



## Short Communication

### FIRST RECORD OF TWO SPECIES OF *CYBISTER* CURTIS, 1827 (COLEOPTERA: DYTISCIDAE) FROM ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

#### INTRODUCTION

Dytiscidae are a moderately large family, commonly known as predacious diving beetles. They have unique swimming method. As a whole dytiscid beetles of Arunachal Pradesh as well as those from North-East India are still poorly known though the region is well known for its rich faunal diversity. Of the dytiscid known from India (currently more than 251 species), only 14 species have been reported from Arunachal Pradesh (Ghosh & Nilsson, 2012) which highlight the low level of studies of the family in the state which is located in one of the global biodiversity hotspot.

Two species in the genus *Cybister* Curtis in Arunachal Pradesh is recorded for the first time. These are *C. tripunctatus lateralis* (Fabricius, 1798) and *C. sugillatus* Erichson, 1834. The species belong to the subgenera *Cybister* (*s. str.*) and *Cybister* (*Melanectes*). They are most common in South-east Asia and India. Among the Indian 22 species (Ghosh & Nilsson, 2012) of genus *Cybister*, only species *Cybister* (*s. str.*) *limbatus* (Fabricius, 1775) had been reported by Vazirani (1969) from the state. Thus this is the second report of the genus from the state. Now three species of the genus *Cybister* Curtis and sixteen species of dytiscid beetles are known to be present in Arunachal Pradesh. The paper is based on some recent collection by ZSI in different districts of Arunachal Pradesh and the specimens are preserved in the repository of the Zoological Survey of India, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh.

#### SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

Order COLEOPTERA

Family DYTISCIDAE

Subfamily DYTISCINAE

1. *Cybister* (*s. str.*) *tripunctatus lateralis*  
(Fabricius, 1798)

1798. *Dytiscus lateralis* Fabricius, *Supp. Entom. Syst.*, 64.

1980. *Cybister tripunctatus* (*Meganectes*) *asiaticus*: Vavirani, *Bull. zool. Surv. India*, 3(1 & 2): 30.

2013. *Cybister tripunctatus lateralis*: Nilsson, *World cat. Insects*, Apollo Books, 3: 90.

*Material examined*: Dist. Papumpare, Banderdewa, 35 km. from Itanagar, 23.iii.2001, coll. P.T. Bhutia & party, 10 exs; Dist. East Siang, Pasighat, Ramro Lake, 12.i.2013, coll. B. Sinha & party, 1 ex.

*Diagnosis*: Not fringed with any ciliae of hind margins of the four basal metatarsal segments; female without a rudimentary second claw on hind tarsi, pronotum and elytra with lateral reddish margins, elytral lateral margins extending to and including the epipleurae; Length= 21-30 mm,

*Distribution*: India: Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. *Elsewhere*: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, China, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan and Europe.

## 2. *Cybister (Melanectes) sugillatus*

Erichson, 1834

1834. *Cybister sugillatus* Erichson, *Beiträge zur Zoologie, Supplement*, **28**: 227.  
 2012. *Cybister (Melanectes) sugillatus*: Ghosh & Nilsson, *Skorvnopparn Umel supplement*, **3**: 22.

*Material examined*: Dist. East Siang, Pasighat, Ramro Lake, 12.i.2013, coll. B. Sinha & party, 8 exs; Dist. West Siang, Gassang village, 08.xii.2003, coll. Lollen & Tahar, 8 exs.

*Diagnosis*: Hind margins of the four basal metatarsal segments not fringed with any ciliae; female with a rudimentary second claw on hind tarsi, pronotum and elytra without any lateral reddish margins; Length= 18-24 mm.

*Distribution*: India: Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. *Elsewhere*: Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Authors are thankful to the Zoological Survey of India, for providing necessary facilities and encouragement. Authors are grateful to Dr. V.D. Hegde, Scientist-'D' & Officer-in-charge of Coleoptera Section for his constant support.

### REFERENCES

- Ghosh S.K. & Nilsson A.N. 2012. Catalogue of the diving beetles of India and adjacent countries (Coleoptera: Dytiscidae). *Skorvnopparn, Umel, Supplement*, **3**: 1-77.  
 Nilsson A.N. 2013. A World Catalogue of the family Dytiscidae, or the Diving Beetles (Coleoptera, Adepaga). Version 1.I.2013. Umea: distributed electronically as a PDF file by the author, 304.  
 Vazirani T.G. 1969. Contribution to the study of aquatic beetles (Coleoptera) 2. A Review of the subfamilies Noterinae, Laccophilinae, Dytiscinae and Hydroporinae (in part) from India, *Oriental Insects*, **2**(3-4): 221-341.

SUJIT KR. GHOSH\* AND BIKRAMJIT SINHA\*\*

\*Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, New Alipore

E-mail: sujitghosh45@yahoo.com

\*\*Zoological Survey of India, Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. E-mail: sinhabj@rediffmail.com