LANGURIID BEETLE (COLEOPTERA) OF SILENT VALLEY KERALA, INDIA.

During 1979—'80 Zoological Survey of India surveyed Silent Valley and made interesting collections of various groups of animals.

In these collections the family Languriidae of the order Coleoptera of the Class Insecta of the Phylum Arthropoda is represented by a single species of Labidolanguria mucronata Fowler which is not new to South India. Earlier according to Arrow (1925) recorded in Fauna of British India series from Nilgiri Hills of South India. Now it is first time recorded from Silent Valley in Kerala in South India.

In the present study the specimens, two examples, collected from Silent Valley agree with the description of L. mucronata Fowler by Arrow (1925). Now, it extends its distribution in South India further to Silent Valley in Kerala which is worth to mention.

A short description of this species is provided.

Genus: Labidolanguria Fowler

1908. Labidolanguria Fowler, Wytsman's Gen. Insect, Languriinae, p. 9.

1925. Labidolanguria Fowler: Arrow, Fauna British India including Ceylon & Burma Coleptera, Clavicornia: Erotylidae, Languriidae & Endomchidae: 178.

This genus of the subfamily Languriinae can easily be recogised by its elytra acuminate at the extremity and scutellum long and pronotum margined at the base by Arrow (1925). Eyes lateral, large and prominent, coarsely facetted. Antennae short, joints 3, 4, and 5 feebly elongate, 6 & 7 short and the last four joints abruptly dilated, strongly transverse and compact. Prothorax longer than width, cylindrical, margined at the base and hind angles acute & produced behind and closely applies to the shoulders of the elytra. Scutellum, not transverse, Elytral apices acutely produced.

Only one species is knwn from India.

Range: South India.

Labidolanguria mucronata Fowler

1908. Labidolangurea mucronata Fowlor, Wytsman's Gen. Insect, Languriinae, p. 10, note, pl. i, fig. 4,

Material examined: 2 exs., Silent Valley, Kerala, 1980, R. J. Pillai.

Length: 10-12 mm.

Species (Fig. 1) elongate, slender, brassy-green in colour, the antennae & legs blue-black, Head and pronotum strongly & closely punctured, the front angles blunt and the hind angles acutely produced

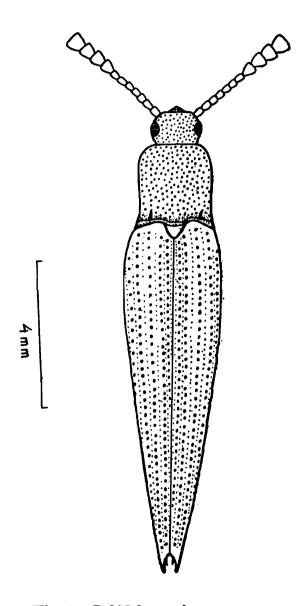


Fig. 1. Labidolanguria mucronata

behind, the pronotal base margined and the lateral fovae deeply incised. Scutellum pentagonal and not transverse. Elytra bear rows of deep puncture with intermediate rows of fine punctures, the apices acuminate and with a minor spine on each side near the divergence of the apices. Large & deep puncture on the pronotum and fine puncture on the prosternum and fine punctures on the abdomen.

There is no representation of Labidolanguria mucronata Fowler in Zoological Survey of India reference collection and it becomes new addition to the collection.

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REFERENCE

Arrow, G. J. 1925. The fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma, Coleoptera: Clavicornia: Erotylidae, Languriidae & Endomychidae, pp.i-xv. +1-416.

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