need to characterize the role of Anisopteran dragonflies in South American habitats. Abundant illustrations of larvae and adults, compiled from many diverse sources, aid readers. Primarily intended for specialists, this work will help readers to better understand the environment and to develop strategies for being better stewards of the Earth. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Graduate students through professionals/practitioners." (M. K. Harris, *CHOICE*, Vol. 44 (9), May, 2007) About the Author The author, Dr. Charles W. Heckman, has performed ecological research in Laos, Thailand, Germany, Brazil, and the United States. His publications include books on rice field ecology in Thailand and the Pantanal wetland in western Brazil, as well as many monographs and shorter publications on various aspects of biology and environmental sciences. He undertook the preparation of the *Encyclopedia of South American Aquatic Insects* to produce a reference work with which researchers in South America can identify the species they encounter without having to first complete exhaustive searches of the literature, including papers published on several continents in different languages. The lack of such a tool has long impeded progress in faunal surveys, ecology, and other fields of science. Dr. Heckman's extensive experience identifying aquatic insect species using less than optimal literature has allowed him to develop an ability for recognizing the morphological features most useful for distinguishing one species from another, and this ability comes to the aid of the users of his keys to the South American aquatic insect species.