

SIKORSKY H-5 DRAGONFLY

H-5 SERVICE

Manufacturer: Vought-Sikorsky Aircraft Division, United Aircraft Corp.,
Stratford, Connecticut, USA
(In 1943, became Sikorsky Aircraft Division, United Aircraft
Corp., Bridgeport, Connecticut, USA)

Models: VS-327, S-51

Designations: R-5; H-5; HO2S, HO3S

Name: Dragonfly

First official flight: XR-5 18/08/1943
Model S-51 16/02/1946

Factory production period: 1943 – 1953

Primary service period: 1945 – 1950's

Last official flight: - -

H-5 VARIANTS

1943	Model VS-327	XR-5	5	
1943	Model VS-327	YR-5A	26	
1943	Model VS-327	R-5A	34	Total: 065
1947	Model S-51	R-5F	11	
1948	Model S-51	H-5G	39	
1949	Model S-51	H-5H	16	Total: 066
-	Model S-51	HO3S-1	92	
-	Model S-51	HO3S-1G	9	Total: 101
1946	Model S-51	Model S-51	53	Total: 053
				<u>Total: 285</u>
	<i>Foreign built – England:</i>			
1948	Model WS-51	Dragonfly Series	139	<u>Total: 139</u>

H-5 PRODUCTION

Military Helicopters

XR-5

*Prototype, single-engined, 3-bladed rotor,
tandem 2-seater, tail wheel, general
purpose helicopter for USAAF.*

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (SI)

43-28236 / 43-28239 -

43-47954 -

5 Total: 005

YR-5A

As XR-5, service test version, minor changes.

*Redesignated as **YH-5A** in 1948.*

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (SI)

43-46600 / 43-46625

-

26

Total: 026

R-5A

As YR-5A, production version

equipped for rescue duties.

*Redesignated as **H-5A** in 1948.*

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (SI)

43-46626 / 43-46659

-

34

Total: 034

66 additional airframes cancelled.

R-5B – Proposed R-5A modification, cancelled.

YR-5C – cancelled project.

R-5F

As R-5D, 4-seater cabin, minor changes.

*Redesignated as **H-5F** in 1948.*

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (SI)

47-480 / 47-490

-

11

Total: 011

H-5G

As R-5F, minor changes.

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (SI)

48-524 / 48-562

-

39

Total: 039

H-5H

As H-5G, wheel / pontoon landing gear.

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (SI)

49-1996 / 49-2011

-

16

Total: 016

HO3S-1

As H-5F, rescue version for US Navy.

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (S)

BuNo. 57995 / 57998

-

BuNo. 122508 / 122529

-

BuNo. 122709 / 122728

-

BuNo. 123118 / 123143

-

BuNo. 124334 / 124353

-

92

Total: 092

HO3S-1G

As HO3S-1, USCG version.

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut (S)

(USCG) 1230 / 1238

-

9

Total: 009

HO3S-2 – Reserved for US Navy version of H-5H, cancelled.

Civil Helicopters

Model S-51

*Civil version with 4-seater cabin,
developed from the R-5D.*

produced

Sikorsky Bridgeport, Connecticut
civil reg.

53 **Total: 053**

Total: 285

Foreign built – England:

Dragonfly Series

*Licence built version for UK. 6 ex-US
machines imported for tests. 2 to RAF
as VW209 and WB220 (c/n: 51-017).*

produced 1947 – 1953

Westland Aircraft Ltd., Yeovil,
Somerset, England

Dragonfly Mk. 1A / 1B

1948, civil version.

Mk. 1A had the British Alvis engine.

Mk. 1B had the US Pratt & Whitney engine.

Later developed into the Westland (S-51A Series 2)

Widgeon (1955, 15 built).

civil reg. mixed WA/H/1 to WA/H/139 53

*- 4 to RAF as WB810, WF308,
WZ749, XD649.*

Dragonfly HR.Mk. 1

Royal Navy Helicopter Rescue version.

(RN) VX595 / VX600 -

(RN) VZ961 / VZ966 - 12

Dragonfly HC.Mk. 2

RAF Helicopter Cargo version.

(RAF) VZ960 -

(RAF) WF311, WF315 WA/H/16, WA/H/17 3

Dragonfly HR.Mk. 3

Royal Navy Helicopter Rescue version.

(RN) WG661 / WG672 WA/H/31 / WA/H/42

(RN) WG705 / WG709 WA/H/43 / WA/H/47

(RN) WG714 WA/H/48

(RN) WG718 / WG726 WA/H/49 / WA/H/57

- WG725 to RAF.

(RN) WG748 / WG754 WA/H/58 / WA/H/64

(RN) WH989 / WH992 WA/H/65 / WA/H/68

(RN) WN492 / WN500 WA/H/69 / WA/H/77

(RN) WP493 / WP504 WA/H/78 / WA/H/89 59

18 additional airframes cancelled.

Dragonfly HC.Mk. 4

RAF Helicopter Cargo version.

(RAF) WT845, WT846 WA/H/108, WA/H/109

(RAF) WX953 WA/H/110

(RAF) XF259 / XF261 WA/H/105 / WA/H/107 6

Dragonfly HR.Mk. 4

RAF Helicopter Rescue version.

(RAF) XB251 / XB256 WA/H/124 / WA/H/129 6 **Total: 139**

H-5 CONVERSIONS

USAAF / USAF

XR-5A	2	XR-5, fitted with different equipment to RAF specs.
R-5D	21	1 YR-5A / 20 R-5A, 1944, engine upgrade, nose wheel, rescue hoist, external fuel tank. Original designation was YR-5D .
(H-5D)	21	1948, redesignation of the R-5D.
YR-5E	5	YR-5A, 1947, conversions with dual controls.
(YH-5E)	5	1948, redesignation of the YR-5E.

US Navy

HO2S-1	2	YR-5A, 1945, transfers to the USN for evaluation, later to USCG. Assigned BuNo. 75689 (43-46613), 75690 (43-46618). Production for 42 cancelled.
XHO3S-3	1	HO3S-1, 1950, prototype with redesigned rotor.

Foreign Conversion

Dragonfly HR.Mk. 5

1+ HR.Mk. 1 / 3, Royal Navy conversions, updated equipment.

FOREIGN MILITARY / CIVILIAN SERVICE

- *H-5 helicopters in both military and civil service with Belgium, Brazil, Ceylon, Canada, Ceylon, Egypt, France, Iraq, Italy, Japan, The Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia.*
- *The S-51 was the world's first helicopter to enter commercial service.*