

Bugs & All

Invertebrate Conservation & Information Network of South Asia (ICINSA)

Newsletter of the
Invertebrate Conservation & Information Network of South Asia (ICINSA)

DARKLING BEETLES

Rediscovery of *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Tenebrioninae) from India



Full habitus



Elytra with punctations

IUCN Red List:
Not Evaluated



Head and Pronotum with punctations



Scutellum with punctations

Insecta

[Class of Insects]

Coleoptera

[Order of Beetles]

Tenebrionidae

[Family of Darkling beetles]

Penthicoides seriatoporus

[Pod borer]

Species described by Fairmaire in 1896

Introduction

Even though there are several studies on the different fauna of Maharashtra state (2012) including some families of Coleoptera by different research workers (Jadhav, M. & Sharma 2012; Bano et al. 2012; Sharma & Bano 2012; Ghate 2012 a & b; Jadhav, S. & Sharma 2012 a, b & c; Patwardhan & Athalye 2012; Saha et al. 2012) no comprehensive report has been done on the Darkling beetles (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) of this state. After the description of the species, *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896 from Belgaum (Karnataka), it

Bugs & ALL

Invertebrate Conservation & Information Network of South Asia (ICINSA)

Newsletter of the

was recorded from Sikkim in the year 1946. i.e., exactly after 50 years (Kaszab 1975). After 1946, there were no report on the occurrence of this species from India. While working on earlier collections, in the Western Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Pune, the identification of *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896 from Maharashtra (Sangli) yielded rediscovery of that species from India after the record of the same from Sikkim.

Materials and Methods

The collections in the Western Regional Centre, Pune were studied and identified. During the study, the occurrence of *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896 from Ambegaon, Tasgaon and Jakari from Sangli district found to be the new record from Maharashtra state. The material were deposited in the centre and the registration number was also given with materials examined. Fairmaire (1896) was referred for diagnostic characters and Kaszab (1975) and Iwan (2002) for synonyms and distribution.

Systematic position

Family: Tenebrionidae Latreille, 1802

Subfamily: Tenebrioninae Latreille, 1802

Tribe: Pedinini Eschscholtz, 1829

Genus: *Penthicoides* Fairmaire, 1896

Species: *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896

Penthicoides seriatoporus Fairmaire, (1896): *Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg.*, 40: 20. – Gebien 1910b: 287; 1938b: 309; Kaszab 1975b: 357; Iwan 1997a: 264, 2002: 82.

Diagnostic characters

Length: 14.7mm (Average length of all 14 specimens). Elongated, subparallel, apex narrowly rounded at posterior, slightly convex, black, moderately shining; head finely densely punctate, shield between the antenna almost rightly impressed, transversely slightly curved and sides rounded, article in the last maxillary palp obliquely truncate; prothorax finely densely punctate, sides finely emarginated, base without border; scutellum densely punctate, transversely grooved, elytra base outwardly, barely striped, but stripes strongly punctate, intervals flat, densely punctate.



Table 1: Measurements of body length, antennal length, prothorax length and width, elytra length, lengths of basal segments of antennae.

Antennal Length (mm)	Prothorax Length (mm)	Prothorax width (mm)	Length of Elytra (mm)	Length of Basal antennal segments (mm)	Body length (mm)
3.72	4.23	6.62	9.80	0.55	15.28
3.40	4.13	6.64	9.79	0.66	15.07
3.40	4.30	6.35	9.56	0.61	14.03
3.75	4.70	7.50	9.42	0.75	15.37
4.35	3.94	6.08	9.96	0.62	15.16
4.16	3.70	5.77	9.84	0.759	14.79
4.58	3.40	6.59	9.32	0.52	13.97
3.61	3.65	5.96	9.36	0.68	14.26
4.88	3.55	6.17	9.13	0.67	13.93
3.59	4.32	7.11	9.02	0.75	14.59
3.12	4.94	7.89	9.25	0.77	15.44
3.38	4.08	6.67	9.11	0.515	14.44
3.49	3.74	5.83	9.90	0.702	14.89
3.80	4.05	6.55	9.80	0.66	15.10
Average body length (mm)					14.73

Material examined

09 exs. 17.ix.1979, Yerala river, Ambegaon, Sangli, Reg. No. Ent-1/2083; 03 exs. 12.ix.1979, Chincholi, Tasgaon, Sangli, Reg. No. Ent-1/2086; 02 exs. 19.ix. 1979, Islampur Road, Jakari, Sangli, Reg. No. Ent-1/2090 all collections by A.S. Mahabal.

Distribution: INDIA: Maharashtra (Sangli), Karnataka (Belgaum), Sikkim (Twalong).

Conclusion

Since there was no report of *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896 from India after 1946 from Sikkim, the occurrence of the same species from Sangli district Maharashtra constitutes the new report from Maharashtra as well as the rediscovery from India.

Bugs R All

Newsletter of the Invertebrate Conservation & Information Network of South Asia (ICINSA)

References

- Bano, R., G. Kavita, S. Charan & R.M. Sharma (2012).** Insecta : Coleoptera : Bruchidae: Bruchids *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 495-497.
- Fairmaire, L. (1896).** Heteromeres de Lінде. *Annals de la societieembryologie de Belgique* 40: 20.
- Ghate, H.V. (2012a).** Insecta : Coleoptera: Cerambycidae. *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 503-505.
- Ghate, H.V. (2012b)** Insecta: Coleoptera: Chrysomeloidea : Chrysomelidae : Cassidinae *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 523-526.
- Iwan, D. (2002).** Catalogue of world Platynotini (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae): *Genus* 13(2): 219-323.
- Jadhav, M.J. & R.M. Sharma (2012).** Insecta: Coleoptera : Scarabaeidae : Scarabaeid Beetles *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 489-494.
- Jadhav, S.S. & R.M. Sharma (2012a).** Insecta: Coleoptera: Coccinellidae *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 507-509.
- Jadhav, S.S. & R.M. Sharma (2012b).** Insecta: Coleoptera: Cicindelidae. *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 511-512.
- Jadhav, S.S. & R.M. Sharma (2012c).** Insecta: Coleoptera: Rhynchophora: Curculionidae *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 527-528.
- Kaszab, Z. (1975).** Revision der Asiatischen Platynotinen (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae). *Acta Zoologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* XXL (3-4), 277-367.
- Patwardhan, A. & R.P. Athalye (2012).** Insecta: Coleoptera: Elateridae *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 513-516.
- Priyanka Dutta, S., M.J. Jadhav & R.M. Sharma (2012).** Insecta: Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae. *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 517-522.
- Sharma, R.M. & R. Bano (2012).** Insecta : Coleoptera (Aquatic). *Zool Surv India, Fauna of Maharashtra, State Fauna series*, 20 (Part-2): 499-501.

Acknowledgements

I am thankful to Dr. Kailash Chandra, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata for the facilities and all the staff of Western Regional Centre, Pune for their constant encouragement.

V.D. Hegde¹ & D. Vasanthakumar²

^{1&2}Western Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Vidyanagar, Ravet Road, Akurdi, Pune - 411 044. E-mail: ¹hegde67@yahoo.co.in (corresponding author), ²duraivasanthakumar@gmail.com

Citation: Hegde, V.D. & D. Vasanthakumar (2017). Darkling Beetles: Rediscovery of *Penthicoides seriatoporus* Fairmaire, 1896 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Tenebrioninae) from India. *Bugs R All*#162. In: *Zoo's Print* 32(9): 13-16.

Newsletter of the Invertebrate Conservation and Information Network of South Asia (ICINSA) and Invertebrate Specialist Group (ISIG) of Conservation Planning Specialist Group, South Asia. ICINSA and ISIG are coordinated by Dr. B.A. Daniel, Scientist, Zoo Outreach Organization

Editor: B.A. Daniel

Editorial Advisor: Sally Walker and Sanjay Molur

Bugs 'R' All is published by ZOO and CPSG South Asia as a service to invertebrate Conservation community. This issue is published with the financial support of Zoological Society of London

For communication contact:

The Editor, ZOO/CPSG South Asia office

12, Thiruvannamalai Nagar, Saranampatti PO, Coimbatore 641035 TN India

Phone: +91 422 6575854; Email: daniel@zooreach.org

