

Damselfly Nymph

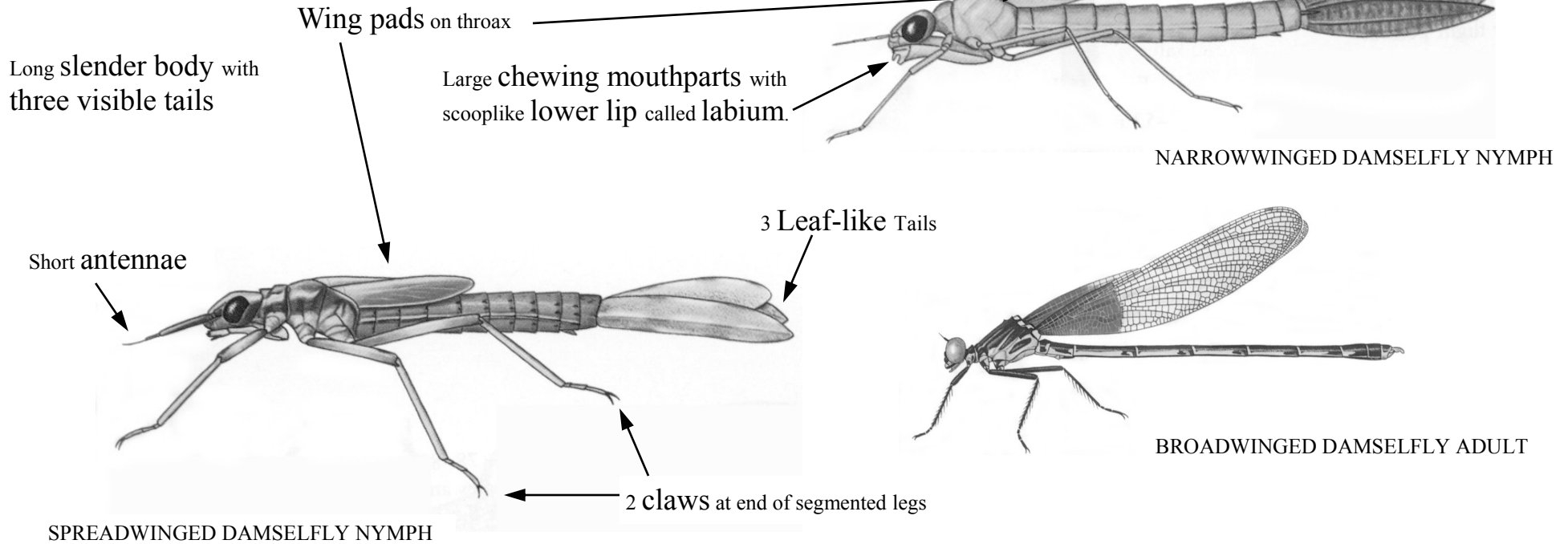
Order: Odonata

Families: *Calopterygidae*– Broadwinged
Lestidae– Spreadwinged

Number of species in North America: 407



Size: Broadwinged: 25-50mm (nymph)
Spreadwinged: 22-26mm (nymph)



Credits: McCafferty, W. Patrick. *Aquatic Entomology*, 1981.

SIMILAR TO: dragonfly

- A damselfly's head is wider than thorax and abdomen, while a dragonfly's is narrower.
- Damselflies have three elongated gills rear of abdomen, while dragonflies do not.

Diet: Zooplankton, mayflies, other damselflies, any prey that can be subdued.
Food for: Game fish, predaceous water insects.
Habitat: Still waters, ponds, lakes, streams, and rivers.
Movement: Swim feebly by waving long thin abdomen side to side.
Breathing: Closed breathing system– spread gills as far as possible to circulate water and also diffusion across skin of body.
Water Quality Indicator: Group II– can exist under a wide range of water quality conditions; a large number indicates MODERATE water quality.

Life Cycle Corner

