

REDESCRIPTION OF *PERIPOLUS NEPALENSIS* UVAROV 1942
(ORTHOPTERA : ACRIDIDAE : CALLIPTAMINAE)

By

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Peripolus nepalensis was described by Uvarov 1942 where he referred only those characters by which this species differs from *Peripolus pedarius* (Stål, 1878). The authors have made an attempt to redescribe the species in detail, considering the morphological characters including male genitalia.

***Peripolus nepalensis* Uvarov**

(Figs. A-E)

Male : Smaller than other species of the genus. Antennae filiform, a little longer than head and pronotum together, apical segments narrower and longer than basal segments of the flagellum. Frons with a few whitish hairs. Fastigium of vertex rounded anteriorly, slightly sloping forming an obtuse angle with the frons, depressed in the middle, bounded by carinulae laterally as well as posteriorly. Vertex horizontally passing smoothly into the frontal costa. Space between eyes wider than the width of the frontal costa, the latter with a depression in the middle; fronto-lateral carinae well defined. Eyes oval, carinulae of the vertex prominent but diminishing towards occipital region of the head.

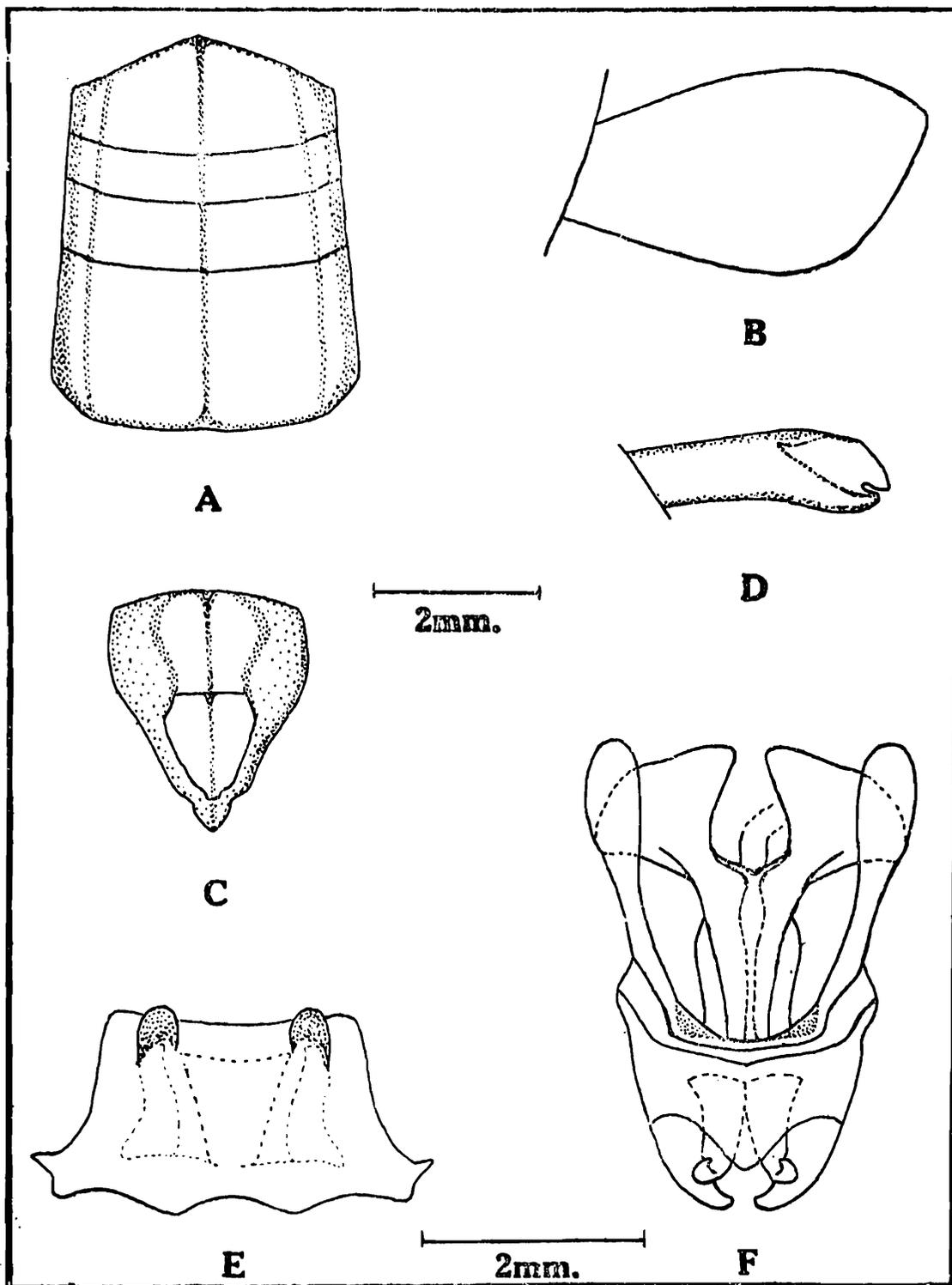
Pronotum (Fig. A) finely punctate, anterior margin narrower than the posterior one; median carina raised, lateral carinae parallel and all the carinae traversed by three trans-

verse sulci, the latter well spaced; the principal sulcus placed well behind the middle; hind margin slightly rounded, not notched in the middle. Lateral lobe of pronotum punctate, with the two dark, impunctate depressions on first and second lobes at superior margin; inferior margin of lateral lobes beset with grey hairs. Prosternal tubercle straight and nearly conical.

Tegmina (Fig. B) lateral, abbreviated, reaching about the middle of the third abdominal segment, with the costal margin slightly produced apically; without grey nervures and black longitudinal band.

Fore and middle pairs of legs deeply brown, hind pair of legs more or less yellow or light brown, covered with grey hairs. Upper carina of hind femur serrated, upper lobe of hind knee rounded, black, lower lobe rounded, light yellow with a small sooty patch on the antero-ventral side. Tibiae of hind legs black or dark brown basally, with the eight external and nine internal black tipped spines. Tibiae and tarsi with grey hairs.

Mesosternal lobes widely separated, with their posterior angles produced inwards. Mesosternal interspace shorter than mesosternal lobes. Metasternal lobes separated and not contiguous posteriorly.



Figs. A-F. *Peripolus nepalensis*: A, dorsal view of pronotum; B, left tegmen; C, supra-anal plate; D, lateral view of cercus; E, dorsal view of epiphallus; F, dorsal view of endophallus. Figs. A-D of same magnification, Figs. E-F of same magnification.

Abdomen dark brown dorsally, covered with few grey hairs; a well developed and light brown carina present on mid dorsal line of abdomen; three last tergites brown and

inflated. Supra-anal plate (Fig. C) conical with distinct posterior conical projection. Abdomen yellow ventrally, subgenital plate conical, black posteriorly and beset with grey hairs;

cerci (Fig. D) black, long, flattened and with a subapical hook nearly equal to the apical lobe.

Phallic complex : Epiphallus (Fig. E) plate-like shield, ancorae lobiform, widely separated from each other, antero-lateral processes slightly produced, postero-lateral processes produced with their outer margin emarginate, posterior margin of the epiphallic plate concave in the middle. Endophallus (Fig. F) : Valves of cingulum widely separated, long and excurved, enveloped by a membrane except a little before their ends ; apical valves of penis moderately long, incurved, narrowing at ends, with their tips rounded. Basal valves of penis robust, expanded fan-like distally beyond their basal two-thirds, with a tuberosity near the exit of ejaculatory duct ; zygoma of the cingulum extremely narrow in the middle ; apodemes of cingulum longer, exceeding the length of basal valves of the penis, basal half narrow but distal half broader, and arch of cingulum membranous.

Measurement : Body length 20.0-22.0 mm ; Pronotum 4.5-5.0 mm ; Tegmina 3.0-4.0 mm ; Hind femur 12.0-12.5 mm ; Hind tibiae 3.5-3.8 mm.

Material examined : INDIA : Uttar Pradesh, Nainital, 1 ♂, (? date) 1974 (Mehra coll.) ; 1 ♂ (No data of collection available ; sent by Dr. N. D. Jago, London, for comparison).

Distribution : This species was originally referred to by Uvarov 1942 from Nepal (Nagarkota). At present, it is recorded from India (Uttar Pradesh, Nainital).

Remarks : The genus *Peripolus* includes two Indian species, viz., *P. pedarius* (Stål, 1878) and *P. nepalensis* Uvarov 1942. The latter can be distinguished from the former by its smaller size, shorter antennae, less tectiform pronotum, relatively broader tegmina,

shorter and broader hind femur with stronger denticles on the upper carina etc. as mentioned by Uvarov 1942. The present study on male genitalia differentiates *P. nepalensis* from *P. pedarius* by prominent ancorae (vs. short ancorae), the postero-lateral processes produced with their outer margins emarginate (vs. postero-lateral processes greatly produced backwards with their outer margins rounded).

The species is being recorded for the first time from India.

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