

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *PSEUDENDESTES* LAWRENCE
(COLEOPTERA : COLYDIIDAE) FROM INDIA

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ABSTRACT

P. lawrencei sp. nov., and *P. namdaphaensis* sp. nov. are described. A key to the species of *Pseudendestes* is appended.

Lawrence (1980) erected the genus *Pseudendestes* under Gempylodini : Colydiinae for two Australian species viz., *australis* Lawrence, *robertsi* Lawrence, and transferred *Endestes andrewesi* described by Grouvelle (1908) from South India to this genus. *Pseudendestes* belongs to the subfamily Colydiinae in having antennal insertions hidden under projection of frons ; and belongs to the tribe Gempylodini in having the subcylindrical shape, mandibular bases concealed from above, antennal insertions separated from mandibular articulation by carina, prosternal process narrower than front coxal cavities, pronotum with a median longitudinal depression.

So far only three species are included in this genus of which only *P. andrewesi* (Grouvelle) is recorded from South India. In the present study two species are described from North-East India and Southern India (Karnataka). A key to the species is also given.

Genus *Pseudendestes* Lawrence

Pseudendestes Lawrence, 1980, *J. Aust. ent. Soc.* 19 : 298.

Type-species : *Pseudendestes australis* Lawrence, by original designation.

Diagnosis : Elongated, parallel-sided somewhat cylindrical, coarsely and densely punctured, reddish brown to blackish brown. Head devoid of fronto-clypeal suture, with a pair of supra-antennal ridges separated from supraorbital ridges, with a pair of small depressions on the inner border supra-antennal ridges, eyes in transverse axis. Antenna 11-segmented, with a 2- to 5- segmented club. Prothorax usually elongated, rarely about as broad as long, pronotum with 2 pairs of longitudinal carinae, procoxae closely situated and coxal cavities closed, prosternal process broadly rounded at apex, mesocoxae and metacoxae more widely separated. Each elytron with 3 and rarely 4 carinae in addition to sutural carina.

Key to the Species of PSEUDENDESTES

1. Prothorax about as long as broad and widest near middle, pronotum with large, rugose punctures ; dense pile on dorsal surface of elytra. ... *robertsi* Lawrence
Prothorax elongate and widest near apex, pronotum devoid of rugose punctures ; dense pile on dorsal surface of elytra absent, at least on anterior two-third. 2

2. Antennal club 2-segmented. ... 3
 Antennal club 3-segmented. ... 4
3. Apex of clypeus emarginate and densely pubescent, labrum visible from above, supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges moderately strongly developed and furrow in between them well marked, vertex and frons devoid of any rugose-ocellate punctures. ...

australis
Lawrence

Apex of clypeus not emarginate and sparsely pubescent, labrum not visible from above, supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges weakly developed and furrow in between them less marked, rugose-ocellate punctures on vertex and frons. ...

lawrencei sp.
nov.

4. Supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges weakly developed, lateral margin of prothorax serrated, each elytron with 3 carinae and carinae complete upto apex. ...

andrewesi
(Grouvelle)

Supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges strongly developed, lateral margin of prothorax smooth, each elytron with 4 carinae and carinae 2 and 3 not extending upto apical margin.

... *namdaphaensis*
sp. nov.

***Pseudendestes lawrencei* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1)

This species is closely related to *P. australis* Lawrence but can be separated by its apex of clypeus not emarginate and sparsely pubescent, labrum not visible from above, supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges weakly developed and the furrow between them less marked, rugose-ocellate punctures on vertex

and frons, pronotal and elytral carinae weakly developed; median longitudinal furrow of pronotum confined within the anterior one-third and the pit on the posterior half larger, puncturation coarser and denser.

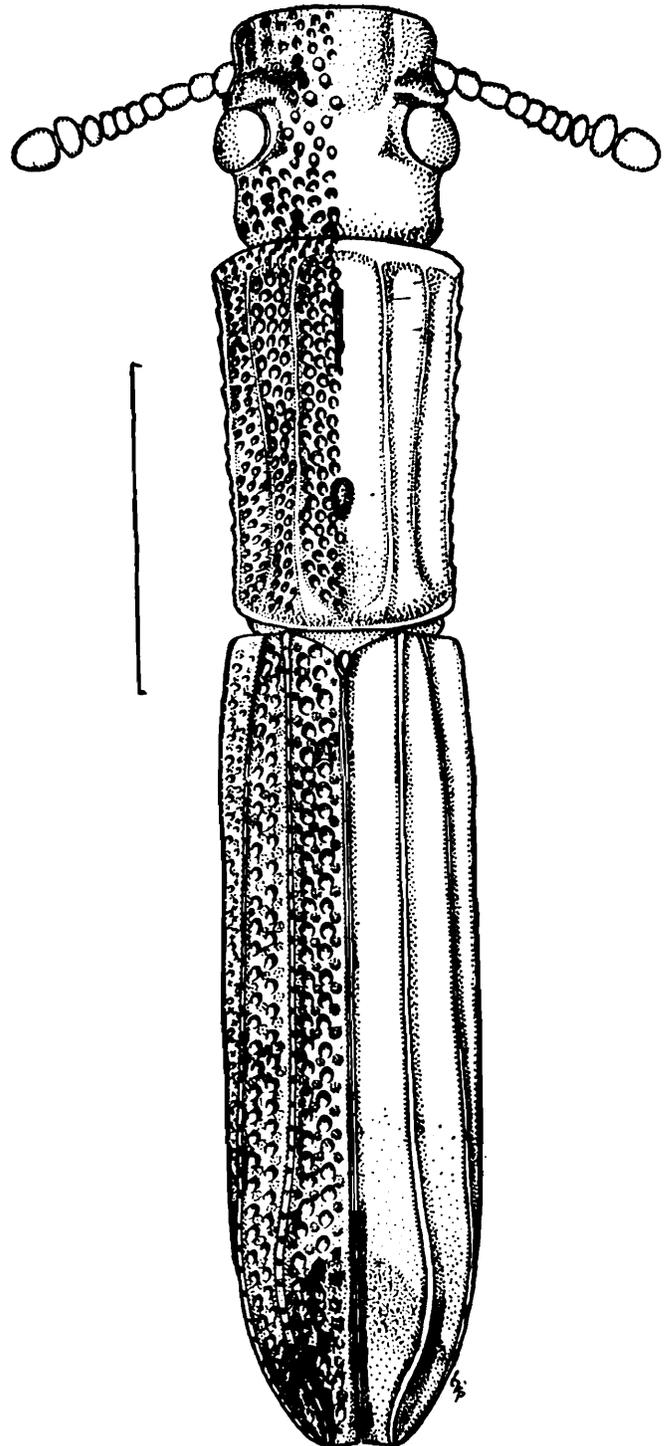


Fig. 1. *Pseudendestes lawrencei* sp. nov., dorsal view (scale=1.0 mm.).

General appearance (Fig. 1) elongated, sub-cylindrical, slightly shiny, reddish-brown ; with short, semierect golden pubescence.

Head about as broad as long, clypeus broad and not emarginate ; eyes about one-fourth as long as head and coarsely faceted, anterior margin emarginate ; temples longer than eyes, supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges weakly developed, depressions on inner border of supra-antennal ridges small and oblique, puncturation on vertex coarse and dense, rugose-ocellate punctures on anterior half of vertex and frons, front margin of clypeus moderately setose. Antenna moderately long and slender, scape short and broad, segments 2 and 3 hardly elongated, segments 4-9 slightly transverse, club 2-segmented, segment 10 transverse and segment 11 about as broad as long.

Prothorax 1.6 times as long as broad, widest anteriorly and narrowed posteriorly, front margin rounded, anterior angles not produced ; lateral margin almost straight, serrated and with about 15 denticles. Pronotum convex, carinae moderately prominent, inner carinae slightly diverging anteriorly and unite with anterior rim ; outer carinae sinuated, distinctly diverging anteriorly and not unite with anterior rim ; puncturation coarse and dense, a small oval median pit in posterior half and a narrow elongated furrow in anterior one-third.

Scutellum Small, elongate-ovoid.

Elytra 3.2 times as long as broad and 2.1 times as long as prothorax, subparallel and slightly wider posteriorly, apical margin emarginate, slightly declivous at apex between inner carinae, each elytron with 3 longitudinal carinae except sutural one, carinae more elevated in posterior third, inner carinae comparatively more elevated, carinae unite

posteriorly, punctures in rows deep and moderately large, intervals tuberculated, setae projected posteriorly. Metasternum 1.1 times as long as broad, median impressed line 0.7 time as long as median length of sternum, densely and coarsely punctate laterally and sparsely on either side of median line. Abdomen 3.3 times as long as broad ; with rugose punctures and pubescent.

Measurements of holotype : Total length 4.46 mm., width of head across eyes 0.71 mm., length of antenna 0.85 mm., length and width of prothorax 1.14 and 0.72 mm., length and width of elytra 2.92 and 0.78 mm.

Holotype, INDIA : KARNATAKA, South Kanara Division, Sunksal, 9. xi. 1929, B. M. Bhatia (Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun).

Remark : This species is named after Dr. J. F. Lawrence, well known Coleopterist.

Pseudendestes namdaphaensis, sp. nov.

This species shows some resemblances to *P. andrewesi* (Grouvelle) but can be differentiated by its antennal club not abruptly developed, supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges strongly developed, prothorax parallel-sided in first third and then narrowed posteriorly, lateral margin of prothorax smooth, each elytron with four carinae and carinae 2 and 3 not complete upto apex.

General appearance (Fig. 2) elongate, sub-cylindrical, not shiny, deep blackish brown, pubescence scanty.

Head about as broad as long, clypeus broad and not emarginate ; eyes shorter than one-third as long as head and coarsely faceted, anterior margin emarginate, exposed part of temple much shorter than eyes, supra-antennal and supraorbital ridges strongly

developed and markedly elevated; depressions on inner border of supra-antennal ridges small, deep and globular; puncturation on vertex coarse and moderately dense, dorsal surface almost devoid of setae. Antenna moderately long and slender, scape broadly

elongated, pedicel short, segment 3 elongated; segments 4-8 short, subequal and slightly transverse; club 3-segmented, gradually wider towards apex, segments 9 and 10 transverse and segment 11 about as broad as long.

Prothorax 1.8 times as long as broad, widest anteriorly and narrowed posteriorly, front margin rounded, anterior angles slightly produced; lateral margin slightly undulated, smooth and bordered. Pronotum convex, carinae well developed and undulated, intervals between carinae grooved, especially median one; puncturation coarse and moderately dense, punctures along median line larger, a small and elongated pit near middle which is not easily distinguishable from large punctures.

Scutellum Small, elongate-ovoid, punctate.

Elytra 4.7 times as long as broad and 2.2 times as long as prothorax, subparallel, apical margin deeply emarginate, not declivous at apex, each elytron with four longitudinal carinae except sutural one, carinae slightly more elevated in anterior one-sixth and posterior one-fourth, outer and inner carinae unite posteriorly, carinae 2 and 3 not extending upto apex and not unite with other carinae, punctures in rows moderately large, intervals not tuberculated, few short setae only near apex. Metasternum 1.3 times as long as broad, median impressed line 0.7 time as long as median length of sternum, moderately coarsely and sparsely punctate. Abdomen 3.4 times as long as broad, puncturation coarse and dense, pubescence fine and sparse.

Measurements of holotype: Total length 8.80 mm., width of head across eyes 1.2 mm., length of antenna 1.6+ mm., length and width of prothorax 2.48 and 1.36 mm., length and width elytra 5.76 and 1.2 mm.

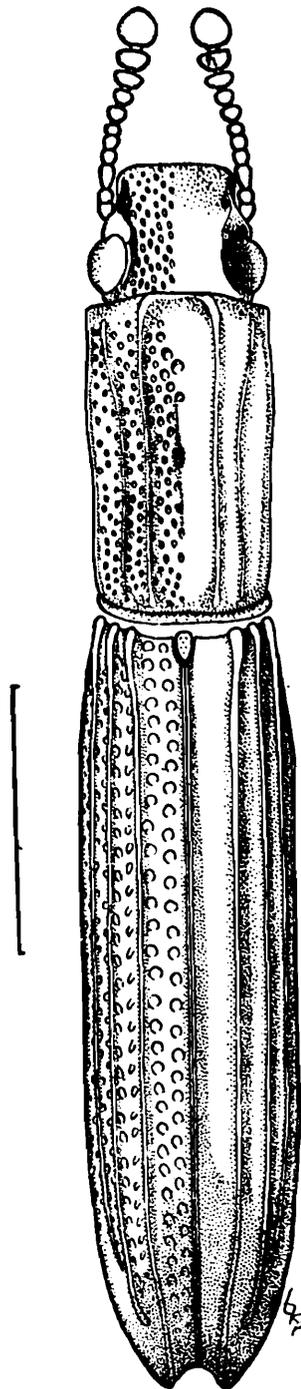


Fig. 2. *Pseudendestes namdaphaensis* sp. nov., dorsal view (scale=2.0 mm.).

Holotype : INDIA : ARUNACHAL PRADESH, Namdapha Survey, Hornbill, 14. iv. 1981, S. Biswas and party, under bark (Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta).

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