

**NOTES ON THE INDIAN SPECIES OF *ANISOLABIS* FIEBER  
(DERMAPTERA : ANISOLABIDIDAE)**

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In India genus *Anisolabis* Fieber, is represented by two species viz., *A. gaudens* Burr and *A. deplanata* Srivastava, of which the taxonomic position of the former is doubtful since it is known by females. Besides a new species *A. bhowmiki* is described here.

It is proposed to synonymise *Aborolabis martensi* brindle under *Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava owing to their identical description.

According to Srivastava (1985) the record of *A. maritima* Bonelli from South India (Burr, 1914 ; Steinmann, 1981) are based on either females or nymphs, are doubtful.

**Genus *Anisolabis* Fieber**

1853. *Anisolabis* Fieber, *Lotos*, 3 : 257 (Type species—*Forficula maritima* Bonelli in Gene, 1832, by subsequent designation of Scudder, 1876, *Proc. Boston Soc. nat. Hist.*, 18 : 289).

**Diagnostic characters.** — Parameres elongated, three to four times longer than broad, parallel sided or slightly dilated in middle or base, apically rounded, virga present or absent.

**Distribution.** — All regions.

**Remarks.** — The interpretation of the genus in the present work is after Burr, 1915.

*Key to the species*

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1(2). Size larger (17.7 mm or more)   | <i>A. gaudens</i> Burr         |
| 2(1). Size smaller (7.8 — 10.3 mm)  |                                |
| 3(4) Sides of abdominal segments 5th to 9th in males acute angled posteriorly and with an oblique carina on 6th to 8th or 9th | <i>A. deplanata</i> Srivastava |
| 1(3) Sides of abdominal segments 5th to 9th in males obtuse angled posteriorly and ecrinate                                   | <i>A. bhowmiki</i> sp. n.      |

**Anisolabis bhowmiki** sp. n.

(Figs. 1-6)

♂ : General colour blackish brown, mouth parts, one or two ante-apical antennal segments yellow ; legs yellow with basal half of femora banded with blackish brown.

Head slightly longer than broad, shining, frons convex, sutures obsolete, hind margin with slight emargination in middle. Eyes small, about 1/2 as long as the post-ocular length. Antennae (partly broken, on the right side 5 basal and on the left 15 segments remaining) with basal segment stout, gently expanded apically, slightly shorter than the distance between antennal bases ; 3rd long and cylindrical longer than 4th and 5th ; 4th slightly shorter than 5th, subclavate, stouter ; 5th slightly stouter than 4th, subclavate ; 6th almost equal to 3rd but stouter, narrowed

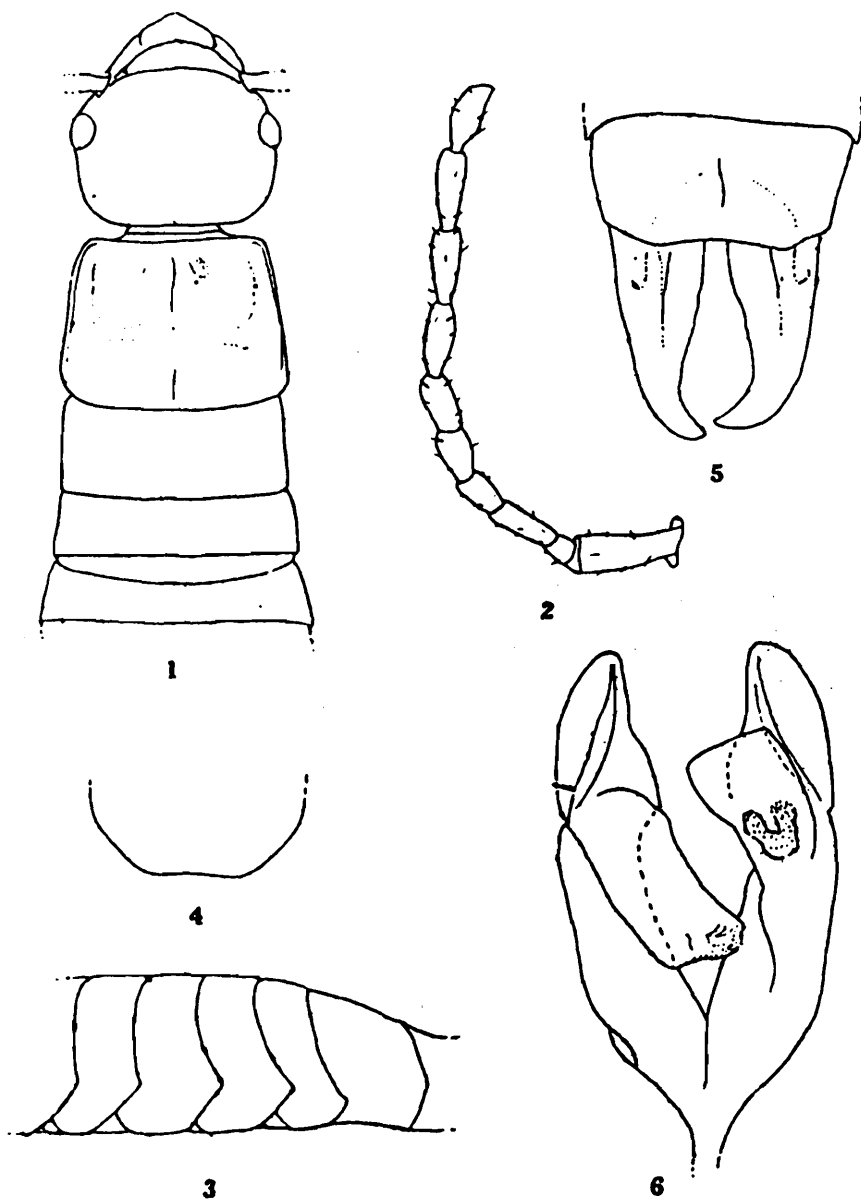


Fig. 1-6 : *Anisolabis bhowmiki* sp. n., Holotype . (1) Anterior portion of body; (2) Left antenna, enlarged ; (3) Sides of abdominal segments ; (4) Posterior margin of penultimate sternite ; (5) Ultimate tergite and forceps ; (6) Genitalia.

basally and gently expanded apically ; remaining gradually increasing in length and thinning. Pronotum transverse, gently widened posteriorly, all margins straight, sides gently reflexed, median sulcus faint, prozona weakly raised, hardly differentiated from weakly depressed metazona. Mesonotum and metanotum transverse, former with hind margin truncate and latter concave. Elytra and wings absent. Legs typical for the genus. Abdomen gently expanded in middle, convex, lateral tubercles on 3rd and 4th tergites obsolete, sides of segments 5th to 9th obtuse angled posteriorly, ocarinate, rugulosely punctulate. Penultimate sternite obscurely punctulate, transverse, hind margin scarcely emarginate in middle. Ultimate tergite transverse, smooth, shining, sloping backwards, median sulcus distinct, hind margin trisinate, laterally oblique. Forceps subcontiguous, expanded at base, tapering apically, left branch almost straight, right bent in basal half, apices gently hooked and pointed, trigonal above in basal 1/3, afterwards depressed, internal margin finely serrated. Genitalia as seen in the Fig. 6.

♀ : Unknown.

*Measurements* (in mm) :

	Holotype
	♂
Length of body	9.0
Length of forceps	1.3

*Material examined.* — Holotype ♂, India : West bengal, Darjeeling District, Sonada, Alt. 1971 m, 24. iii. 1978 (A. R. Bhowmik) ; genitalia mounted between two coverslips and pinned with the specimen ; deposited in the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta. The species is named after the collector.

*Remarks.* — This species comes very close to *Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava, by its small size but differs in having the sides of abdominal segments 5th to 9th obtuse angled and ecarinate. Besides the shape of parameres in the described species is distinctive in being slightly expanded basally.

### ***Anisolabis gaudens* Burr** (Figs. 7-8)

1904. *Anisolabis gaudens* Burr, *Trans. R. Ent. Soc. Lond.*, 1904 : 291, ( ♀ not ♂ ; Bhutan) ; 1910, *Fauna Brit. India, Dermaptera* : 87 ; 1911, *Genera Insect.*, 122 : 30 ; 1913, *Rec. Indian Mus.*, 8(2) : 138 ; Kapoor, 1968, *Agra Uni. J. Res. (Sci.)*, 16(1) : 12 ; Biswas, Lahiri and Ghosh, 1973, *Proc. zool. Soc., Calcutta*, 26 : 29 (3 nymphs, not ♂ ; Meghalaya) ; Srivastava, 1976, *Rec. zool. Surv. India, Occ. pap.*, 2 : 21 ; 1985, *Rec. zool. Surv. India*, 82(1-4) : 44.

*Brief description.* - ♂ : Unknown.

♀ : General colour shining blackish, head clear brick red ; antennae with two segments reddish. Build stout.

Head about as long as broad, convex, sutures faint ; antennae 15-segmented, 4th and 5th almost globular ; eyes black, smaller than gnae. Pronotum transverse, gently expanded posteriorly with margin subtruncate. Elytra and wings absent. Legs normal. Abdomen smooth, gently widened posteriorly. Penultimate sternite with posterior margin rounded in middle. Ultimate tergite weakly transverse,

gently narrowed in middle. Forceps with branches simple, straight, contiguous, trigonal near base, tapering, apices pointed, gently incurved and crossing, inner margin unarmed.

*Measurements* (in mm) :

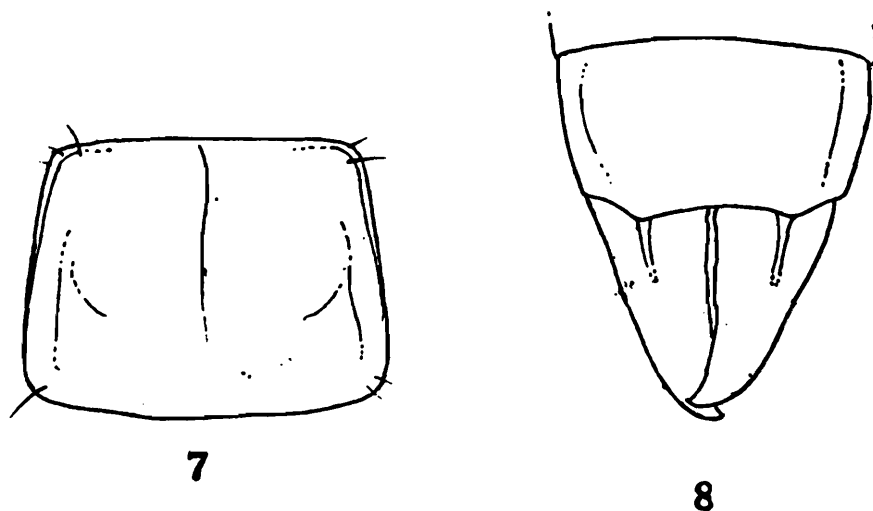
	♀
Length of body	14.5
Length of forceps	2.6

*Material examined*.— India : Arunachal Pradesh, Siang District, Rotung, 427 m, 1 ♀ (Det. by M. Burr), 25. xii. 1911, under bark (*S. W. Kemp*).

*Distribution*.— India : Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim (Pedong).

*Remarks*.— The original description of the species was based on 1 ♂ (not ♂ as stated) from Bhutan, Pedong. But Pedong is now included under Sikkim.

The above specimen was referred doubtfully to this species by Burr (1913).



*Anisolabis gaudens* Burr, (7) Pronotum ; (8) Ultimate tergite and forceps ;

***Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava**  
(Figs. 9-12)

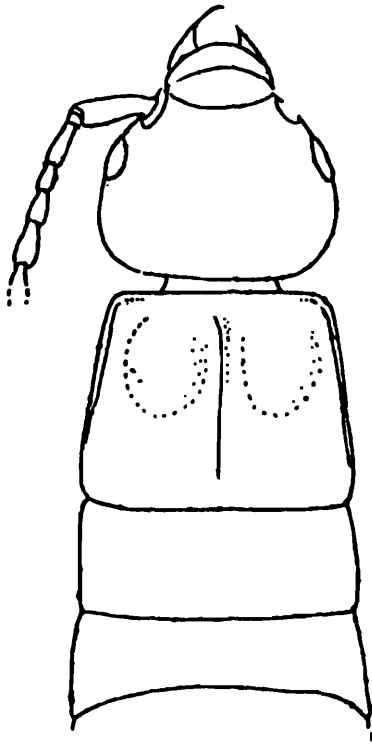
1985. *Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava, *Rec. zool. Surv. India*, 82(1-4) : 42, Fig. 1-6 (Holotype ♂, Paratype 1 ♂ ; India : Arunachal Pradesh, Tirap District ; Paratype 1 ; West Bengal, Darjeeling District).

1987. *Aborolabis martensi* Brindle, *Courier Forsch.-Inst. Senckenberg.*, 93 : 336, Figs. 12, 17 (Holotype ♂, Paratype 1 ♀, Nepal, Gorkha District)—Syn. n.

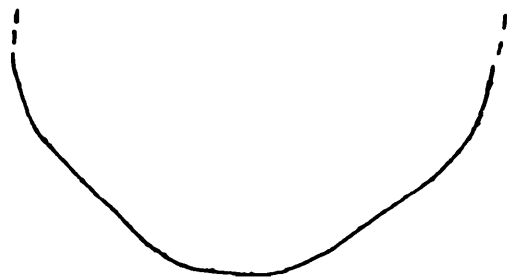
*Brief description*.— o : General colour dark brownish black, antennal segments 2nd and 12th onwards two or three segments dirty white, pronotum laterally yellow ; legs yellow but femora banded with black in basal half. ,

Head longer than broad, frons convex, sutures obsolete. Antennae 13-segmented. Eyes about 1/2 as long as the post-ocular length. Pronotum about as long as broad

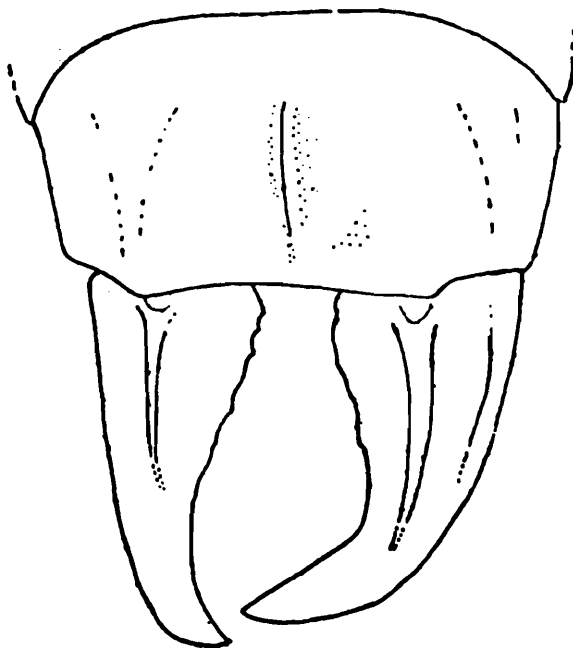
or gently transverse, all margins straight. Legs typical. Abdomen spindle shaped, sides of segments 6th to 8th or 9th with a ridge. Penultimate sternite with posterior margin rounded. Ultimate tergite transverse, obscurely punctulate. Forceps



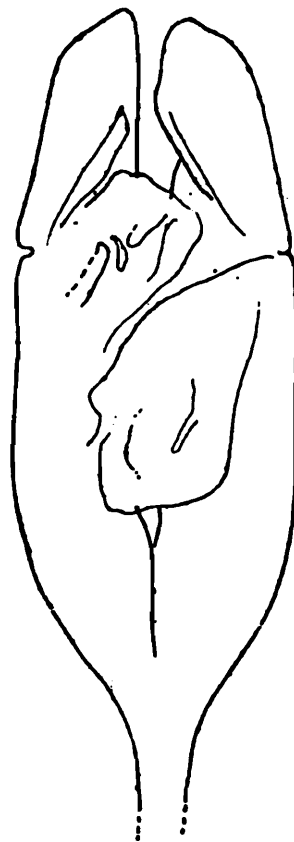
9



10



11



12

*Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava, Holotype

(9) Anterior portion of body ; (10) Posterior margin of penultimate sternite ;  
(11) Ultimate tergite and forceps ; (12) Genitalia.

subcontiguous, trigonal in basal 1/3, at base wide, tapering apically and incurved. Genitalia (fig. 12) with parameres three times longer than broad.

♀ : As male but branches of forceps simple and straight.

*Measurements* (in mm):-

	♂	♀
Length of body	6.9 - 7.5	7.5
Length of forceps	0.7 - 1.0	1.5

*Material examined*.- India : Arunachal Pradesh, Tirap District, Hornbill, Holotype ♂, Paratype 1♂, 11. iv. 1981 (S. Biswas) ; West Bengal, Darjeeling District, Sivoke, Paratype 1♂, 10. iv. 1978 (A. R. Bhowmik), of *Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava.

*Distribution*.- India (Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal) and Nepal (Gorkha District).

*Remarks*.- In lacking the inner tooth of parameres the inclusion of *Aborolabis martensi* Brindle under *Aborolabis* Srivastava does not seem to be correct. The description of this species and *Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava agree so closely that the former is considered here as the synonym of the latter.

### SUMMARY

Notes on two species of *Anisolabis* Fieber, known from India, besides the description of a new species, *A. bhowmiki* are provided. A key for their separation is also given.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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