



# Updated Check-List of Darkling Beetles (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) of West Bengal, India

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## Abstract

The updated Check-list contains the report of 290 species of 98 genera under 30 tribes of 06 sub families from West Bengal state. The *Gonocephalum* is the dominant genus from this state having 36 species followed by the genus *Laena* (25), *Strongylium* (21) and *Uloma* (11). Further, this compilation revealed, 70 species are endemic to West Bengal.

**Keywords:** Check-List, Tenebrionidae, West Bengal

## Introduction

Tenebrionidae are one of the most common members of the beetle family and representatives of the family are found in almost all the habitats. Tenebrionidae can be recognized by the following characteristics in combination; base of antenna covered by a canthus; prosternal intercoxal process. Straight, without lateral expansions of apex behind front coxae; tarsal formula 5-5-4 (very rarely 4-4-4 and if so then middle coxal cavities closed laterally by mesotema); basal abdominal sternites 1-3 fused together, and the sutures between them faint, but sternites 4 and 5 more or less movable; tarsal claws simple or pectinate, never appendiculate (Watt, 1992). Accounts on the Tenebrionidae from West Bengal published by Saha and Das (1996) reported 88 species. Subsequent worker like Iwan, (2002) reported 02 species, Iwan et al., (2010) further added 23 species. Hence this attempt was made to update the check-list of the darkling beetles from west Bengal including the earlier information by referring Lobl and Smetana, 2008, Masumoto and Schawaller (2010), Schawaller (2002, 2006, 2007 a and b, 2009, 2012), Schawaller and Ando (2006, 2009) brought out altogether an account of 290 Tenebrionid species from the West Bengal.

## Material and Methods

Since there was insufficient information on the account of Tenebrionidae of the West Bengal state, compilation

was undertaken to prepare the updated check-list. To prepare the complete checklist, all scattered reports were also considered (Iwan, 2002; Iwan et al., 2010; Masumoto and Schawaller 2010; Schawaller, 2002, 2006, 2007 a and b, 2009, 2012; Schawaller and Ando, 2006, 2009). The author has followed the recent classification as per Bouchard et al., (2005). The species endemic to the state are marked with Asterik (\*), whereas reported from other than India and only from West Bengal were marked by double Asteriks (\*\*).

## Check-List of the Species

Subfamily LAGRIINAE Latreille, 1825

Tribe **Laenini** Seidlitz, 1895

1. *Laena acuticollis* Kaszab, 1978\*
2. *Laena aenea* Schuster, 1926
3. *Laena affinis* Schuster, 1935
4. *Laena bikhebjhangensis* Masumoto, 1990\*
5. *Laena brahmae* Masumoto, 1990\*
6. *Laena cardiothorax* Kaszab, 1978\*
7. *Laena darjeelingiana* Kaszab, 1938\*
8. *Laena dentipes* Schuster, 1935\*\*
9. *Laena espangoli* Kaszab, 1965\*
10. *Laena gairibasensis* Masumoto, 1990\*\*
11. *Laena interrupta* Schuster, 1935\*
12. *Laena kangchendzongensis* Masumoto, 1990\*\*
13. *Laena kaszabi* Masumoto, 1990\*\*
14. *Laena laevipennis* Schuster, 1926

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15. *Laena longipilis* Schuster, 1926\*\*
16. *Laena magarkensis* Masumoto, 1990
17. *Laena merklottoi* Masumoto, 1990\*\*
18. *Laena nishikawai* Masumoto, 1990\*
19. *Laena opaca* Kaszab, 1970\*\*
20. *Laena phithangensis* Masumoto, 1990
21. *Laena sakaii* Masumoto, 1990
22. *Laena sandakphuensis* Masumoto, 1990
23. *Laena shunichii* Masumoto, 1990\*
24. *Laena singalilensis* Masumoto, 1990
25. *Laena vishnua* Masumoto, 1990

Tribe **Lupronini** Ardoin, 1958

26. *Luprops cribratellus* Fairmaire, 1896\*
27. *Luprops curticolis* Fairmaire, 1896
28. *Luprops indicus* Wiedemann, 1823
29. *Luprops gracilior* Fairmaire, 1896
30. *Luprops tristis* Fabricius, 1801
31. *Spinolyprops himalayicus* Kaszab, 1965

Tribe **Lagriini** Latreille, 1825 (1820)

32. *Bothynogria bicolor* (Redtenbacher, 1844)
33. *Casonidea patruelis* Borchmann, 1936
34. *Cerogria abnormicornis* Borchmann, 1942
35. *Cerogria basalis* Hope, 1831
36. *Cerogria distincticornis* Reitter, 1880\*
37. *Cerogria montana* Merkl, 1991
38. *Cerogria nepalensis* (Hope, 1831)
39. *Cerogria quadrimaculata* Hope, 1831
40. *Cerogria rufina* (Fairmaire, 1894)
41. *Cerogria sikkimensis* Borchmann, 1936
42. *Chlorophila portschinskii* Semenov, 1891
43. *Donaciolagria pici* Borchmann, 1936\*\*
44. *Donaciolagria sikkimensis* Borchmann, 1915\*
45. *Lagria comosella* Fairmaire, 1894
46. *Lagria conspersa* Reitter, 1880
47. *Lagria schawalleri* Merkl, 1991
48. *Lagria ventralis* Reitter, 1880

Tribe **Cossyphini** Latreille, 1802

49. *Cossyphus (Cossyphus) depressus* (Fabricius, 1781)
50. *Cossyphus subgranulatus* Reitter, 1917\*\*

Subfamily PIMELINAE Latreille, 1802

Tribe **Cnemeplatini** Jacquelin du val, 1861

51. *Cnemeplatia calcuttensis* Kaszab, 1942\*

Tribe **Stenosini** Schaum, 1859 (1834)

52. *Dichillus indicus* Wasmann, 1896
53. *Indostola pulchella* Medvedev, 1991\*
54. *Stenosis bengala* Fairmaire, 1894
55. *Stenosis medinipurensis* Saha, 1996\*
56. *Tagenostola albovilloso* Koch, 1940
57. *Tetranosis ciliaticostis* Koch, 1940\*

Tribe **Tentyriini** Eschscholtz, 1831

58. *Ascelosodis everestina* Blair, 1923\*\*
59. *Ascelosodis nitida* Blair, 1923\*\*
60. *Ascelosodis schmidi* Kaszab, 1965\*\*
61. *Mesostena lineatopunctata* (Kraatz, 1865)
62. *Rhytinota subfossulata* Solier, 1835
63. *Stenosida indica* (Haag-Rutenberg, 1877)
64. *Stenosida striatopunctata* (Wiedemann, 1821)

Subfamily TENEBRIONINAE Latreille, 1802

Tribe **Toxicini** Lacordaire, 1859

65. *Cryphaeus punctipennis* Gravely, 1915
66. *Toxicum assamense* Pic, 1913
67. *Toxicum richesianum* Latreille, 1804\*
68. *Dicraeosis amplous* Gebein, 1913\*
69. *Stenochinus capucinus* (Gravely, 1915)\*\*

Tribe **Tenebrionini** Latreille, 1802

70. *Encyalesthus cribrum* Kaszab\*
71. *Indenicmosoma posci* Kaszab, 1965\*
72. *Setenis indosinica* Fairmaire, 1896\*
73. *Setenis laevis* Fairmaire, 1896\*
74. *Setenis mandibularis* Gebien, 1918\*

Tribe **Palorini** Mathews, 2003

75. *Palorus foveicollis* Blair, 1930
76. *Palorus ratzeburgii* Wissman, 1848
77. *Hypophloeus beelsoni* Blair, 1930
78. *Hypophloeus cephalotes* Gebien, 1913\*
79. *Hypophloeus tripartitus* Blair
80. *Latheticus oryzae* Waterhouse, 1880
81. *Lyphia elongata* Pic, 1924
82. *Platybolium alveolarium* Blair\*

Tribe **Ulomini** Blanchard, 1845

83. *Tenebroides mauritanicus* Linnaeus\*

84. *Uloma euphorbiae* Blair, 1930\*\*
85. *Uloma javana* Gebien, 1912
86. *Uloma kulzeri* Ardoin, 1960
87. *Uloma orientalis* Cast, 1840
88. *Uloma polita* (Wiedemann, 1821)
89. *Uloma rubripes* (Hope, 1831)
90. *Uloma ruficornis* Allard, 1896\*
91. *Uloma rufilabris* Fairmaire, 1882
92. *Uloma scita* Walker, 1858
93. *Uloma sherpa* Schwaller, 1996\*
94. *Uloma solita* Wiedemann, 1821\*
95. *Anacycus navicularis* Fairmaire, 1894

Tribe **Amarygmini** Gistel, 1856

96. *Amarygmus pilipes* Gebien, 1934
97. *Amarygmus purpureofossus* Fairmaire, 1896
98. *Amarygmus sikkimensis* Saha, 1988\*
99. *Amarygmus speciosus* Dalman, 1823\*\*
100. *Cyriogeton insignis* Pasc. 1871\*
101. *Cyriogeton purpureus* Pic.\*
102. *Hoplobrachium asperipenne* Fairmaire, 1886\*
103. *Plesiophthalmus excellens* Gebien, 1914\*\*
104. *Plesiophthalmus kurosawai* Masumoto, 1991\*
105. *Plesiophthalmus semipurpureus* Pic, 1917\*

Tribe **Pedinini** Eschscholtz, 1829

106. *Adamus Sikkimensis* Kaszab, 1975
107. *Penthicooides serriatorporous* Fairmaire, 1896
108. *Platolenes darjilingensis* Saha, 1988\*
109. *Platynotus deyrollei* Mulsant and Rey, 1853
110. *Platynotus excavatus* (Fabricius, 1775)
111. *Platynotus perforatus* Mulsant and Rey, 1853

Tribe **Heleini** Fleming, 1821

112. *Lepisipilus punctatolineatus* Allard, 1896\*

Tribe **Alphitobini** Reitter, 1917

113. *Alphitobius diaperinus* Panzer, 1797
114. *Alphitobius laevigatus* (Fabricius, 1781)
115. *Alphitobius piceus* Olivier, 1972

Tribe **Tribolini** Mulsant, 1854

116. *Tribolium castaneum* (Herbst, 1797)
117. *Tribolium confusum* Jacquelin du Val, 1868

Tribe **Blaptini** Leach, 1815

118. *Blaps socia socia* Seidlitz, 1893\*\*
119. *Blaptogonia costulata* Fairmaire, 1901\*
120. *Balptyscellis alpinus* Kaszab, 1965
121. *Gnaptorina brucei* Blair, 1923\*\*
122. *Gnaptorina sikkimensis* Kaszab, 1965\*
123. *Nepalindia alpine* Kaszab, 1965\*\*

Tribe **Platyscelidini** Lacordaire, 1859

124. *Bioramix aenescens* Blair, 1923\*\*
125. *Bioramix kochi* Kaszab, 1940\*\*
126. *Bioramix sikkimensis* Kaszab, 1940\*
127. *Bioramix puncticeps* Bates, 1879

Tribe **Rhysopaussini** Wasmann, 1896

128. *Azarelius singularis* Wasmann, 1896\*

Tribe **Opatrini** Brulle, 1832

129. *Diphyrrhynchus Diphyrrhynchus geminatus* Allard, 1896\*
130. *Gonocephalum alaticolle* (Fairmaire, 1893)
131. *Gonocephalum belli* Kaszab, 1952\*\*
132. *Gonocephalum bengalense* Kaszab, 1952\*
133. *Gonocephalum bilineatum* (Walker, 1858)
134. *Gonocephalum brachelytra* Kaszab, 1952
135. *Gonocephalum catenulatum* (Fairmaire, 1896)
136. *Gonocephalum civicum* Kaszab, 1952
137. *Gonocephalum consobrinum* Blair, 1923
138. *Gonocephalum curiosum* Kaszab, 1952
139. *Gonocephalum depressum* (Fabricius, 1801)
140. *Gonocephalum dorsogranosum* (Fairmaire, 1896)
141. *Gonocephalum elytrale* Kaszab, 1952
142. *Gonocephalum gebienianum* Kaszab, 1952
143. *Gonocephalum gracile* (Bates, 1879)
144. *Gonocephalum granulatifenne* Kaszab, 1978\*\*
145. *Gonocephalum guerryi* Chatanay, 1917
146. *Gonocephalum hauschildi* Kaszab, 1952
147. *Gonocephalum helopioide* (Fairmaire, 1894)
148. *Gonocephalum helferi* Kaszab, 1952\*
149. *Gonocephalum himalayense* Kaszab, 1952
150. *Gonocephalum hingstoni* Kaszab, 1952
151. *Gonocephalum hoffmannseggi* (Steven, 1829)
152. *Gonocephalum nepalicum* Kaszab, 1973\*\*
153. *Gonocephalum oblongum* (Fabricius, 1801)

154. *Gonocephalum oculare* Kaszab, 1952  
 155. *Gonocephalum patricium* Kaszab, 1952  
 156. *Gonocephalum planatum* Walker, 1858\*\*  
 157. *Gonocephalum planicolle* Kaszab, 1952\*  
 158. *Gonocephalum roseni* Kaszab, 1952  
 159. *Gonocephalum sikkimense* Kaszab, 1952\*  
 160. *Gonocephalum strigatum* Fabricius, 1798\*  
 161. *Gonocephalum subspinosum* (Fairmaire, 1894)  
 162. *Gonocephalum szekessyi* Kaszab, 1952  
 163. *Gonocephalum tenuicorne* Kaszab, 1952  
 164. *Gonocephalum tuberculatum* (Hope, 1831)  
 165. *Gonocephalum vagum* (Steven, 1829)\*\*  
 166. *Gonocephalum woynarovichi* Kaszab, 1973  
 167. *Heterotarsus indicus indicus* Marseul, 1876\*\*  
 168. *Heterotarsus inflatus* Lacord, 1859\*\*  
 169. *Heterotarsus scleroneberti* Kaszab, 1980\*\*  
 170. *Mesomorpha laticulus* Chatanay, 1917  
 171. *Mesomorpha villiger* Blanchard, 1853\*\*  
 172. *Mesomorpha vitalisi* Chatanay, 1917\*  
 173. *Neopachypterus gebieni* Kaszab, 1941  
 174. *Opatroides frater* (Fairmaire, 1896)  
 175. *Opatroides vicinus* (Fairmaire, 1896)  
 176. *Sclerum reitteri* Gebien, 1906  
 177. *Sclerum bengalensis* Kaszab, 1942  
 178. *Sclerum ferrugineum* Fabricius, 1801  
 179. *Sclerum latipes* Guerin, 1834  
 180. *Scleropatrum arenarium* Fabricius, 1755  
 181. *Scleropatrum strigatum* Fabricius, 1798\*  
 182. *Trigonopoda malabarica* Fairmaire, 1896\*\*

Subfamily DIAPERINAE Latreille, 1802

Tribe **Hypophaeini** Billberg, 1820

183. *Corticeus engelhardtiae* Blair, 1937  
 184. *Corticeus curtithorax* Pic, 1924

Tribe **Scaphidemini** Reitter, 1922

185. *Basanus flaviventris* Blair, 1937  
 186. *Basanus javanus* Chevrolat, 1878\*\*

Tribe **Diaperini** Latreille, 1802

187. *Ceropria induta* Wiedemann, 1819  
 188. *Ceropria laticollis* Fairmaire, 1903  
 189. *Ceropria purpurina* Gebien, 1925  
 190. *Ceropria subocellata* Lewis, 1894\*

Tribe **Leiochrinini** Lewis, 1894

191. *Ades assimilis* Kaszab, 1961\*\*  
 192. *Ades bengalicus* Kaszab, 1975\*  
 193. *Ades convexus* Lewis, 1894  
 194. *Ades coomani* Pic, 1927  
 195. *Ades galbratus* Walker, 1859  
 196. *Ades rufofulvus* Westwood, 1883  
 197. *Ades sikkimensis* Kaszab, 1961\*\*  
 198. *Ades subaeneus* Pic, 1918  
 199. *Crypsis bimaculatus* Kaszab, 1946\*\*  
 200. *Crypsis blairi* Kaszab, 1946\*\*  
 201. *Crypsis minutus* Kaszab, 1946  
 202. *Crypsis purpuripennis* Neervoort Van de Poll, 1886  
 203. *Crypsis ruficollis* Kaszab, 1946  
 204. *Crypsis rufomarginatus* Kaszab, 1946  
 205. *Crypsis violaceipennis* Waterhouse, 1877  
 206. *Derispia aeneonigra* Kaszab, 1946  
 207. *Derispia bengalensis* Kaszab, 1946\*\*  
 208. *Derispia bistrimaculata* Blair, 1937  
 209. *Derispia bisquiquemaculata* Blair, 1937  
 210. *Derispia confluens* Kaszab, 1946\*\*  
 211. *Derispia diaperoides* Kaszab, 1946  
 212. *Derispia flavicornis* Kaszab, 1946  
 213. *Derispia indica* Kaszab, 1946\*\*  
 214. *Derispia ocellate* Kaszab, 1946  
 215. *Derispia subseriata* Kaszab, 1946  
 216. *Derispia tenuipunctata* Kaszab, 1946\*  
 217. *Derispia truncata* Kaszab, 1961  
 218. *Derispiella hingstoni* Kaszab, 1961\*  
 219. *Derispiola blairi* Kaszab, 1946  
 220. *Derispiola darjeelingiana* (Kaszab, 1946)  
 221. *Leiochrinus metallicus* Schawaller, 2005\*  
 222. *Leiochrinus sauteri* Kaszab, 1946  
 223. *Leiochrodes rufofulvus* Westwood, 1883\*\*  
 224. *Leiochrodes sikkimensis* Kaszab, 1961  
 225. *Leiochrodontes madurensis* Pic, 1918  
 226. *Pimplema hemispherica* Laporte and Brulle, 1831\*\*  
 227. *Spiloscapa unicolor* Blair, 1937\*

Tribe **Crypticini** Brulle, 1832

228. *Ellipsodes scriptus* Lewis, 1894  
 229. *Microcrypticus scripticum* Lewis, 1894  
 230. *Microcrypticus ziczac* (Motschulsky, 1873\*)  
 231. *Sivacrypticus bengalensis* Kaszab, 1975



Tribe **Gnathidini** Gebien, 1921232. *Menimus gairibansicus* Schawaller, 2016233. *Menimus wittmeri* Kaszab, 1982\*

## Subfamily ALLECULINAE Laporte, 1840

Tribe **Alleculini** Laporte, 1840234. *Allecula arthritica* Fairmaire, 1896235. *Allecula femorata* Borchmann, 1915236. *Allecula indica* Borchmann, 1909237. *Allecula sobrina* Borchmann, 1915\*238. *Borboresthes suturalis* Borchmann, 1915\*Tribe **Cteniopodini** Solier, 1835239. *Cistelomorpha alternans* Fairmaire, 1894\*240. *Cistelomorpha densestriata* Fairmaire, 1896\*241. *Cteniopinus fossulatus* Pic, 1913\*\*242. *Cteniopinus flavifemur* Borchmann, 1930\*\*

## Subfamily STENOCHIINAE Kirby, 1837

Tribe **Cnodalonini** Gistel, 1855243. *Bradymerus kabakovi* Kaszab, 1980244. *Catapiestus indicus* Fairmaire, 1896245. *Chariophenus tibialis* Blair, 1930\*\*246. *Danodema subcalvum* Gebien, 1925247. *Derosphaerus asperipennis* Allard, 1896248. *Derosphaerus brevicornis* Maklin, 1863249. *Derosphaerus cribrum* Fairmaire, 1896250. *Derosphaerus exularis* (Gebien, 1914)251. *Derosphaerus rugosus* Gravely, 1915252. *Eucrytus splendens splendens* Lacordaire, 1859\*\*253. *Euhemicera himalaica* Blair, 1930\*\*254. *Gauromaia himalaica* Schwallier, 2006\*\*255. *Hemicera oblita* Ando, 2003256. *Misolampidius entomogonoides* Allard, 1896\*\*257. *Misolampidius foveipennis* (Fairmaire, 1894)258. *Promethis confusa* (Fairmaire, 1896)259. *Promethis crenatostrata* Motschulsky, 1872260. *Promethis glabra* (Hope, 1831)261. *Promethis harmandi* (Allard, 1896)262. *Promethis laevis laevis* Fairmaire, 1896263. *Promethis mandibularis* (Gebien, 1918)264. *Promethis punctatostrata* (Motschulsky, 1872)265. *Promethis transversicollis* Motschulsky, 1872266. *Pseudonautes viridiaeneum* (Allard, 1896)\*\*267. *Rhopalobates villardi* Fairmaire, 1897268. *Upis nigra* Wiedemann, 1819Tribe **Stenochiini** Kirby, 1837269. *Stenochinus capucinus* Gravely, 1915\*\*270. *Strongylium aratum* Fairmaire, 1896271. *Strongylium angusticolle* Maklin, 1864272. *Strongylium angustissimum* Pic, 1922273. *Strongylium beelsoni* Blair, 1937\*274. *Strongylium bengalensis* Saha, 1996\*275. *Strongylium bhutanicum* Masumoto, 1999\*276. *Strongylium cariosipenne* Fairmaire, 1896\*277. *Strongylium castanascens* Fairmaire, 1896\*278. *Strongylium cultellatum* Maklin, 1864\*279. *Strongylium dubium* (Gebien)280. *Strongylium gardneri* Blair, 1930\*281. *Strongylium interruptum* Blair, 1930\*282. *Strongylium macrops* Wiedemann, 1823283. *Strongylium mediofoveatum* Blair, 1931284. *Strongylium metallescens* Dohrn, 1880285. *Strongylium phedongense* Masumoto, 1998286. *Strongylium rufipenne* L. Redtenbacher, 1844287. *Strongylium schaumii* (Maklin, 1864)\*288. *Strongylium simulator* Dohrn, 1880289. *Strongylium sobrinum* Dohrn, 1880290. *Strongylium westermanni* Maklin, 1864

## Results and Discussion

The Check-list contains the report of 290 species of 98 genera under 30 tribes of 06 sub families from West Bengal state. Because of the following characteristics, genus *Gonocephalum* seems to be dominant.

- Having the characteristic elements of open land in different altitudes and absent in closed mature forests.
- Habitats are cultivated land along the fields, bushes and open alpine steppe.
- They can be found under stones in association with the beetles of other families, under bark of rotten trunks or under cattle excrements.
- *Gonocephalum* species are usually active during evening and night feeding on low strata of grass and on crops (Schawaller, 1997).

The other dominant genus is *Laena*, the flightless species which can be found mostly in mature forests unlike *Gonocephalum*. Habitats of the genus *Laena* are under soil litter, stones and rotten wood (Schawaller, 2001) and may be absent on devastated agricultural lands. The other most abundant species in west Bengal is *Strongylium* which populate arboreal habitats and can be collected during night on the bark of old trees, not only in mature dense forests but also in open cultivated land (Masumoto and Schawaller, 2010). They are attracted by light. The genus *Uloma* is the tenebrionid genus distributed in nearly all zoogeographic regions and it is next to the genus *Strongylium* in West

Bengal. The *Uloma* occurs in rotten wood or under bark of trees and are distributed both in temperate and tropical forests (Schawaller, 1996). Altogether, this compilation resulted, 70 species are endemic to West Bengal showing the richness of Biodiversity of the West Bengal state as compared to 30 endemic species of Tenebrionidae in Sikkim (Hegde, 2016). 50 species were present only in West Bengal but reported elsewhere (other than India).

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