ASILIDAE (DIPTERA) FROM UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA

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INTRODUCTION

During May—June 1989 Dr. M. S. Shishodia and Sri P. Parui surveyed Western and Northern Uttar Pradesh for grasshoppers and robberflies. The asilids collected by this party and from time to time by other colleagues: Dr. R. K. Varshney, Dr. S. K. Gupta, and Dr. R. K. Ghosh, from the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, are reported in this paper. The generic arrangement followed is according to ‘A Review of Asilidae (Diptera) from India’ by Joseph and Parui (1990).

The types are deposited in the National Zoological Collections, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

Genus Michotamia Macquart


*Type species*: *Michotamia analis* Macquart, 1838 : 72 ; monotypic.

1. *Michotamia aurata* (Fabricius)


*Distribution*: The species has been recorded from Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Pondicherry, Rajasthan and West Bengal. Here it is recorded for the first time from Uttar Pradesh.

Genus Ommatius Wiedemann


*Type species*: *Asilus marginellus* Fabricius ; designated by Coquillett (1910 : 579).
2. Ommatius shishodiai n. sp. (Fig.)

A small black species with black and yellowish-brown legs, wings entirely hyaline or only anterior border yellow, and a clavate abdomen. Male: length 4-6 mm, wing 3-4 mm; female: length 5-6 mm, wing 4-5 mm.

![Fig. 1. Lateral view of male genitalia of Ommatius shishodiai n. sp.](image)

*Male*: Head black, grey tomentose; mystax wholly white or white with one or more upper bristles being black; fronto-orbital setae white, ocellar bristles white or white and black, postocular bristles white, postocciput almost bare, postgena with a few white setae. Antenna black, scape and pedicel with black or black and white bristles, length of scape variable from half to subequal to the length of pedicel, first flagellomere slightly longer than pedicel. Palpus and proboscis black with white setae.

*Thorax* black, sparsely grey tomentose; pronotum with a pair of pale yellow bristles and sparse white setae; scutum with the mediolongitudinal stripe usually indistinct, sometimes faintly discernible; chaetotaxy: 2 notopleurals, 1 postalar, 2 supraalars, 2 (rarely 3) dorsocentrals; vestiture almost absent, bristles white and black; scutellum inflated with shallow subapical groove, scutellar border with 2 short bristles, disc with scarce white setae; katatergite with a few elongate, bristly white setae. Halteres pale yellow or yellowish-brown.

*Legs* largely black and yellowish-brown, sometimes the latter colour lighter, pale yellow; coxa and trochanter black; femur black except hind femur narrowly yellowish-brown at base, in a few examples fore and mid femora black dorsally and pale yellow ventrally with increased yellow area at base of hind femur; tibia usually pale yellow with black apex, the extent of colour variable, basitarsus yellowish-brown with its apex and remaining segments black, hind basitarsus often more extensively black; vestiture white and black, latter predominant, bristles black, femur ventrally with bristly white setae, which in hind femur form ventral and posteroventral rows.
Wing hyaline, or hyaline with anterior border yellow tinged.

Abdomen weakly clavate, black with hind border of each tergum narrowly pale yellow, tergum 1 laterally with a cluster of long, white setae, tergum 2 with similar but fewer bristles, vestiture otherwise white or black or both intermingled. Male genitalia (Fig.) black and yellowish-brown, setae white and black.

Female: Similar with the following differences: upper side of mystax usually with more black bristles, ocellar bristles usually wholly black; chaetotaxy: 2-3 dorsocentrals; legs more extensively yellowish-brown. Genitalia black, proctiger lighter coloured with dense grey tomentum and apex obtuse, sternum 8 truncate at apex, on either side with an elongate, bristly seta.


Ommatius andamanensis Joseph and Parui, O. nilgiriensis Joseph and Parui and O. shishodaii n. sp. are closely similar, all of which can be separated by the details of male genitalia. Furthermore O. shishodaii n. sp. has black femur. It is named in honour of our esteemed colleague Dr M. S. Shishodia, who has helped us in our several field trips.

Genus Stichopogon Loew


Type species: Dasypogon elegantulus Wiedemann, 1820; original designation.

3. Stichopogon inaequalis (Loew)

1847. Dasypogon inaequalis Loew, Linn. Ent. 2 : 505.


Distribution: It has already been reported from Andaman Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Here it is reported for the first time from Uttar Pradesh.

4. Stichopogon meridionalls Oldroyd


Material examined: 1 ♂, 2 ♀, Uttar Pradesh: Meerut Dist.: Baghpet, 23.v.1989;
Records of the Zoological Survey of India


Distribution: It is already recorded from Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. It is the first report of the species from Uttar Pradesh.

5. Stichopogon tomentosus Oldroyd


Distribution: It has been recorded from Andaman Islands, Bihar, Karnataka, Rajasthan and West Bengal. Here it is recorded for the first time from Uttar Pradesh.

Genus Clephrydroneura Becker


*Type species*: *Asilus xanthopus* Wiedemann; designated by Oldroyd (1938 : 450).

6. Clephrydroneura nelsoni Joseph & Parui


Distribution: It has been reported from Bangalore and Tamil Nadu. Here it is recorded for the first time from Uttar Pradesh.

Genus Machimus Loew


*Type species*: *Asilus chrystis* Meigen; designated by Coquillett (1910).

7. Machimus angularis (Ricardo)


Distribution: It has been recorded from Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
8. Machimus indicus Joseph & Parui


*Distribution:* The species was described from Uttar Pradesh.

9. Machimus subgenitalis Bromley


*Distribution:* It has been reported only from Himachal Pradesh and West Bengal. Here it is reported for the first time from Uttar Pradesh.

Genus Philodicus Loew


*Type species:* *Asilus javanus* Wiedemann, 9; original designation.

10. Philodicus femoralis Ricardo


*Distribution:* It is a widely distributed species. It has been recorded from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

11. Philodicus javanus (Wiedemann)


Distribution: It has been reported from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Genus Trichomachimus Engel


*Type species:* *Machimus pubescens* Ricardo; original designation.

12. *Trichomachimus pubescens* (Ricardo)


*Distribution:* It has been recorded from Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and West Bengal. Here it is reported for the first time from Uttar Pradesh.

**Summary**


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**Abbreviations**

Ae, aedeagles; Ep, epandrium; Gc, gonocoxite; Hy, hypandrium; Pr, proctiger
References
