

A NEW GENUS OF PAEDERINAE : STAPHYLINIDAE (COLEOPTERA)
WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES FROM NEPAL

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ABSTRACT

A new genus *Himastenus* of the subfamily Paederinae : Staphylinidae is established and a new species *H. apterus* from Nepal is described.

Paederinae is a well marked group of the family Staphylinidae. Usually distinguishable by the antennae being inserted under anterior angles of the front margin of head. Cameron (1931) dealt two tribes under the Subfamily Paederinae, Pinophilini Redtenbacher and Paederini Erichson. The tribe Paederini differs from the tribe Pinophilini by its segment 4 of maxillary palpi being small and subulate (Fig. 2) whereas in Pinophilini segment 4 is securiform. He listed twenty-nine genera under the tribe of Paederini from Indian subregion. The new genus described below falls under the tribe Paederini having similar type of maxillary palpi.

The new genus differs from all other genera of the tribe Paederini by its elytra being dilated behind and shorter than prothorax (Figs. 1 & 3), apical margin concave and general appearance comparatively robust (Fig. 1). The new genus has some superficial similarities with American genus

Stilicolina Casey and Indian genus *Scopaeus* Erichson but can be easily separated from the latter genera in having tarsal segment 4 bilobed (Figs. 4, 8 & 9). This new genus is nearest to the genera *Astenus* Stephens and *Dibelonetes* Sahlberg and their chief differences are shown in Table 1.

Himastenus Gen. nov.

(Figs. 1-14)

General appearance (Fig. 1) moderately large, robust, subcylindrical and slightly depressed. Head and pronotum covered with dense, coarse, reticulate punctures and fringed with moderate setae. Elytra narrowed at base and dilated behind (Fig. 1) and colour brownish red.

Head elongate, antennal groove in front of eyes (Fig. 1), anterior margin of labrum with four distinct teeth (Figs. 1 & 7), ventral side of labrum with a median and lateral

TABLE—1. *The chief differences of Himastenus, Astenus and Dibelonetes*

	<i>Himastenus</i>	<i>Astenus</i>	<i>Dibelonetes</i>
1. General appearance	Rather broadly elongated, species apterus.	Narrowly elongated, species winged.	Narrowly elongated, species winged.
2. Puncturation on head and prothorax	Reticulated and not umblicate.	Reticulated-umblicate.	Reticulate-umblicate.
3. Elytra	Narrowed towards base (Fig. 3.).	Rather parallel-sided (Fig. 22).	Rather parallel-sided (Fig. 30).
4. Labrum	Apical margin with two pairs of large teeth (Fig. 7) and ventral side with a median and a pair of lateral grooves (Fig. 7).	Apical margin with a pair of small teeth (Fig. 15) and ventral side with a median groove (Fig. 15) but lateral grooves absent.	Apical margin with three pairs of small teeth (Fig. 23) and ventral side with a median groove (Fig. 23) but lateral grooves absent.
5. Anterior margin of labium	With a median spinous projection and fringed with several setae (Fig. 6).	Devoid of any spinous projection and setae (Fig. 16).	With one pair of membranous lobes and one pair of setae (Fig. 24)
6. Mentum	With two pairs of setae (Fig. 6).	With three pairs of setae (Fig. 16)	Devoid of any setae (Fig. 24).
7. Maxillary palpi	Segment 1 moderately long (Fig. 2).	Segment 1 short (Fig. 18).	Segment 1 short (Fig. 28).
8. Antenna	Long and slender, segment 2 distinctly shorter than segment 3 (Fig. 1).	Shorter and stout, segment 2 almost equal to segment 3 (Fig. 17).	Long and stout, segment 2 slightly shorter than segment 3 (Fig. 27).
9. Prosternal Process	Apical margin pointed (Fig. 4).	Apical margin slightly pointed (Fig. 20).	Apical margin broadly rounded (Fig. 26).
10. Metendosternite	Simple and characteristic as figured (Fig. 5).	Well developed and characteristic as figured (Fig. 21).	Not distinguishable (Fig 31).
11. Anterior leg	Femur with a distinct groove, which fringed with fine hairs (Fig. 4) ; tibia with four grooves, armed with five distinct long setae (Fig. 14).	Femur with a distinct groove, which fringed with fine hairs and a long seta (Fig. 20) ; tibia with two grooves, each armed with a distinct long seta (Fig. 20).	Femur with a distinct groove, which fringed with fine hairs and a long seta (Fig. 29) ; tibia with four grooves which armed with two distinct long setae (Fig. 29).

	<i>Himastenus</i>	<i>Astenus</i>	<i>Dibelonetes</i>
12. Habitat	Under stack of grass.	Leaf litter, leaf garbage and Haystack.	Leaf litter, leaf garbage and Haystack.
13. Distribution	Nepal.	N. & South America, Europe, Australia, Japan, China, Africa, India, Burma, Sri Lanka, Java and Sumatra.	South America, Africa and India.

longitudinal grooves (Fig. 7). Clypeus narrow. Eyes small, convex and finely faceted. Antennae (Fig. 1) long and slender, scape long and stout, pedicel small, segment 3 more than twice as long as pedicel, segments 4-9 elongate and equal, segment 10 slightly shorter and wider than preceding. Neck narrowed and short (Fig. 1). On ventral side gular sutures confluent. Maxillary palpi 4-segmented (Fig. 2), segment 1 well developed, segment 2 almost thrice as long as segment 1, segment 3 slightly longer than segment 2 and widened towards apex, segment 4 minute, narrow and pointed at apex. Labium (Fig. 6) with 3-segmented palpi, apical margin of labium with a median spinous projection and fringed with several strong setae. Mentum (Fig. 6) transverse with two pairs of setae. Mandibles (Fig 12) slender, curve and with four apical teeth.

Prothorax (Fig. 4) narrowed in front and lateral margins curved. Front coxae closely situated, cavities elongate with flat and exposed trochantins. Prosternal process short, broad and its apex pointed (Fig. 4). Front coxal cavities open posteriorly (Fig. 4).

Meso-and metathorax (Fig. 5) with mesosternum broad and transverse, mesocoxae almost contiguous, metasternum slightly

transverse, meta coxae narrowly separated. Metendosternite (Fig. 5) simple and characteristic. Scutellum small and its posterior margin somewhat rounded.

Elytra (Fig. 1) small and as long as broad, narrowed in front and posterior margin concave, species apterus.

Legs (Figs. 4, 8 & 9) long and slender, anterior femur with a transverse groove and anterior tibia with two transverse grooves which fringed with fine hairs and each with distinct long seta, posterior femur longer than anterior and middle femora, tarsal formula 5-5-5 in both sexes, segment 1 as long as segments 2, 3 and 4 together, segment 4 bilobed.

Abdomen (Fig. 10) more or less cylindrical, posterior margins of sternum II to IV of male impressed, posterior margin of sternum V and VI of male emarginate, emargination variable sizes (Figs. 10 and 11). Aedeagus as figured (Fig 13).

Distribution : Nepal : Daman

Habitat : Under stack of grass.

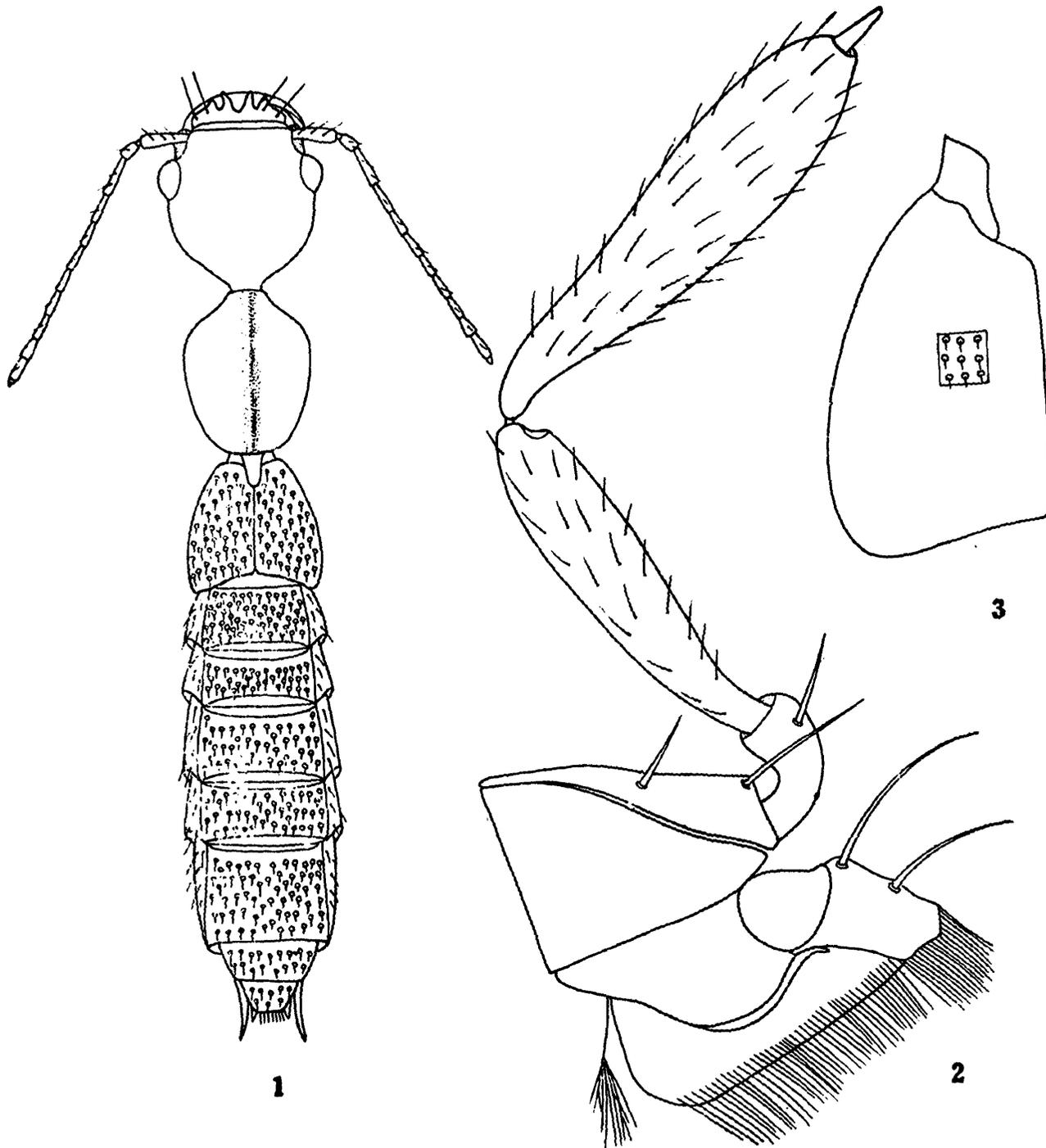
Type species : *Himastenus apterus* sp. nov.

***Himastenus apterus*, sp. nov.**

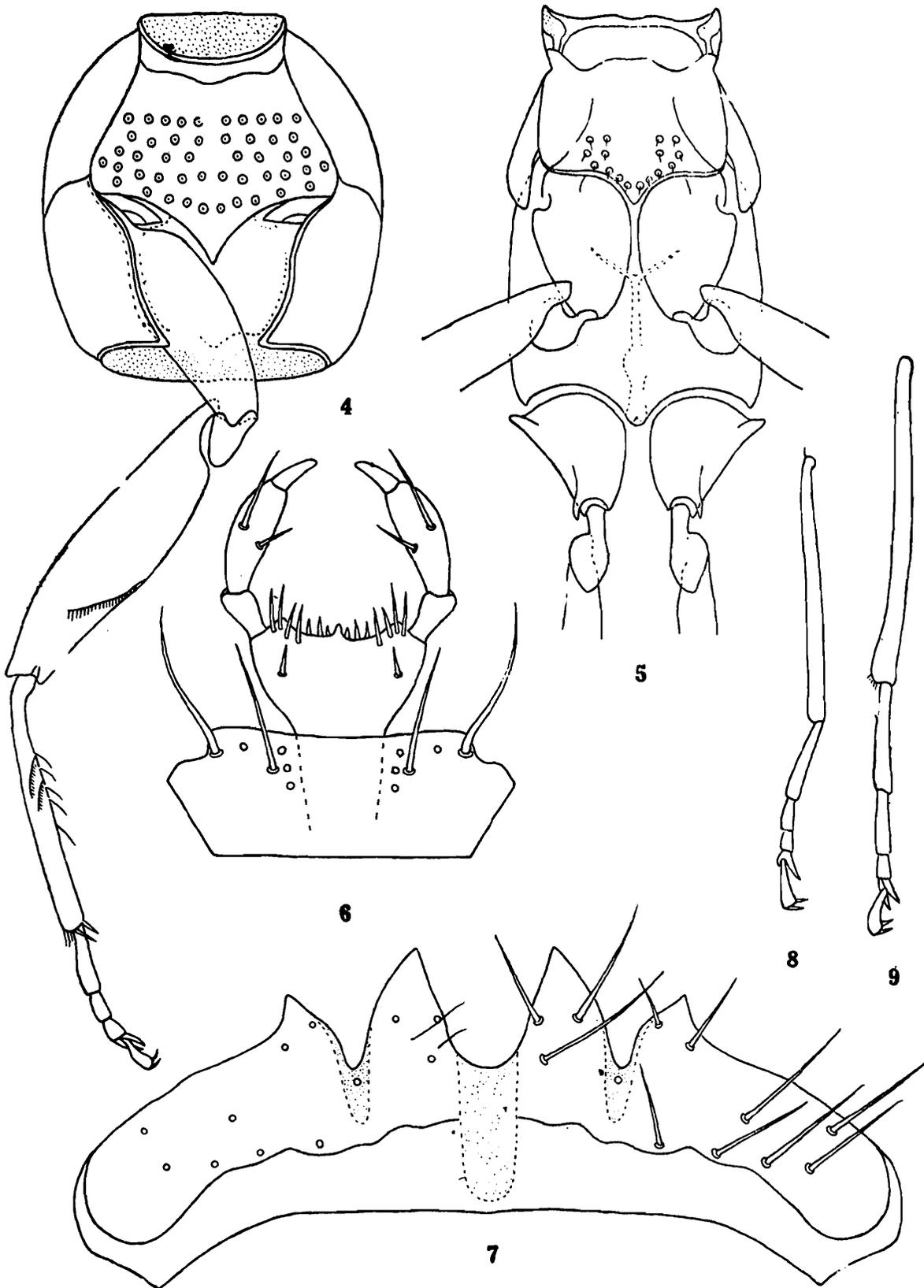
General appearance (Fig. 1) elongate, somewhat robust, subconvex, shining,

brownish black to reddish brown, antennae (segments 2-11), palpi and legs yellowish red, mandibles, labrum and antennal scape reddish brown and elytra narrowed at base and dilated behind.

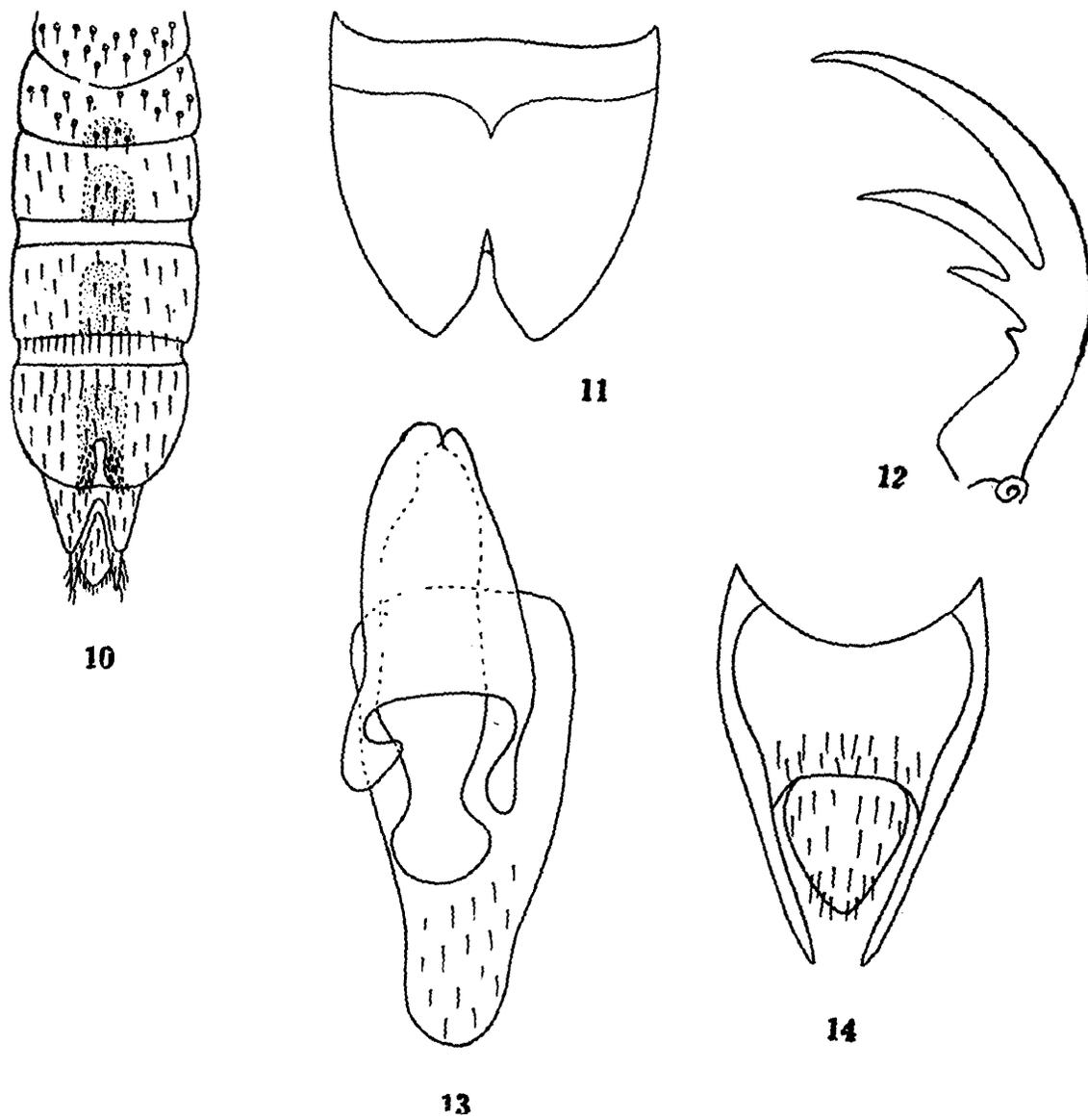
Head slightly longer than broad and as long as prothorax, dorsum of head covered with dense, coarse, deep and reticulate punctured, each puncture with a fine and short seta and lateral margins of head also



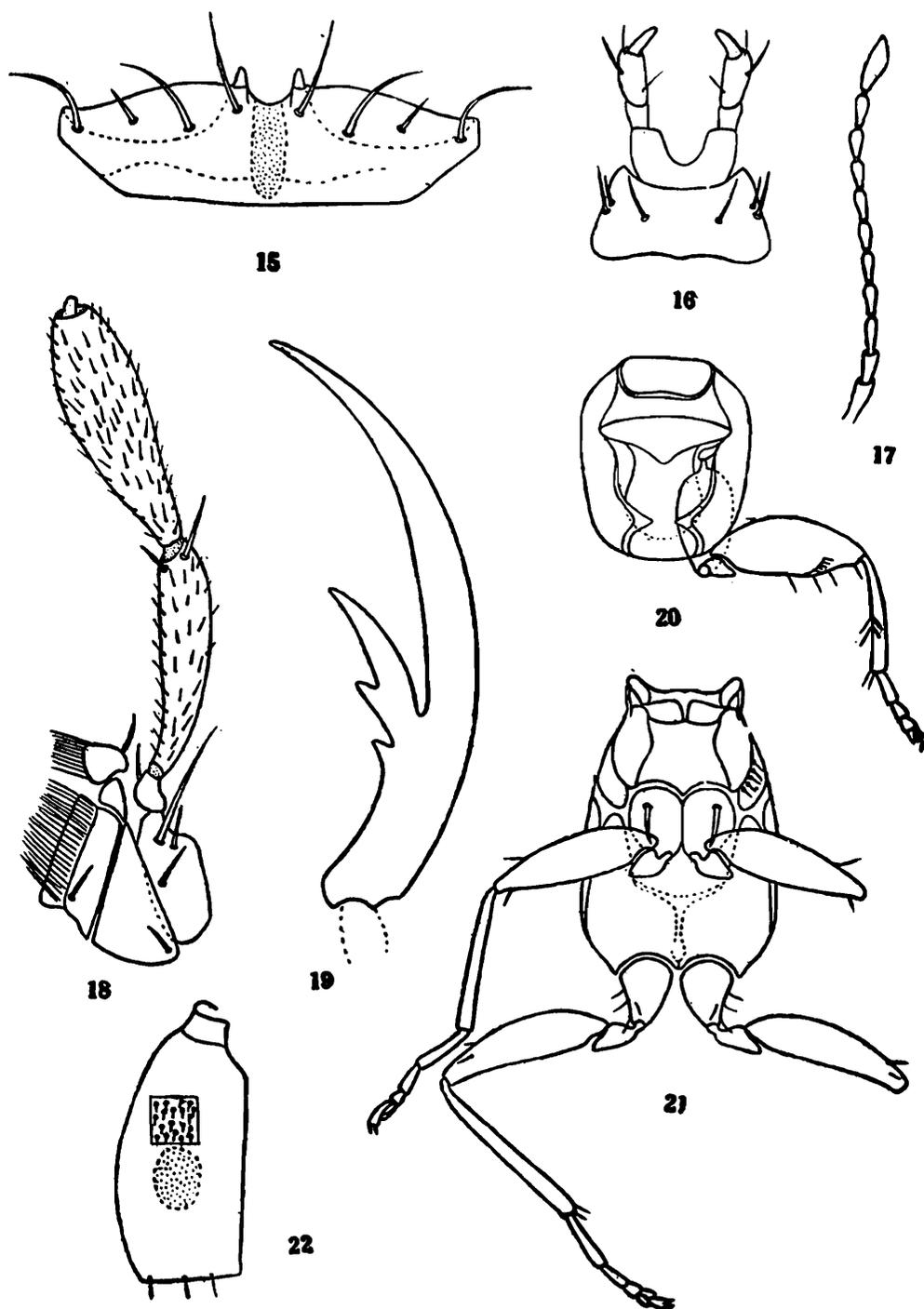
Figs. 1-3. 1. *Himastenus apterus*, sp. nov., dorsal view ; 2. left maxilla ; 3. left elytron, dorsal view.



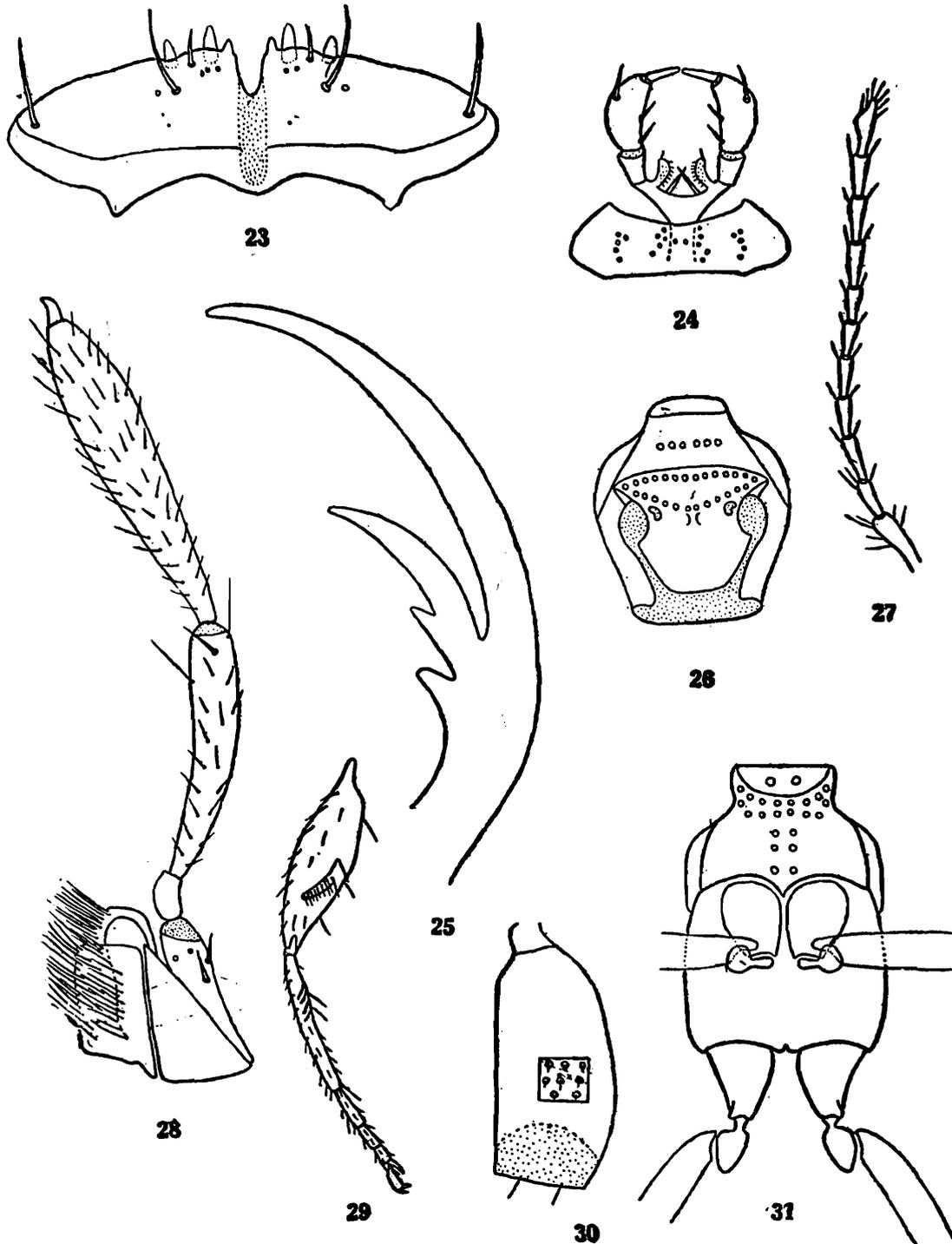
Figs. 4-9. 4. prothorax, ventral view ; 5. meso and metathorax, ventral view ; 6. labium, dorsal view ; 7. labrum, dorsal view ; 8. middle leg ; 9. posterior leg.



Figs. 10-14. 10. abdominal segments, ventral view ; 11. sternum six, male ; 12. right mandible, dorsal view ; 13. aedeagus, dorsal view ; 14. sternum seven, male.



Figs. 15-22. 15. *Astenus* sp., labrum, dorsal view ; 16. labium, dorsal view ; 17. antenna ; 18. right maxilla ; 19. right mandible, dorsal view ; 20. prothorax, ventral view ; 21. meso and metathorax, ventral view ; 22. left elytron, dorsal view.



Figs. 23-31. 23. *Dibelonetes* sp., labrum, dorsal view ; 24. labium, dorsal view ; 25. right mandible, dorsal view ; 26. prothorax, ventral view ; 27. antenna ; 28. right maxilla ; 29. anterior leg ; 30. right elytron, dorsal view ; 31. meso and metathorax, ventral view.

covered with a few distinct, long, black setae along with smaller setae. Prothorax oviform, slightly longer than broad, anterior angles broadly and posterior angles slightly rounded, dorsum of prothorax covered with dense, coarse, deep, reticulate punctures, each puncture fringed with a short seta. Mid longitudinal ridge smooth and extending from anterior margin to posterior margin. Scutellum elongate covered with coarse, deep, setiferous punctures, its basal part depressed. Elytra slightly shorter than prothorax, median portion longitudinally depressed, elytral sutural line black, dorsum of elytra covered with dense, moderate coarse and setiferous punctures. Abdomen with basal part of segment 1-5 transversely rugose punctured and posterior part of segments 1-5 covered with dense, fine setiferous punctures. Sternum VI of male with posterior margin deep, narrow, acute triangular emargination (Fig. 11). Sternum V of male with posterior margin feebly emarginate at middle (Fig. 10), on each side of emargination with arcuate impression and between impression glabrous and in front of emargination an elongate impressed area extending nearly the whole length of segment V (Fig. 10). Sternum II to IV of male with posterior margin bearing an impressed area of variable sizes (Fig. 10). Sternum VI and V of female unmodified.

Measurements of holotype : Total length 5.30 mm ; width of head across the eyes 0.90 mm ; length of prothorax 1.00 mm and width of prothorax 0.80 mm ; length of elytra 0.70 mm and width of elytra 0.70 mm.

Holotype : ♂, Nepal : Daman, 7600 ft., 31. III. 1972 *T Sen Gupta* Collection (mounted on slide). *Paratype*, 1 ♀ collection data same as in holotype. (In the collection of Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta). Z. S. I, Reg. No. 9185/H4A. 9186/H4A.

Habitat : Under stack of grass.

Distribution : Nepal : Daman.

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