



## Short Communication

### NEW RECORD OF *SCARITES SEMIRUGOSUS* CHAUDOIR (INSECTA: COLEOPTERA: CARABIDAE) FROM KARNATAKA, INDIA

#### INTRODUCTION

Scaritine Ground beetles are dark in color; body pedunculate and nearly cylindrical, sometimes slightly flattened; legs digitate and with variable spurs which are suitable for digging; eyes well developed but not so much externally protruding. *Scarites* can be differentiated from other genera of the group by hooked maxillae, one supraorbital seta, head without central tubercle, and extended buccal fissure. *Scarites* is represented by nearly 55 species in Indian Subcontinent. These beetles are generally found on moist, sandy or loose soil and make deep burrows in the soil and rest there during day times and come out in the night. The Present paper records *Scarites semirugosus* Chaudoir known to occur already in several Indian states (Andrewes, 1929, 1930 & Saha, 2000) except from Karnataka State.

#### SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Order COLEOPTERA

Suborder ADEPHAGA

Family CARABIDAE Latreille, 1802

Subfamily SCARITINAE Bonelli, 1810

Tribe SCARITINI Bonelli, 1810

Subtribe SCARITINA Sloane, 1905

Genus *Scarites* Fabricius, 1775

*Scarites semirugosus* Chaudoir, 1855

1855. *Scarites semirugosus* Chaudoir, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Mosc.* 1: 90.

1855. *Scarites rugipennis* Chaudoir, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Mosc.* 1: 81.

1929. *Scarites semirugosus*, Andrewes, *Faun. Brit. India incl. Ceylon and Burma* (Coleoptera: Carabidae) Vol. 1 (Carabinae): 228, 237, f. 39 (12), 240.

#### DIAGNOSTIC CHARACTERS

Lateral truncature of head nearly straight, very slightly emarginate; preocular angle round and very slightly projecting outwards. Clypeus and frons striated. Frontal impression moderately shallow with striations on its outer sides. Surface of head with fine irregular striations, sparsely distributed punctures and shiny. One supraorbital seta on posterior half margin of the eye, supraorbital groove deeper at posterior margin of eye (Crescent depression like structure). Eyes moderately convex. Mandibles obliquely striated and nearly equal to head in length, basal tooth of right mandible thick and not bifid. Genae coarsely punctuate, nearly equal to eye, not projecting beyond it and sharply turns towards neck. Antennae moniliform, dilating towards apex; Joint 1 Scapiform, 1-4 glabrous and round surface, 5-11 pubescent and flat surface, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> equal, 4<sup>th</sup> is nearly 2/3 of 3<sup>rd</sup> one, 5-10 slightly longer than wide, 11<sup>th</sup> nearly 0.5 times longer than wide. Mentum rugose striate, bordered at sides (not narrowly). Prothorax 1/4 wider than head, nearly 1/5 wider than long; Base produced and with thick border, fine transverse depression in front of base; hind angle rounded and with a tooth having one pore and seta, front angle slightly rounded and not produced, sides nearly straight in middle. Median line moderately deep with some transverse crenulations on posterior extreme, front transverse line fine in middle with fine crenulations and deep on both extremes with moderate crenulations. Basal foveae with striations and granulations. Elytral surface shiny but dull in apical region, slightly dilated posteriorly; As wide as prothorax, nearly twice longer than wide; Striae impunctate, moderately deep and not crenulate, irregularly provided with microsculptures, nearly transverse line irradiating from stria and runs in adjacent intervals; striae faint in apical region, striae

3 & 4 join in apical region and this joint stria further joins 2<sup>nd</sup> stria before apex, 6<sup>th</sup> stria discontinued atleast two places in basal half region, 7<sup>th</sup> stria discontinued at many places giving punctate appearance, 5 & 6 striae bend slightly outward in basal region; Intervals moderately punctuate with very fine punctures, less punctuate in basal region, 7<sup>th</sup> interval form very slight carina near shoulder, last interval with granulation throughout; Basal margin granulate. Each elytron with 2 setae in posterior half region. Anterior Seta is placed in 3<sup>rd</sup> interval and very close to 3<sup>rd</sup> stria. Posterior seta is placed at the juncture of 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3-4 combined striae. Protibiae with 5 denticulation, Mesotibiae with 2 spurs. Abdomen moderately punctuate at sides. Sternum smooth but slightly punctuate on sides. Metepisterna 2.7 as long as wide. Reddish spot on either sides of last two abdominal segments.

**Length :** 23 mm.

*Material Examined :* 1 ex., INDIA: Karnataka, North Kanara, Kadatoka, 26.ix.2009, Coll. Dr. V.D. Hegde.

*Distribution :* INDIA: Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, Karnataka. *Elsewhere :* MYANMAR, MALAYSIA, THAILAND, PHILIPPINES.

*Habitat :* Araecanut Plantation.



*Scarites semirugosus* Chaudoir

*Remarks :* This species is recorded for the first time from Karnataka state.

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- Saha, S.K. and S.K. Halder 2000. *Zool. Surv. India, State Fauna Series 4: Fauna of Meghalaya Part 5: 1-40.* (Published by Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata).

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