

# First record of gynandromorphism in *Trithemis aurora* (Odonata: Libellulidae)

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**Abstract.** A gynandromorphic individual of *Trithemis aurora* is reported from a garden in Palakkad district, Kerala state, India. Its eyes, thorax, legs, wings, and abdomen show mosaic gynandromorphy. The abdomen is mostly gynochromic with the tip bearing female appendages. Detailed study of the specimen shows that female characters predominate but significant areas exhibit male characters.

**Further key words.** Dragonfly, Anisoptera, mosaic gynander, androchromism

## Introduction

Gynandromorphs are genetically chimeric individuals consisting of adjacent male and female tissues, thus differing from intersexes which are genetically uniform (NARITA et al. 2010). Gynandromorphism is a rare phenomenon in nature and is readily detected in species that show sexual dimorphism. In arthropods, gynandromorphs have been recorded in crustaceans (FARMER 2004), arachnids (e.g., PALMGREN 1979; COKENDOLPHER & SISSON 1988; LABRUNA et al. 2002) and insects (e.g., MORGAN & BRIDGES 1919; NIELSEN 2010; GJERSHAUG et al. 2016). In dragonflies, gynandromorphism has been reported in at least 55 cases (cf. review by MARTENS & WILDERMUTH 2021). This phenomenon is conspicuous in species that exhibit marked sexual colour dimorphism such as *Crocothemis servilia* (Drury, 1770) (YOKOTA & ASAHINA 1953; FUTAHASHI 2017; RENJITH & CHANDRAN 2020), *Brachythemis contaminata* (Fabricius, 1793) (JOSHI et al. 2020) or *Neurothemis tullia* (Drury, 1770) (SHOME et al. 2019). Here we report on a case of phenotypical mo-