



# Additions to the knowledge of Darkling Beetles (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) of Assam with one New Record to India

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## Abstract

The present paper is based on the identification of the materials present in the National Zoological Collection and the earlier scattered reports to make the study complete. This paper deals with 62 species from 24 genera belonging to 15 tribes of 05 prominent subfamilies of the family Tenebrionidae from Assam and taxonomic details, distribution of the species are given. Five species identified are new records to Assam and one species is a new record to India. Seven species are endemic to Assam.

**Keywords:** Assam, Endemic, New Record, Tenebrionidae

## Introduction

Assam is a northeastern state of India situated between the parallels of 24°88" and 27°10" North longitude and 89°10" and 96°10" East latitude, located south of the eastern Himalayas. Assam comprises the Brahmaputra and the Barak river valleys the North Cachar Hills with an area of 30,285 square miles (78,438 km<sup>2</sup>). Assam is bounded by six of the other Seven Sister States: Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura and Geographically Assam and these states are connected to the rest of India via a narrow strip of land in West Bengal called the Siliguri Corridor. Assam shares international borders with Bangladesh and Bhutan.

Tenebrionidae is the versatile group, and the representatives of this family are hard to differentiate but can be identified by these characters: body hard; antennal insertion hidden under frons; elytra usually completely covering the abdomen; abdomen with five visible sternites and first three segments connate; front coxal cavities closed behind; heteromerous tarsi, tarsal segments and claws simple. Even though there are some studies on the insects of Assam along with other states (Ghosh, 1975a&b, 1977; Joseph & Parui, 1977; Rynth, 1979; Rao, 1981; Maiti & Saha, 2000; Srivastava, 2003; Bal, 2008; Mukhopadhyaya, 2008), there is no comprehensive

study on the Tenebrionidae (Coleoptera) fauna of Assam state. Hence, an attempt has been made to study the Tenebrionidae of Assam state.

## Material and Methods

The present paper is based on the identification of the materials present in the National Zoological Collection, collected by different survey parties of Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata. The material was sorted out, set pinned, identified and the classification was followed based on Bouchard *et al.* (2005). Distributional reports of some species were corrected as per the present scenario. The identification is mainly based on the differences in the morphological characters and the structure of the genitalia. The registration numbers are also given for the material examined. To make the study comprehensive, earlier scattered reports (Bremer & Lillig, 2014; Iwan *et al.*, 2010; Kaszab, 1975a&b, 1988a&b; Löbl & Smetana, 2008; Masumoto, 1994; Schawaller, 2002, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2014a&b, 2015, 2016) were also taken into consideration. Since the specimens observed were very old and in fragile conditions, the images were not given. The species reported elsewhere (other than India) are also included in the distribution.

## Results

This paper deals with 62 species from 24 genera belonging to 15 tribes of 05 prominent subfamilies of the family Tenebrionidae from Assam and interestingly, 05 species; *Toxicum assamensis* Pic, *Gonocephalum depressum* Fabricius, *Crypsis bimaculatus* Kaszab, *Leiochrinus satsumae* Lewis and *Leiochrinus sauteri* Kaszab are new records from Assam. *Derispiella bhutanensis* Kaszab, 1975 is new record to India.

### Systematic Account

Subfamily ALLECULINAE Laporte, 1840

Tribe Alleculini Laporte, 1840

***Allecula humeralis*** Blair, 1922

1922. *Allecula humeralis* Blair, *Rec. Ind. Mus.*, 24 (3): 295.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Assam – Patkai, Siam.

Subfamily LAGRIINAE Latreille, 1825 (1820)

Tribe Laenini Seidlitz, 1895

***Laena cuccodoroi*** Schawaller, 2012

2012. *Laena cuccodoroi* Schawaller, *Stuttgarter Beiträge zur Naturkunde A, Neue Serie*, 5: 266.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Assam - Cachar Hills-Mt. Borail peak.

Tribe **Lupropini** Ardoin, 1958.

***Luprops gracilior*** Fairmaire, 1896

1896. *Luprops gracilior* Fairmaire, *Annales de la Societe Entomologique de Belgique*, 40: 28.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, and Assam – Kaziranga. *Elsewhere:* Bhutan and Pakistan.

***Luprops kaszabi*** Schawaller, 1997

1997. *Luprops kaszabi* Schawaller, *Entomologische Zeitschrift*, 107: 295-298.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Uttarakhand, Meghalaya and Assam (Umrongso). *Elsewhere:* Nepal and West Malaysia.

Subfamily **Diaperinae** Latreille, 1802

Tribe **Diaperini** Latreille, 1802

***Ceropria induta induta*** Wiedemann, 1819

1819. *Helops indutus* Wiedemann, *Zool. Mag.*, 1 (3): 164.

1831. *Ceroprias ubocellata* Castelnau et Brulle, *Anns. Soc. nat. Paris*, 23: 398.

1982. *Ceropria kinugasai* Masumoto, *Ent. Rev. Japan*, 36: 151.

*Material examined:* Reg. No. 3228-3229/H4A, 02 ex., Assam, R.K. Katiyar coll., 06.x.1961.

*Distribution:* INDIA: West Bengal, Andaman Islands, Chattisgarh, Kobo, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. *Elsewhere:* Java, Sumatra, Philippines, Myanmar, Thailand, Indochina, China, Japan, Korea, Nia Is., Engano Is., Sunda Is., Simalur Is., Borneo, Sulawesi, Halmahera, Malaya Peninsula, Taiwan, Ryuku Is.

***Ceropria induta purpurina*** Gebien 1925

1925. *Ceropria induta* var. *purpurina* Gebien, *Philip. J. Sci.*, 27: 277.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam - Sadiya, Khasia Hills. *Elsewhere:* Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Tribe **Phaleriini** Blanchard, 1845

***Spiloscapa assamica*** Kaszab, 1975

1975. *Spiloscapa assamica* Kaszab, *Acta Zool. Hung. Budapest*, 21(1-2): 34.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Assam (Endemic).

Tribe **Leiochrinini** Lewis, 1894

***Crypsis bimaculatus*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Crypsis bimaculatus* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221.

*Material examined:* 01 ex. Assam. F. Schmid coll. 14.viii.1960, Reg. No. 10698 /H4A.

*Distribution:* INDIA: Sikkim, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. *Elsewhere:* Nepal.

*Remark:* This species constitutes new record from Assam.

***Crypsis minutus*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Crypsis minutes* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221: 197.

*Distribution:* INDIA: West Bengal and Assam. *Elsewhere:* Nepal.

***Crypsis purpuripennis*** Neervroot Van de Poll, 1886

1886. *Crypsis purpuripennis* Neervroot Van de Poll, *Notes from the Leyden Museum*, 8: 34 (Leiochrotina).

*Distribution*: INDIA: Manipur, Sikkim and Assam.

***Derispia affinis*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Derispia affinis* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221: 86.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam. *Elsewhere*: Myanmar.

***Derispia assamica*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Derispia assamica* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221: 81.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam (Endemic).

***Derispia hobbyi*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Deris piahobbyi* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221: 87.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam (Endemic).

***Derispia korschefskyi*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Derispia hobbyi* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221: 96.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam (Endemic).

***Derispia truncata*** Kaszab, 1961

1961. *Derispia truncata* Kaszab, *Acta. Zool.*7: 175.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal and Assam – Manas. *Elsewhere*: Nepal.

***Derispiella bhutanensis*** Kaszab, 1975

1975. *Derispiella bhutanensis* Kaszab, *Entomologia Basiliensis*, 1: 324.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 6844 /H4A, 01 ex., Upper Reng, Assam, S. Kemp coll., 01.xii.1911.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam- Upper Reng. *Elsewhere*: Bhutan.

*Remarks*: This species constitutes new record from India. However, Schawaller (2016) considers *Derispiella bhutanensis* as a probable synonym of *Derispiella hingstoni* Kaszab, 1975 from Darjeeling, which needs further study.

***Derispiola assamensis*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Derispiola assamensis* Kaszab, *Ungarisches Naturwissenschaftliches Museum*, 221: 116.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 6845 /H4A, 01 ex., Upper Reng Assam, S. Kemp coll., 08.iii.1912; Reg. No. 6850 /H4A, 01 ex., Abor exp. Assam, S. Kemp coll., 24.i.1912.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Meghalaya and Assam- Upper Reng.

***Leiochrinus satsumae*** Lewis, 1894

1894. *Leiochrinus satsumae* Lewis, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* (6): 13.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 6833 /H4A, 01 ex., Kobo, 4000 ft, Assam, S. Kemp coll., 01.xii.1911.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Arunachal Pradesh and Assam-Kobo. *Elsewhere*: Thailand, Japan and Indo-China.

*Material examined*: This species constitutes new record from Assam.

***Leiochrinus sauteri*** Kaszab, 1946

1946. *Leiochrinus sauteri* Kaszab, *Mon.* :123.

*Remark*:: Reg. No. 6831 /H4A, 01 ex., Kobo, 4000 ft, Assam, S. Kemp coll., 01.xii.1911.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam- Kobo. *Elsewhere*: Guizhou, Taiwan, Indo-China, Nepal and Myanmar.

*Remark*: This species earlier also reported from Assam.

***Leiochrodes discoidalis*** Westwood, 1883

1883. *Leiochrodes discoidalis* Westwood, *Tijdschrift voor Entomologie*, 26(1882-83): 69.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam - Kaziranga. *Elsewhere*: Sunda Islands, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos and China.

***Leiochrota varicolor*** Westwood, 1883

1883. *Leiochrota varicolor* Westwood, *Tijdschrift voor Entomologie*, 26 (1882-83): 70.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam. *Elsewhere*: Myanmar, Malakka, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, Mentawai, Philippines and Malaysia.

***Pimplema hemisphaerica*** (Laporte and Brulle, 1831)

1831. *Pimplema hemisphaerica* Laporte, *Annales des Sciences Naturelles* 23: 367.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 6821/H4A and 6825/H4A, 02 ex., Kobo, 4000 ft, Assam. S. Kemp coll., 01.xii.1911.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Sikkim and Assam – Manas. Kobo. *Elsewhere*: Sumatra, Borneo, Java, New Guinea, Nepal, Myanmar and Luzon.

Tribe **Crypticini** Brulle, 1832

**Sivacrypticus bengalensis** Kaszab, 1975

1975. *Sivacrypticus bengalensis* Kaszab: *Acta Zool. Hung. Budapest*, **21**(1-2): 34, Abb. 16.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal and Assam – Barapani (currently located in Meghalaya).

**Sivacrypticus sericans** (Fairmaire, 1896)

1896. *Platydemia sericans* Fairmaire, *Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg.*, **40**: 24.

1975. *Sivacrypticus sericans* Kaszab: *Acta Zool. Hung. Budapest*, **21**(1-2): 32.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Assam - Darugiri, Garo Hills (currently located in Meghalaya).

Subfamily **Tenebrioninae** Latreille, 1802

Tribe **Toxicini** Lacordaire, 1859

**Toxicum assamense** Pic, 1913

1913. *Toxicum assamensis* Pic, *Melanges Exotico-Entomologiques*, **6**: 18.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 551/H4A, 01 ex., Goalpara, Assam, B.K. Tikader coll., 11.iii.1957.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam- Goalpara. *Elsewhere*: Nepal.

*Material examined*: This species constitutes new record from Assam.

Tribe **Alphitobiini** Reitter, 1917

**Alphitobius laevigatus** (Fabricius, 1781)

1781. *Opatrum laevigatus* Fabricius, *Spec. Ins.* **1**: 90.

1964. *Alphitobius laevigatus*: Kaszab, *Tijdschr. V. Ent. C.* **7**(5): 295.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman Islands, Rajasthan and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Cosmopolitan in distribution.

**Alphitobius piceus** Olivier, 1972

1972. *Alphitobius piceus* Olivier, *Encycl. Meth.* **7**: 50.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 4121-4124/H4A, 04 ex., Missamari, Assam, S.K.B. and A.N.T. J. coll., 01.xii.1965.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Assam- Missamari. Cosmopolitan- Throughout India.

*Material examined*: Even though, this species is collected from Missamari, Assam for the first time, this species can't be the new record, since this species is cosmopolitan in distribution.

Tribe **Ulomini** Blanchard, 1845

**Uloma polita** (Wiedemann, 1821)

1821. *Uloma polita* Wiedemann, *Germ. Mag.* **4**, p. 149.

1996. *Uloma polita* Schawaller, *Acta Zoologica Acad. Sci. Hungaricae*, **42**: 113-114.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Sikkim, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, and Assam- Kaziranga. *Elsewhere*: Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, Mauritius, and Bhutan.

**Uloma prehimalayana** Kaszab, 1975

1975. *Uloma prehimalayana* Kaszab, *Entomologia Basiliensia* **1**: 325.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Meghalaya and Assam.

**Uloma rufilabris** Fairmaire, 1882

1882. *Uloma rufilabris* Fairmaire, *Notes Leyd. Mus.*, **4**: 226.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Assam- Manas.

Tribe **Amarygmini** Gistel, 1856

**Gonocnemis dohertyi** Ardoïn, 1964

1964. *Gonocnemis dohertyi* Ardoïn, *Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France*, **69** (5-6): 130.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam (Endemic).

Tribe **Pedinini** Eschscholtz, 1829

**Platynotus excavatus** (Fabricius, 1775)

1775. *Blaps excavatus* Fabricius, *Systema Entomologiae*: 254.

1801. *Platynotus excavatus*: Fabricius, *Flensburgi et Lipsiae*: 138.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Assam.

Tribe **Opatrini** Brulle, 1832

**Gonocephalum chinense** Gebien, 1910

1910. *Gonocephalum chinense* Gebien, *Tenebrionidae*: 322.

*Distribution*: INDIA – Assam. *Elsewhere*: China, Hainan and Yunnan.

***Gonocephalum curiosum*** Kaszab, 1952

1952. *Gonocephalum curiosum* Kaszab, *Ent. Arb. Mus. Georg Frey*, **3**: 460.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Bihar, West Bengal and Assam - Tezpur, Mangaldai dist. (presently in Sonitpur Dist.). *Elsewhere*: Myanmar and Nepal.

***Gonocephalum depressum*** (Fabricius, 1801)

1801. *Opatrum depressum* Fabricius, *Bibliopolii Academici Novi, Kiliae*, **24**: 117.

1906. *Gonocephalum depressum*: Gebien, *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* : 21.

*Material examined*: Reg. No. 10230-10232/H4A, 03 ex., Tejgaon, Assam, G.A. Patel coll., 01.iii.1946; Reg. No. 550/H4A, 01 ex., Goalpara, Assam, B.K. Tikader coll., 11.iii.1957.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Sikkim, Manipur, Meghalaya, Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam - Tejgaon, Goalpara. *Elsewhere*: Pakistan, Indonesia, Bhutan, Nepal; Taiwan Afghanistan, Laos, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and China.

*Remark*: This species constitutes new record from Assam.

***Gonocephalum espanoli*** Kaszab, 1965

1965. *Gonocephalum espanoli* Kaszab, *Miscelánea Zoológica*, **2** (1): 111.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Arunachal Pradesh and Assam.

***Gonocephalum hingstoni*** Kaszab, 1952

1952. *Gonocephalum hingstoni* Kaszab, *Ent. Arb. Mus. Georg Frey*, **3**: 524.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Sikkim, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Assam - Kairchane. *Elsewhere*: Nepal.

***Gonocephalum pubens*** (Marseul, 1876)

1876. *Opatrum pubens* Marseul, *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France* **6**: 97.

1936. *Gonocephalum pubens*: Reichardt, *Tabl. Anal. Fauna USSR*, **19**: 97.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Arunachal Pradesh and Assam - Dibrugarh. *Elsewhere*: China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan

***Gonocephalum stevensi*** Kaszab, 1952

1952. *Gonocephalum stevensi* Kaszab, *Ent. Arb. Mus. Georg Frey*, **3**: 522.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam - Dejoo, North Lakhimpur, Base of Hills.

Subfamily **Stenochiinae** Kirby, 1837

Tribe **Cnodalonini** Oken, 1843

***Bradymerus clathratus*** Schaufuss, 1887

1887. *Bradymerus clathratus* Schaufuss, *Horae Societatis Entomologicae Russicae*, **21**: 134.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Andaman Islands and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, Taiwan, Sunda Islands, Sulawesi, Philippines, Borneo, Bali, and Sumatra.

***Bradymerus malayicus*** Schwaller, 2006

2006. *Bradymerus malayicus* Schwaller, *Stuttgarter Beiträge zur Naturkunde A, (Biologie)*, **694**: 52.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam - U. Dihing, Lakhimpur. *Elsewhere*: Malaysia and Thailand.

***Derosphaerus asperipennis*** Allard, 1896

1896. *Derosphaerus asperipennis* Allard, *Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr.*, **1**(13): 320.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttarakhand, Sikkim, West Bengal and Assam - Lohit Valley. *Elsewhere*: Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet.

***Derosphaerus exularis*** (Gebien, 1914)

1913. *Derosphaerus exularis* (Gebien), *Archiv. fur Naturges.*, (1914) A **79** (9): 31. (*Encyalesthus*).

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Japan, Taiwan and Nepal.

***Derosphaerus rugosus*** Gravely, 1915

1915. *Derosphaerus rugosus* Gravely, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **8**: 528.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Sikkim, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam - Kaziranga, Umrongso, Sivsagar, Dejoo, North Lakhimpur. *Elsewhere*: Nepal, Aborland (currently known as Siang Valley, located in Arunachal Pradesh).

***Promethis birmanica*** Kaszab, 1988

1988. *Promethis birmanica* (Kaszab), *Acta zoologica Hungarica*, **34**(2-3): 81.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam- Naga. *Elsewhere*: Myanmar.

***Promethis crenatostriata*** (Motschulsky, 1872) comb. n.

1872. *Setenis crenatostriata* Motschulsky, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscow*, **45**(3): 30.

1893. *Nyctobates foveicollis* Fairmaire, *Annl. Soc. Ent. Fr.*, **62**:29

1915. *Setenis crenatostrata*: Gravely, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **8**: 526

1928. *Setenis sinuatipes* Pic: *Bull. Soc. Zool. Fr.*, **53**: 377

*Distribution*: INDIA: Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. *Elsewhere*: China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.

***Promethis evanescens*** (Gebien, 1918) Comb. n.

1918. *Setenis evanescens* Gebien: *Ent. Mitt.* **7** (7-9): 124

1893. *Nyctobates quadricollis* Fairmaire: *Annl. Soc. Ent. Belg.*, **37**: 297

1980. *Setenis quadricollis* Kaszab: *Annl. Hist. nat. Mus. natn. Hung.*, **72**: 177

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam. *Elsewhere*: China, Laos and Vietnam.

***Promethis harmandi*** Allard, 1896

1896. *Promethis harmandi* Allard: *Bull. Soc. Ent. Fr.*, **1**(13): 318.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Punjab, West Bengal, Sikkim and Assam. *Elsewhere*: China, Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand and Pakistan.

***Promethis kempi kempi*** (Gravely, 1915) comb. n.

1915. *Setenis kempi* Gravely: *Rec. Ind. Mus.* **2**:526, p.43, fig 6.

1980. *Setenis kempi* Kaszab, *Annl. hist-nat. Mus. Natn. Hung.*, **72**:177.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Himalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam-Sibsagar. *Elsewhere*: China and Vietnam.

***Promethis opacimentum*** Kaszab, 1988

1988. *Promethis opacimentum* Kaszab, *Acta zoologica Hungarica*, **34**(2-3): 84.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Himalaya and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Laos.

***Promethis punctatostrata*** (Motschulsky, 1872)

1872. *Setenis punctatostrata* Motschulsky, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Mosc.*, **45** (3): 39.

1893. *Nyctobates indosinicus* Fairmaire, *Annl. Soc. Ent. Belg.*, **37**: 296.

1915. *Setenis indosinica* Gravely, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **8**: 526.

1929. *Setenis foveiceps* Pic., *Melang. Exot. Ent.*, **53**: 17.

1929. *Setenis pilipes* Pic, *Melang. Exot. Ent.*, **53**: 17.

2016. *Promethis punctatostrata* Hegde, *Intl. J. Appl. Pure Sci. Agric.*, **2**(6): 187.

*Distribution*: INDIA: West Bengal, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Laos, China, Nepal, Korea, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Malay Peninsula.

***Promethis sinuatocollis*** Kaszab, 1988

1988. *Promethis sinuatocollis* Kaszab, *Acta Zoologica Hungarica*, **34**(2-3): 73, 103.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Assam. *Elsewhere*: China, Laos and Vietnam.

***Promethis transversicollis*** (Motschulsky, 1872)

1872. *Setenis transversicollis* Motschulsky, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Mosc.*, **45**(3): 29.

1896. *Nyctobates (Seteris) laevis* Fairmaire, *Notes Leyden Mus.*, **18**: 230.

1915. *Setenis laevis* Gravely, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **8** (8): 526.

2016. *Promethis transversicollis* Hegde, *Intl. J. Appl. Pure Sci. Agric.*, **2**(6): 189.

*Distribution*: INDIA: North India- Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim and Assam. *Elsewhere*: China, Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Laos, Nepal, Bhutan and Korea.

Tribe **Stenochiini** Kirby, 1837

***Strongylium aratum*** Fairmaire, 1896

1896. *Strongylium aratum* Fairmaire, *Ann. Soc. Ent. Belg.* **40**: 35.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Yunnan and Nepal.

***Strongylium angusticolle*** Maklin, 1864

1864. *Strongylium angusticolle* Maklin, *Monographie*: 333.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Sikkim, Meghalaya, and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Yunnan and Nepal.

***Strongylium angustissimum*** Pic, 1922

1922. *Strongylium angustissimum* Pic, *Mel. exo. ent.*, **37**: 27.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Sikkim, Meghalaya, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Assam -Umrongso. *Elsewhere*: Yunnan and Nepal.

***Strongylium cultellatum*** Maklin, 1864

1864. *Strongylium cultellatum* Maklin, *Monographie*: **345**.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Meghalaya, West Bengal and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Nepal and China.

***Strongylium curvicornis*** Gravelly, 1915

1915. *Strongylium curvicornis* Gravelly, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, **8**: 535.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Northeast (Aborland; currently known as Siang Valley located in Arunachal Pradesh) and Assam - Dejoo, North Lakhimpur.

***Strongylium mediofoveatum*** Blair, 1931

1931. *Strongylium mediofoveatum* Blair, *The Ent. Mon. Mag.*, **67**: 200.

*Distribution*: Sikkim, West Bengal and Assam - Patkai Mts.

***Strongylium sobrinum*** Dohrn, 1880

1880. *Strongylium sobrinum* Dohrn, *Ent. Zeit., Stettin*, **41**: 376.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Assam - Dejoo, North Lakhimpur. *Elsewhere*: Nepal.

***Strongylium stevensi*** Gravelly, 1915

1915. *Strongylium stevensi* Gravelly, *Rec. Indian Mus., Calcutta*, **8**: 534.

*Distribution*: INDIA: Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam - Dejoo, North Lakhimpur.

***Strongylium westermanni*** Maklin, 1864

1864. *Strongylium westermanni* Maklin, *Monographie*: **341** (449).

1896. *Strongylium cariosipenne* Fairmaire, *Not. Leyden Mus.*, **18**: 112 (Pedong) [Syn. nov.]

*Distribution*: INDIA: Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Assam. *Elsewhere*: Nepal.

## Discussion

Even though there are studies on the Tenebrionidae fauna of some northeastern states (Hegde & Lal, 2016; Hegde, 2019) and of eastern states like West Bengal (Hegde & Vasantha Kumar, 2018) and Sikkim (Hegde, 2016) there are no studies on the Tenebrionidae fauna of Assam. Since there were no extensive surveys conducted and only there

are some scattered reports from Assam the number of species reported is very less when compared to the other eastern states like West Bengal which has the report of 290 species (Hegde & Vasantha Kumar, 2018) and Sikkim which is having 106 species (Hegde, 2016).

*Allecula humeralis* Blair the only species representing the comb-clawed beetle and *Laena cuccodoroi* Schawaller, representing high altitudinal species are endemic to Assam. Along with these, the species *Gonocnemis dohertyi* Ardoin, *Spiloscapa assamica* Kaszab, *Derispia assamica* Kaszab, *Derispia hobbyi* Kaszab, *Derispia korschefskyi* Kaszab are also endemic to the state of Assam. The large-sized species of the genus like *Promethis* and *Strongylium* are 09 in number and probably the most abundant genera also. The heavy sclerotized species of the genus *Gonocephalum* are 07 in number and when compared to the species reported from the genus *Laena* and *Gonocephalum* from India, the commonly available species are also lacking in the report. The extensive survey in different ecosystems, National Parks and other Protected Areas may yield more number of high altitudinal, common and endemic species and even the new species also.

This paper is the consolidated report of Darkling beetles of Assam state based on the identification of the collections from Zoological Survey of India and the scattered reports on the darkling beetles of Assam. This paper contains the taxonomic details of 62 species from 24 genera belonging to 15 tribes of 05 important subfamilies of the family Tenebrionidae from Assam of which five species are new records to the state and one species is new record to India and state contains seven endemic species of Tenebrionidae. Since the number of reported species is less when compared to the other eastern states like West Bengal and Sikkim, the extensive surveys in different ecosystems, National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries may record few more important species from the Assam state.

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