

DAMSELFLIES (ZYGOPTERA)



Photo:K.A.Subramanian



Photo:Natasha Mahatre

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MARSH DARTS (FAMILY: COENAGRIONIDAE)

Marsh darts are slender and small damselflies with varied colouration. These non-iridescent damselflies rest with wings closed over their body. The wings are transparent and rounded at the tip. The long and slender abdomen is slightly longer than the hind wing. Some of the smallest damselflies like the Golden Dartlet (*Ischnura aurora*) is from this family. Marsh Darts are found throughout the world. World over, this family is represented by about 1147 species. Within Indian limits, 65 species are known and in peninsular India 25 species are recorded. The marsh darts breed in a variety of aquatic habitats like ponds, marshes, streams and rivers. Though most of the species are closely associated with aquatic habitats, some species like the Common Marsh Dart (*Ceriagrion coromandelianum*) can be found far away from any aquatic habitat.



Photo: E. Kunkrishnan

Golden Dartlets mating



Photo: K.A. Subramanian

Golden Dartlet- male

35. Pigmy Dartlet (*Agriocnemis pygmaea*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 16-17mm, Hindwing: 9.5-10mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 18 mm, Hindwing: 11-12 mm.

Description: A small apple green damselfly with black thoracic stripes orange coloured terminal abdominal segments. **Male:** **Eyes:** Black above, pale apple green below. **Thorax:** Black above with pale apple green stripes on sides. The pale green colour along the sides fades to yellow below. Upper side of posterior lateral side has small black spot.



Male Pigmy Dartlet



Female Pigmy Dartlet (Red form)

Legs: Yellow, outer surface of femora black. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Pale yellow in forewings and black in hind wings. **Abdomen:** Broadly black above. Segment 1-6 with ground colour pale apple green. Terminal segments brick red. **Female:** Shows range of colour variations, some even resemble the males. In red form (Photo) the head, thorax and abdomen are dark brick red in colour. Thorax has a broad, dorsal black band. **Habits and Habitat:** Common in marshes, ponds, and sea shore. Darts among vegetation and flies very close to the ground. **Breeding:** In marshes and ponds. **Flight Season:** Very common during October-January. **Distribution:** Throughout the Oriental, Australian regions and Pacific islands.

36. Orange-tailed Marsh Dart (*Ceriagrion cerinorubellum*)

Size: *Male:* Abdomen: 31-33mm, Hindwing: 20-21mm. *Female:* Abdomen: 31-35mm, Hindwing: 20-21mm.

Description: A medium sized pale green damselfly with orange coloured segments at the base and end of the abdomen. **Male:**

Eyes: Dark olivaceous above, pale green below.

Thorax: Green above fading to blue on the sides and yellow below. **Legs:** Yellow, with short black spines. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Amber coloured.

Abdomen: Multicoloured. Segments 1-2 and 7-10 brick red. Central segments (3-7) blue grey with dorsal black band.

Female: Very similar to the male, however, the red abdominal segments 7-10 are much duller. **Habits and Habitat:** Common on the banks of ponds, rivers and canals. Sits on dry twigs and vegetation over water. **Breeding:** Breeds in marshy banks of rivers, canals and ponds. **Flight season:** October-January. **Distribution:** Throughout the Oriental region.



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Female Orange-tailed Marsh Dart



Scan:K.A.Subramanian

Male Orange-tailed Marsh Dart

37. Coromandel Marsh Dart (*Ceriagrion coromandelianum*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 28-30mm, Hindwing: 18-20 mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 29-32 mm, Hindwing: 20mm

Description: A medium sized pale green damselfly with bright yellow (male) or pale green tail (female). **Male:**

Eyes: Olivaceous above, pale greenish yellow below.

Thorax: Olive green above merging to yellow on sides.

Underside is white. **Legs:** Yellow with black spines. **Wings:**

Transparent. **Wing spot:** Golden yellow. **Abdomen:** Uniform yellow.

Female: Thorax: Golden brown.

Abdomen: Uniformly olivaceous with an ochrous or golden brown tint on the dorsal side. **Habits and Habitat:** Common along the banks of ponds, rivers and canals. Also found frequently far away from water bodies. **Breeding:** Shallow water bodies with profuse growth of grass and other aquatic plants.

Flight season: Throughout the year. **Distribution:** Throughout the Oriental region.



Coromandel Marsh Dart-male



Coromandel Marsh Darts mating (male above and female below)

38. Rusty Marsh Dart (*Ceriagrion olivaceum*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 34-38mm, Hindwing: 22-23mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 33-35mm, Hindwing: 22mm.

Description: A medium sized pale green or brown damselfly with rusty tail. **Male:** **Eyes:** Olivaceous brown. **Thorax:** Upper side pale olivaceous, paler on the sides and beneath. **Legs:** Yellow with black spines. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Pale brown. **Abdomen:** Uniform olivaceous brown, fading to yellowish beneath. **Female:** Very similar to the male. The race found in the Western Ghats



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Rusty Marsh Dart



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Rusty Marsh Dart (Western Ghats race)

(*C.o.aurantiacum*) has a reddish brown abdomen. **Habits and Habitat:** Very common among vegetation along the banks of streams. **Breeding:** Shaded streams. **Flight season:** September-December. **Distribution:** Western Ghats, North-east India and West Bengal.

39. Golden Dartlet (*Ischnura aurora*)

Size: **Male:** *Abdomen:* 16-20mm, *Hindwing:* 10-20mm. **Female:** *Abdomen:* 18-20mm, *Hindwing:* 14-15mm

Description: A small apple green damselfly with black thoracic stripes and blue tipped yellow tail.

Male: Eyes: Black half moon like cap above, olive green to dark olive below, which fade to pale olive beneath. Two azure blue spots are present behind the eyes.

Thorax: Shinning black with two pale grass green stripes. Sides are light green and white below. **Legs:** Pale greenish white.

Wings: Transparent. **Wing spot:** The wing spots are different in fore and hindwings. It is rose-red in forewings and uniform pale grey in hindwings. **Abdomen:** Bright yellow. The second and seventh segments has upper narrow and broad black marks respectively. Segments 8-10 are entirely azure blue. The 10th segment has a upper black spot. **Female:** The female is less brightly coloured than the male. A broad black stripe runs along the upper side of abdomen. Segments 8-10 do not have azure blue markings. **Habits and Habitat:** Found among vegetation along the banks of ponds, rivers, canals and estuaries. **Breeding:** Among marshes on the banks of ponds, canals and rivers. **Flight season:** Throughout the year. **Distribution:** Oriental and Australian regions. Also found in remote oceanic islands probably carried by air currents.



Golden Dartlet - male



Mite infested female Golden Dartlet

Photo: Natasha Mahatre

Photo: Natasha Mahatre

40. Senegal Golden Dartlet (*Ischnura senegalensis*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 21-23mm, Hindwing: 13-15mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 20-24mm, Hindwing: 14-16mm

Description: A small pale green damselfly with black and yellow thoracic stripes. Abdomen is yellow and has basal and terminal blue spots. **Male: Eyes:** Upper side black; underside pale green to yellow. Two bright blue spot present behind the eyes. **Thorax:** Bronze backed with pale green sides and yellow underside. Narrow stripe on sides is pale green to bright yellow bordered by



Photo: Natasha Mahatre

Senegal Golden Dartlets mating

a broad black band. **Legs:** Black, with yellow or pale green outer surface. The legs are covered short black spines. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Diamond shaped and black in forewing and dull white in the hindwing. **Abdomen:** The first segment is pale green and the second is azure blue with steel blue black on upper side. The segments 3-7 are bright yellow with black upper side. The eighth and ninth segments are azure blue with black upper side. The last segment has black upper side and yellow on sides. **Female:** Less brightly coloured than the male. The eyes and spots behind the head are paler. The thorax has pale green stripe and brown band instead of yellow stripe and black band of male. The legs and abdomen are pale brown with black stripes. The abdomen lacks blue markings found in males. **Habits and Habitat:** Very common in marshes, ponds and wet grasslands. **Breeding:** Breeds in marshes and ponds. **Flight season:** Not known. **Distribution:** Ethiopian and Oriental region. In the Western Ghats it is reported up to an altitude of 2300m ASL.

41. Blue Grass Dartlet (*Pseudagrion microcephalum*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 27mm, Hindwing: 17mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 29mm, Hindwing: 20mm.

Description: A small blue damselfly with broad blue medial thoracic stripe. **Male:** **Eyes:** Brown cap above, dark azure blue below fading to sky blue beneath. **Thorax:** Azure blue with a broad black medial stripe. A black narrow stripe on each side. **Wings:** Transparent. **Legs:** Azure blue. **Wing spot:** Grey. **Abdomen:** Azure blue. Second Segment with a goblet shaped black mark on the upper side. Segment 3-7 has a broad black markings above. Segment 8 has a thick ring towards the end and the 9th segment is unmarked. A broad saddle-shaped black mark is present on the upper side of 10th segment. **Female:** **Eyes:** Pale blue beneath, olive green above. **Thorax:** Bluish green, golden orange above and azure blue on sides. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Pale brown. **Abdomen:** Similar to male. Segment 2 has a thick dumbbell shaped above. The segments 8 and 9 have broad black stripe above and two tongue like spots respectively. The tenth segment is unmarked. **Habits and Habitat:** A species of the plains. Found commonly among vegetation covered banks of ponds, canals and rivers. **Breeding:** Among marshy banks of ponds, canals and rivers. **Flight season:** June-November. **Distribution:** Oriental and Australian region.



Photo: Natasha Mahatre

Blue Grass Dartlet



Scan: K.A. Subramanian

Blue Grass Dartlet dorsal view

42. Yellow-striped Blue Dart (*Pseudagrion indicum*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 34mm, Hind wing: 22mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 32mm, Hind wing: 22mm

Description: A medium sized blue damselfly with black and yellow thoracic stripes. **Male: Eyes:** Black above, greenish on sides and beneath. **Thorax:** Azure blue with broad black medial. On the sides, it is azure blue with greenish yellow stripe and a narrow



Yellow-striped Blue Dart - male

black stripe. Rest of the thorax is azure blue with two black spots towards poster end. **Wings:** Transparent. **Legs:** Pale azure blue and the outer surface of femora have a black band. **Wing spot:** Pale yellow. **Abdomen:** Azure blue. Second segment has a broad 'V' shaped mark. The segment 3-7 has a broad black stripe above. The segment 8 and 9 are azure blue, with broad apical black rings. The 10th segment is black above. **Female: Eyes:** Emerald green above with or without a small black cap. **Thorax:** Grass green above and pale yellowish green on sides. This is marked with three fine black parallel lines above and a fine black line on sides. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Pale brown. **Abdomen:** The segments 1-7 are similar to males. However, the 8 and 9th segments are black with a fine blue ring towards the end, and the 10th segment is black. **Habits and Habitat:** Found in pools associated with hill streams. Usually perches on dry twigs near streams. **Breeding:** Marshes associated with hill streams. **Flight season:** Throughout the year. **Distribution:** Endemic to the Western Ghats. This species is known from Chikmagalur, Kodagu (Karnataka) and Nilgiri (Tamil Nadu) districts.

43. Saffron-faced Blue Dart (*Pseudagrion rubriceps*)

Size: **Male:** *Abdomen:* 29mm, *Hind wing:* 18-20mm. **Female:** *Abdomen:* 29mm, *Hind wing:* 21mm.

Description: A medium sized blue damselfly with characteristic bright orange face. **Male:** **Eyes:** Olivaceous green above, bright orange below and bluish beneath. **Thorax:** Olivaceous green with azure blue sides. Median fine black line with broad black parallel line present on each side. On sides, a fine black line is present and the under side is white. **Wings:** Transparent. **Legs:** Yellow. Femora black on outer and rear surfaces. **Wing spot:** Reddish brown. **Abdomen:** The segment 1-2 is olivaceous green above and azure blue on sides. The segment 3-7 is black, bronzed green above. The 8th segment has a broad black cone above and the 9th and 10th segments are azure blue. **Female:**



Saffron-faced Blue Dart - male



Saffron-faced Blue Darts mating

The face is rusty brown. **Eyes:** Dark blue above, azure blue below. **Thorax:** Markings similar to male but the colour is dull bluish green. **Abdomen:** The markings above the segments broader than in males. The mark on 8th segment extends the whole length of the segment and 9th segment has basal forked markings above. **Habits and Habitat:** Frequents banks of large rivers. Usually perches on aquatic plants on the bank and is seen in small groups of 3-4 individuals. **Breeding:** Breed in marshes along the river bank. **Flight season:** Throughout the year. **Distribution:** Oriental region.

BUSH DARTS (FAMILY: PLATYCNEMIDIDAE)

Bush Darts are small, slender damselflies. They are predominantly black damselflies with blue, red or yellow markings. The narrow, transparent wings are rounded at the tip. Abdomen is longer than the hindwing. Bush Darts are found only in Old World and 197 species are known from this region. Within Indian limits 30 species are known. Only two species are known from peninsular India and the rest of the species are found in the eastern Himalayas. Bush darts breed in small mountain streams and adults usually dart among riparian vegetation. Newly emerged Bush Darts are conspicuously white and without any marking.



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Yellow Bush Darts mating

44 . Blue Bush Dart (*Copera vittata*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 28-34mm, Hindwing: 16-18mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 28-30mm, Hindwing: 18mm

Description: A black band extend from eye to eye.

Male: Eyes: Black cap above, olivaceous green below with a black equatorial belt. **Thorax:**

Black above, chocolate brown on sides with a few coarse yellow spots. A narrow yellow stripe beneath continuous as bluish or yellowish in front. Underside of the thorax is yellow. **Legs:** Reddish yellow. **Wings:**

Transparent. **Wing spot:** Reddish brown. **Abdomen:** Black above. The segments one and two reddish yellow.

Pale blue rings at the front end of segments 3-7. The segment 9 has a blue spot and segment 10 is entirely blue. **Female: Eyes:** Dark brown cap above with pale apple green below. The black equatorial belt present as in males. **Thorax:** Pale brown and marked similar to males. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Blackish brown. **Legs:** Yellow. **Abdomen:** Pale brown with dark purplish black. Segments 1-2 pale yellowish brown. Segment 3-7 with pale brown anterior rings. The 9th segment has a broad pale brown T-shaped mark. Segment 10 is pale brown.

Habits and Habitat: Found along ponds, puddles, canals and streams. Flies very close to the ground (<1m). **Breeding:** Breeds in shallow water collections, such as rainwater puddles and backwaters of streams. **Flight season:** August-November. **Distribution:** Throughout the Oriental region.



Blue Bush Darts mating



Blue Bush Dart - male

45. Yellow Bush Dart (*Copera marginipes*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 28-31mm, Hindwing: 16-18mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 29-30mm, Hindwing: 20mm.

Description: A black band extend from eye to eye. **Male:**

Eyes: Black above, greenish on sides and beneath with black equatorial band.

Thorax: Bronze black with fine yellow lines on sides. The stripe on sides is narrow and pale greenish yellow. **Legs:** Bright yellowish orange.

Wings: Transparent. **Wing**

spot: Brown. **Abdomen:** Bronzed black above. Segment 3-6 with a pale stripe along the side and a narrow pale greenish white ring at the end of each segment . **Female:** Ground colour is dark and of varying shades of brown.

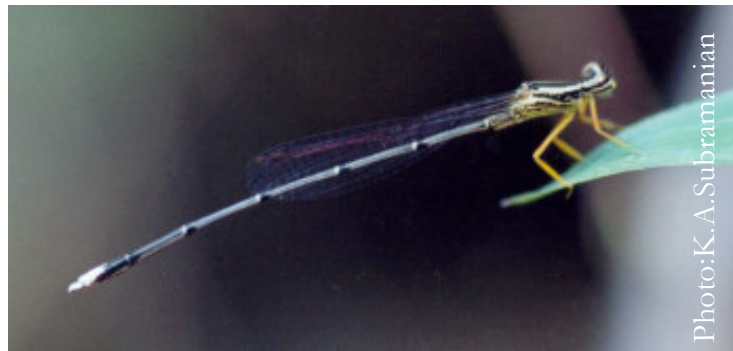
Eyes: Similar to the male but has a brown cap. **Thorax:**

Ground colour is brown. The black stripe above is similar to that of males and black stripe on sides is irregular. **Legs:**

Brownish. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Pale brown. **Abdomen:** Brown above with broad rings towards the end. Half of 8th segment and the whole of 9-10th segments pale brownish white. **Habitat:** Found along ponds, puddles, canals and streams. Flies very close to the ground (<1m). **Breeding:** Breeds in shallow water collections, such as rainwater puddles and backwaters of streams. **Flight season:** August-November. **Distribution:** Oriental region.



Yellow Bush Dart - male



Yellow Bush Dart -female



Yellow Bush Dart - male

REEDTAILS (FAMILY: PLATYSTICTIDAE)

Reedtails are small black or brown damselflies marked with white, blue or, rarely, iridescent markings.

Transparent wings are slightly pointed at the tip.

Abdomen is very long and twice or more than twice the length of the hindwing.

Reed Tails are found in tropical Old and New World. 142 species are known world wide. Within Indian region 13 species

are known, of which 8 are found in the Western Ghats. Reed Tails are exclusively found in forested streams and they breed in them.



Pied Reed Tail - female

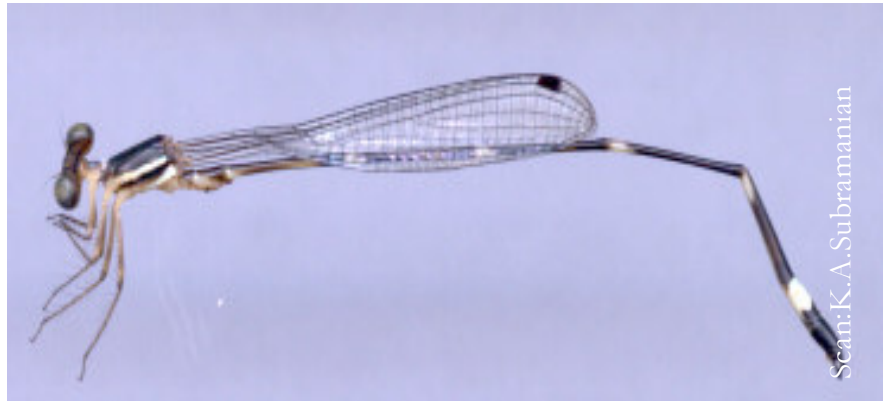
Damselflies

46. Pied Reedtail (*Protosticta gravelyi*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 46-49mm, Hindwing: 20-22mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 33-35mm, Hindwing: 19-23mm

Description:

Male: **Eyes:** Dark bottle green, fading to pale greenish beneath. **Thorax:** Glossy black, marked with broad diagonal creamy white stripe, extending from middle and hind pair of legs. **Legs:** Creamy white. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Black, marked with creamy white rings at the end of segments 3-7.



Pied Reed Tail - male



Pied Reed Tail - female

The sides of first and

second segment and basal half of 8th segments are turquoise blue. The 9th and 10th segments are unmarked. **Female:** Very similar to male, but abdomen is short.

Eyes: With an ill defined white spot on the outer side. **Abdomen:** Turquoise blue marking on segment 8 of male is replaced by white spot. **Habits and Habitat:** Occurs in heavily shaded hill streams. Found among rocks and ferns in streams. It flies in short jerks holding the abdomen rigid and horizontal. In dark forest understorey, the species appears like a chain of darting white dots. **Breeding:** Heavily shaded hill streams. **Flight season:** May-June and again in September-October. **Distribution:** Endemic to the Western Ghats. Does not occur north of of Sharavathi Valley.

BAMBOOTAILS (FAMILY: PROTONEURIDAE)

Bambootails are small to medium sized slender damselflies. They are usually black coloured and marked with blue, red, yellow or rarely iridescent. Wings are transparent and rounded or pointed at the tip. Abdomen is long and never twice the length of the hindwing. Bamboo Tails are highly diverse family with 244 known species. Within Indian limits 24 species are known of which 15 are found in peninsular India. All the species breed in running waters and they are restricted to forested landscapes.



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Nilgiri Bambootail



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Head and thorax of Nilgiri Bambootail

47. Black Bambootail (*Prodasineura verticalis*)

Size: **Male:**Abdomen: 29mm, *Hindwing:* 19mm.**Female:** Abdomen: 30mm, *Hindwing:* 20mm.

Description:A medium sized black damselfly with blood red thoracic stripes.

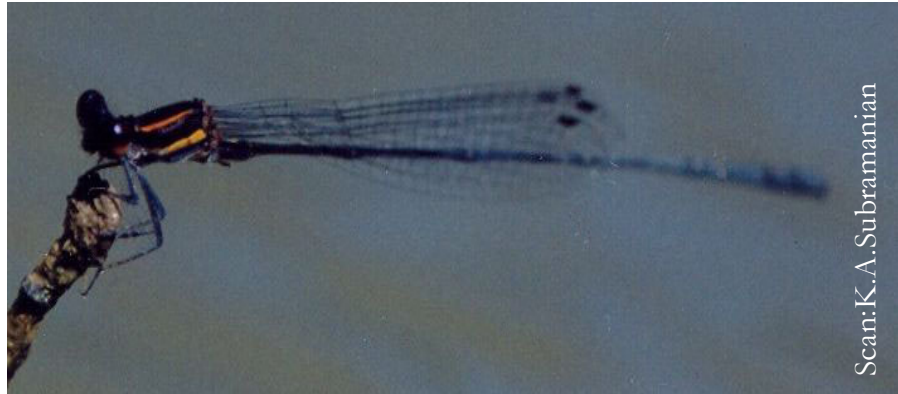
Male: **Eyes:** Velvety black on upper side coral red below.

Thorax: Velvety black with two diagonal brick red stripes on sides. Under side yellowish. **Legs:** Black.

Wings: Transparent. **Wing spot:** Dark reddish brown.

Abdomen: Black with yellow basal spots from segments 3-7. The first segment has a small spot on each side and the second segment has a narrow yellow border below.

Female: Similar to the male and the bright red markings of male are largely replaced by pale yellowish white. **Habits and Habitat:** Found along the banks of large ponds and rivers, usually sitting among emergent water plants. **Breeding:** Not known. **Flight season:** August-December. **Distribution:** Western Ghats, Northeast India extending to Southeast Asia.



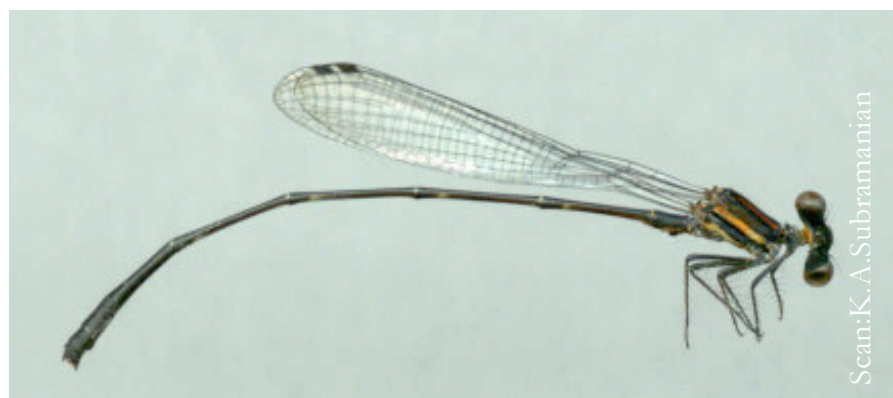
Scan:K.A.Subramanian

Black Bamboo Tail



Scan:K.A.Subramanian

Black Bamboo Tail dorsal view



Scan:K.A.Subramanian

Black Bamboo Tail

48. Black-winged Bambootail (*Disparoneura quadrimaculata*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 32mm, Hind wing: 22mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 29-30mm, Hind wing: 22mm.

Description: A medium sized brick red damselfly with black banded wing.

Male: **Eyes:** Brick red with two equatorial black stripes. **Thorax:** Bright brick red above, paler on sides. A black narrow stripe above and incomplete or broken stripes are present on sides.

Legs: Pale brown, Femora, Speckled with black. **Wings:** Transparent with



Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Black-winged Bamboo Tail



Scan:K.A.Subramanian

Black-winged Bamboo Tail

broad blackish brown bands in the centre. **Wing spot:** Rusty brown. **Abdomen:** Brick red. The first segment is black above and the second segment has a large black ring above. The base of segments 3-6 has a pair of small whitish spots above. A narrow pale stripe on each side and a broad black ring towards the end is present. The segments 7-9 is black and the 10th segment is reddish. **Female:** Differ drastically from male. **Thorax:** The thorax is black above. The side is olivaceous green shaded with ochrous and black as in the male. **Legs:** Pale reddish brown. **Wings:** Transparent and without broad brownish black bands. Occasionally edges of the wings are smoky brown. **Abdomen:** Pale olivaceous with rusty brown above, which is marked and shaded with black and brown. **Habits and Habitat:** Streams and rivers. Perches on emergent boulders and aquatic plants. **Breeding:** Not known. **Flight season:** August-December. **Distribution:** Western Ghats, Bihar, West Bengal, Delhi and Rajasthan.

49. Nilgiri Bambootail (*Esmé longistyla*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 44mm, Hindwing: 28-29mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 42-43mm, Hindwing: 28mm.

Description: A large blue damselfly with black thoracic stripes. **Male: Eyes:** Sky blue, capped with black.

Thorax: Black above with with narrow blue stripes. Azure blue on sides with a diagonal black stripe. Under side is greenish yellow or blue. **Legs:** Black. **Wings:**

Transparent. **Wing spot:** Black and rhomboidal in shape. **Abdomen:** Long and slender. The first and second segments 8-10 azure blue. The second segment is black with broad irregular azure blue stripe on sides.

The segments 3-7 is black

with azure blue rings at the end of each segment. **Female:** Very similar to male.

Habits and Habitat: Shaded forest streams. Perches on overhanging vegetation.

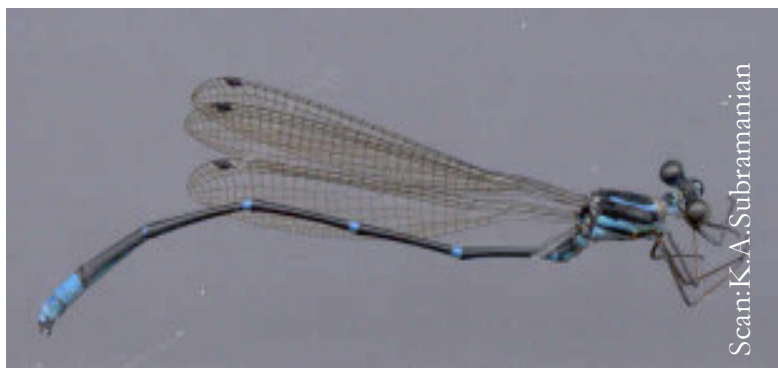
Breeding: Breeds in forest streams. **Flight season:** May-November.

Distribution: Endemic to Western Ghats from north of the Palghat gap to South Kannada.



Photo: E. Kunhikrishnan

Nilgiri Bamboo Tail



Scan: K.A. Subramanian

Nilgiri Bamboo Tail

50. Myristica Bambootail (*Phylloneura westermanni*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 41-51mm, Hindwing: 28-37mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 45-46mm, Hindwing: 33-35mm

Description: **Male:** **Eyes:** Deep blue capped with black. **Thorax:** Black above marked with narrow black stripe, blue on sides with diagonal black stripe. **Legs:** Black. **Wings:** Transparent and smoky. Double cells between main nervures are very characteristic. **Wing spot:** Black or dark reddish brown. **Abdomen:** Black with blue markings. The first segment is broadly blue on sides and second segment has blue broader on underside. The segments 3-5 has narrow blue basal rings. The apical half of 7th segment is azure blue. The 8th and 9th segments are entirely azure blue.

Female: Very similar to the male, however, the 8th and 9th abdominal segments have large triangular blue spots above. **Habits and Habitat:** Shaded mountain streams and associated *Myristica* (Nutmeg) swamps. Perches on overhanging plants. When disturbed, flies higher in to the trees. **Breeding:** Streams and *Myristica* swamps. **Flight season:** August-November. **Distribution:** This rare damselfly is endemic to the Western Ghats between the Nilgiris and Sharavathi Valley.



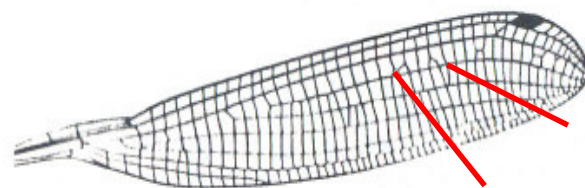
Photo:K.A.Subramanian

Myristica Bamboo Tail



Scan:K.A.Subramanian

Myristica Bamboo Tail



Wing of Myristica Bamboo Tail showing double cell

SPREADWINGS (FAMILY: LESTIDAE)

Spreadwings are small to medium sized damselflies with iridescent or non-iridescent markings on head, thorax and abdomen. Spreadwings rest with their wings wide open. The abdomen is long and slender. Spreadwings are found throughout the world and 159 species are known. Indian fauna is represented by 25 species of which 8 are recorded from peninsular India. Spreadwings breed in a variety of aquatic habitats like marshes, ponds and rarely in running waters.



Photo: K.A. Subramanian

Emerald Spreadwing



Photo: Natasha Mahatre

Head of Emerald Spreadwing

51. Emerald Spreadwing (*Lestes elatus*)

Size: **Male:** *Abdomen:* 34-36mm, *Hindwing:* 23-24mm. **Female:** *Abdomen:* 34mm, *Hindwing:* 24mm.

Description: A medium sized brown damselfly with narrow iridescent green thoracic stripes. **Male:** **Eyes:** Brown above, turquoise blue below. **Thorax:** Dark brown above, fading to white below. Upper side marked with a pair of narrow iridescent green stripes.

Legs: Pale greenish brown. **Wings:** Transparent. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Pale bluish green on sides. Upper side is iridescent green or bronze, changing to dull black on terminal segments. **Female:** Similar

to male, but the ground colour is pale brown and markings are less iridescent. **Habits and Habitat:** Common around tanks, ponds and streams. Usually sits with open wings among plants. Though a weak flier, it is very alert and difficult to approach. **Breeding:** Breed in ponds, canals and tanks. **Flight season:** Throughout the year, however very abundant during September-December months in grasslands. **Distribution:** Peninsular India and Sri Lanka.



Photo: Natasha Mahatre

Emerald Spread Wing



Scan: K.A. Subramanian

Emerald Spread Wing

52. Malabar Spreadwing (*Lestes malabarica*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 24-25mm, Hindwing: 21mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 32-33mm, Hindwing: 22-23mm.

Description: A small brown damselfly with broad iridescent green thoracic stripes. **Male:**

Eyes: Torquoise blue, paler beneath. **Thorax:** Bright iridescent green above. Sides of the thorax black. A dark brown stripe is present medially and on sides. Underside is black covered by pruinescence. **Legs:**

Yellowish with a parallel pair of black stripes on outer sides of femora. **Wings:** Transparent and smoky. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Sides azure blue, dull iridescent green above. The segments 3-6 have a narrow basal ring of blue and pale yellow ring. Remaining terminal segments are black.

Female: Very similar to male, however the ground colour more greenish. The sides of the thorax brown with five black spots. The abdomen is dull coppery above upto segment 6, then dull black. The 6th segment partially, the sides of 9th and entire 10th segment is yellow. **Habits and Habitat:** Makes short flight among bushes. Rarely flies above 1m. Perches on dry twigs with open wings, and slowly waging its tail. **Breeding:** Tanks and ponds. **Flight season:** May-June. **Distribution:** Western Ghats, Andaman Islands and Chandigarh. Coinciding with south west monsoon there appears to be local migration which is not clearly known.



Malabar Spread Wing - male



Malabar Spread Wing -female

GLORIES (FAMILY: CALOPTERYGIDAE)

Glories are large damselflies with broad head and conspicuous round eyes. These iridescent coloured damselflies have broad rounded hindwing. Wings are transparent, amber or iridescent coloured. Abdomen is longer than the hindwing. Glories are found in temperate and tropical regions. Worldwide 169 species are known. Within Indian limits 10 species are known of which 3 species are found in peninsular India. Glories are associated with forested streams and they breed in them.



Male Stream Glory flashing its wings



Head and thorax of Forest Glory

Damselflies

53. Stream Glory (*Neurobasis chinensis*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 45-50mm, Hind wing: 32-38mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 44-50mm, Hind wing: 36-40mm.

Description: **Male:** **Eyes:** Blackish brown above, bluish white below. **Thorax:** Iridescent green with a coppery wash.

Legs: Long and lanky legs are dark bronze with white outer stripe. **Wings:** Rounded at tips. Forewings transparent, tinted with pale yellowish green with emerald green venation. Hindwings opaque, basal two thirds iridescent green or peacock blue. Apical half is blackish brown with violet reflections and green iridescent veins. Underside of hindwing uniformly blackish brown with dull golden reflections. **Wing spot:**



Stream Glory - male



Stream Glory - female

Absent in all wings. **Abdomen:** Iridescent green above and on sides, Underside black. The 9th and 10th segments are whitish. **Female:** **Eyes:** Brownish above, yellowish white below. **Thorax:** Similar to males. **Legs:** Similar to males. **Wings:** Transparent and amber coloured. All wings have a round creamy white central opaque spot on the edge of the wing. **Wing spot:** Absent in forewings and creamy white in hindwings. **Abdomen:** Dull iridescent green above and black below. Green metallic stripe on sides in all segments bordered with black. **Habits and Habitat:** Common in hill streams upto an altitude of 2250m. Commonly found between 500-1200m. Perches on emergent boulders and fallen logs in streams. Males flash its iridescent green marking of hind wing immediately after alighting. **Breeding:** Female lays eggs on submerged decaying logs in streams during south west monsoon. **Flight season:** May to November. **Distribution:** Throughout forested landscapes of Oriental region.

54. Clear-winged Forest Glory (*Vestalis gracilis*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 45-46mm, Hindwing: 34-38mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 43-50mm, Hindwing: 36-39mm

Description: A large iridescent green damselfly with transparent wings. **Male:**

Eyes: Dark brown above, greenish yellow below.

Thorax: Iridescent emerald green above, yellowish beneath. **Legs:** Pale to dark brown.

Wings: transparent with a blue sheen.

Wingspot: Absent.

Abdomen: Iridescent green or blue above and black beneath. **Female:**

Resembles males in colour and markings. However, the abdomen is dull iridescent green. **Habits and Habitat:** Commonly found along hill streams. Large numbers usually rest among bushes in forest paths in association with Black-tipped Forest Glory. **Breeding:** In forest streams. **Flight season:** May to November. **Distribution:** Throughout Oriental region.



Photo: John Moore

Clear-winged Forest Glory

55. Black-tipped Forest Glory (*Vestalis apicalis*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 49-55mm, Hindwing: 36-39mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 46-50mm, Hindwing: 38-40mm.

Description: Male:

Eyes: Blackish brown above, yellowish white below. **Thorax:** Metallic green above and on sides. The underside is yellowish white.

Legs: Blackish brown. **Wings:**

transparent with

amber tint and blue sheen. Wing tips blackish brown. **Wingspot:** Absent

Abdomen: Iridescent green or blue, black underneath. **Female:** Resembles the male. The black markings on wing tips are paler and less sharply defined.

Abdomen is less iridescent green and more coppery. **Habits and Habitat:**

Commonly found along hill streams. Large numbers usually rest among bushes in forest paths in association with Clear-winged Forest Glory. **Breeding:** Breeds in forest streams. **Flight season:** May to November. **Distribution:** Forested areas

of Oriental region.



Black-tipped Forest Glory

Photo: E. Kunhikrishnan

STREAM JEWELS (FAMILY: CHLOROCYPHIDAE)

Stream Jewels are small damselflies with large bulb like eyes and a protruding face. Thorax is short and stout. The wings are transparent, iridescent in males and transparent in females. Abdomen is cylindrical and shorter than the hindwing. Stream Jewels are restricted to the Old World with 158 known species. Indian fauna is represented by 20 species, of which 3 are found in peninsular India. Stream Jewels are associated with forested streams and they breed in them.



River Heliodor - female



Freshly emerged River Heliodor

Photo: John More

Damselflies

56. Stream Ruby (*Rhinocypha bisignata*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 20mm, Hindwing: 24-26mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 16mm, Hindwing: 22mm

Description: A small black and red damselfly with red iridescent streaks on wings. **Male:** **Eyes:** Blackish brown. **Thorax:** Black thorax with two triangular orange-red spots. On sides, it has a narrow rusty stripe and below that another broken rusty stripe is also present. **Legs:** Black with white outer surface. **Wings:** Transparent and amber tinted. Forewings are tipped black with brilliant coppery sheen. Hindwings black tipped with two series of elongated brilliant iridescence. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Black, marked with yellow from segments 1-5. **Female:** **Eyes:**



Stream Ruby



Stream Ruby

Brownish black above, bluish grey below. Thorax: Similar to male but orange red and rusty stripes more yellowish. **Legs:** Black with creamy white centres. **Wings:** Transparent, tinted with yellow. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Similar to male but dull coloured. **Habitat:** Very common in hill streams. Males are very conspicuous and hover over streams. Frequently sit on boulders and twigs. Females are more elusive. **Breeding:** Breeds in hill streams. **Flight season:** Throughout the year. **Distribution:** Hills of peninsular India.

57. River Heliodor (*Libellago lineata*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 14-16mm, Hindwing: 15-18mm. **Female:** Abdomen: 13-17mm, Hindwing: 17-20mm

Description: A small black and yellow damselfly with black tipped transparent wing. **Male:**

Eyes: Dark brown above and grey below. **Thorax:** Black with yellow stripes above and on sides. **Legs:** Black with white outer surface. **Wings:**

Transparent and amber tinted at the base. The tips of the forewings black. Hindwings shorter than fore wing. **Wingspot:** Absent in forewings, black in hind wings. **Abdomen:** Golden yellow with black dumb bell shaped markings above. The segments 8-10 are black.

Female: **Eyes:** Brown above grey below. **Thorax:** Similar to male and markings more extensive and dull. **Legs:** Yellow, femora lined extensively with brown. **Wings:** Transparent with amber tint. **Wing spot:** Creamy white. Present in all wings. **Abdomen:** Yellow, with black markings. The first segment has a large square spot above. The segments 2-8 has a broad black patch above. This is bisected by a narrow yellow line, which extend to the 9th segment and the last segment is black. **Habitat:** Confined to hill streams and rivers of forested landscapes. Frequently sits in emergent water plants and overhanging bushes. **Breeding:** Breed in hill streams. **Flight season:** Throughout the year. **Distribution:** Oriental region.



River Heliodor - male



River Heliodor - female

TORRENT DARTS (FAMILY: EUPHAEIDAE)

Torrent Darts are large damselflies with large round eyes. The wings are transparent, tinted or with iridescent markings. Forewings are long and narrow and hindwings broad and rounded. The hindwings are shorter than the forewings and abdomen.



Malabar Torrent Dart

The abdomen is longer than the hindwings in males and shorter or of the same length in the females. Species of this family are found predominantly in the Oriental region. Worldwide 65 species are known. Within Indian limits, 19 species are recorded, of which 4 are found in peninsular India.

58. Nilgiri Torrent Dart (*Euphaea dispar*)

Size: Male:Abdomen: 39-47mm, Hind wing: 32-40mm, Fore wing: 35-42mm.

Female: Abdomen: 35-38mm, Hind wing: 34-39mm

Description: Male:

Eyes: Black above, bluish grey below.

Thorax:Black, marked with bright orange red. Orange stripes on sides fused in front and behind to enclose a long oval black spot.

Legs: Bright yellow, outer surface of tibia and femora are reddish. **Wings:**

Transparent, smoky light brown tips of forewings tipped with blackish brown. Tips of hindwing broadly black.



Nilgiri Torrent Dart - male



Nilgiri Torrent Dart - female

Though the tip appears black it is iridescent red on upper side and blue on lower side.

Wing spot: Black. **Abdomen:** Bright orange red. Segment joints and apical end of segment 6 to the end black. **Female: Thorax:** Markings similar to males. However the bright orange red of male is replaced by dull yellow. **Legs:** Similar to male, but more blackish. **Wings:**

Transparent and uniformly covered with brown. In old individuals the hindwing tip is brownish black. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Black, marked with bright yellow. The first segment is yellow, and segments 2-7 have longitudinal yellow stripes on either sides. The 8th and 9th segment is marked with black square spots on sides. The last segment is unmarked.

Habits and Habitat: Found in streams flowing through evergreen forests. Males perch on boulders and dry twigs near streams. They fly up to riparian trees when disturbed. Males prominently display their copper red markings of forewings immediately after alighting.

Breeding: Streams flowing through evergreen forest. **Flight season:** May-November.

Distribution: Endemic to Western Ghats between Nilgiris and Udipi districts.

59. Malabar Torrent Dart (*Euphaea fraseri*)

Size: **Male:** Abdomen: 36-41mm, Hind wing: 29-35mm, Fore wing: 34-38mm.

Female: Abdomen: 33-34mm, Hind wing: 31-33mm.

Description: **Male:** **Eyes:** Dark brown above, pale brown below.

Thorax: Black with azure blue stripe above. The two stripes on sides are rusty and encloses an oval black spot. Underside is rusty.

Legs: Coral red. **Wings:** Transparent. Hindwings are markedly shorter than the forewings. Forewings are tipped with brown. Hindwings are broadly

tipped with iridescent coppery above and blue below. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** Upto segment 6 coral red. The 7th segment has black tip and remaining terminal segments are black. **Female:**

Similar to male, however the azure

blue and red area of thorax and abdomen are replaced by dull yellow. **Eyes:** Dark brown above and bluish grey below. **Legs:** Greyish yellow. **Wings:** Transparent and covered with blackish brown. Hindwing without iridescent apices of males. **Wing spot:** Black. **Abdomen:** The segments 1-7 is black above and it is yellow on sides and below, with a black longitudinal stripe. The terminal segments are black with a yellow spot on segment 10. **Habits and Habitat:** Common in hill streams from about 90m-1000m. Males are very common and can be seen using same perch for days together. Females are rarer. Males open wings and prominently display the iridescent copper markings of the upperhind wing. **Breeding:** Breeds in hill streams and larvae can be collected throughout the year. **Flight season:** May to December. **Distribution:** Earlier thought to be endemic to the Western Ghats from Agastyamalai to Dakshin Kannada. But the author has recorded this species from the Eastern Ghats (Thalakonani falls of Thirupathi Hills and Nagarjunasagar Wildlife Sanctuary) also.



Male Malabar Torrent Dart



Male and Female Malabar Torrent Dart

60. Black Torrent Dart (*Dysphaea ethela*)

Size: Male: *Abdomen:* 38mm, *Hindwing:* 33mm. Female: *Abdomen:* 32mm, *Hindwing:* 33mm.

Description: A large black damselfly with amber coloured wings.

Male: **Eyes:** Black above, pale bluish grey below. **Thorax:** Velvety black. **Legs:**

Black. **Wings:** Transparent and amber coloured.

Wingspot: Long and

black. **Abdomen:** Black with very faint yellow rings at the end of segments. **Female:**

Eyes: Dark olivaceous brown above, bluish grey beneath. **Thorax:** Black, marked with bright yellow. Two yellow stripes on sides enclose a black area. Three yellow stripes on sides separated by black area. **Legs:** Black, with yellow marks within.

Wings: Transparent and covered with amber colour. **Wingspot:** Long black.

Abdomen: Black with more pronounced yellow markings. **Habits and Habitat:**

Torrential hill streams from 300-1000m ASL. This damselfly is rare and usually sits in the middle of streams on boulders or emergent twigs. If disturbed flies high up to riparian trees. **Breeding:** Not known. **Flight season:** June to December. **Distribution:** Western Ghats from Agastyamalai to Aghanashini river in Uttara Kannara district. This species is also known from the Eastern Ghats.



Black Torrent Dart

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Biotope: Refers to habitat in broad sense. See habitat

Clutch: Complement of oocytes that mature together to produce a batch of eggs, which are usually laid together.

Conspecific: Belonging to the same species.

Courtship: A set of behavioural interactions between male and female that facilitates copulations; usually refers to displays by males.

Crepuscular: Active during twilight hours.

Dimorphism: Occurrence of two forms of individuals of a species.

Dispersal: Spatial displacement of individuals, that causes them to become further apart.

Diurnal: Active during day.

Ecosystem: Natural unit consisting of interacting living and non living parts.

Eclosion: See emergence.

Ectoparasite: Parasite living on the host. Also parasite and parasitoid.

Emergence: Events associated with emergence of adult from larva.

Endemic: Restricted to a particular geographic area.

Feeding: Behaviour that follows prey capture.

Flight season: Period of the year during which reproductively mature adults are active.

Foliate: Leaf like.

Foraging: Behaviour that increases the likelihood of prey capture.

Guarding: Behaviour of male when escorting a female and usually while she is ovipositing.

Habitat: Place where a given species or community lives.

Hyaline: Transparent, colourless.

Instar: Stage of larva between two successive moults.

Larva: Development stage between egg and adult.

Microhabitat: Specific part of a habitat in which an individual is normally found during a specific stage of its life cycle or when performing a particular activity.

Migration: Spatial displacement of population from emergence site to a different habitat where reproduction ensues. Migration may be facultative or obligate and migrating individuals may or may not travel in aggregations.

Monotypic: Genus with only one species.

Myristica swamps: Patches of evergreen swamp forests dominated by species of nutmeg family (Myristicaceae).

Nocturnal: During night.

Obelisk posture: Position adopted by perching dragonflies with abdomen pointing vertically upward, usually when the sun is overhead.

Ovipositor: Extension of female genitalia involved in oviposition.

Oviposition: Act of laying eggs.

Parasitism: Interaction between species in which one species-the parasite- lives in or on the other species-the host-from which it is benefited; the host is not necessarily killed by the interaction.

Parasitoid: Larvae of insects which parasite other insects and kill host.

Pruinescence: Bloom on body surface, more often in males, caused by supracuticular pigment that reflects ultraviolet light.

Riparian: Along the bank of a river or lake.

Site fidelity: Duration of site residentiality.

Tandem linkage: Physical connection between male and female before copulation formed by male holding female by prothorax or head with his anal appendages.

Wetland: Ecosystems of fresh or brackish water with distinct set of plant and animal community. Ecosystems such as puddles, pools, ponds, tanks, lakes, reservoirs, canals, streams, rivers, marshes, paddy fields and estuaries are wetlands.

Wheel position: Copulation.

CHECKLIST OF PENINSULAR INDIAN DRAGONFLIES AND DAMSELFLIES

Damselflies (Zygoptera)

SI NO:	Family	Name as in Fraser, 1933-36	Name as in Prasad & Varshney, 1996
I	Coenagrionidae		
1		<i>Aciagrion hisopa</i>	<i>Aciagrion hisopa</i> (Selys, 1876)
2		<i>Aciagrion occidentale</i>	<i>Aciagrion occidentale</i> Laidlaw, 1919
3		<i>Aciagrion pallidum</i>	<i>Aciagrion pallidum</i> Selys, 1891
4			<i>Agriocnemis keralensis</i> Peters, 1981
5			<i>Agriocnemis lacteola</i> Selys, 1877
6		<i>Agriocnemis pieris</i>	<i>Agriocnemis pieris</i> Laidlaw, 1919
7		<i>Agriocnemis pygmaea</i>	<i>Agriocnemis pygmaea</i> (Rambur, 1842)
8		<i>Agriocnemis splendissima</i>	<i>Agriocnemis splendissima</i> Laidlaw, 1919
9		<i>Archibasis mimetes</i>	<i>Archibasis oscillans</i> (Selys, 1877)
10		<i>Coenagrion dyeri</i>	<i>Cercion calamorum</i> (Ris, 1916)
11		<i>Ceriagrion cerinorubellum</i>	<i>Ceriagrion cerinorubellum</i> (Brauer, 1865)
12		<i>Ceriagrion coromandelianum</i>	<i>Ceriagrion coromandelianum</i> (Fabr., 1798)
13		<i>Ceriagrion olivaceum</i>	<i>Ceriagrion olivaceum</i> Laidlaw, 1914
14			<i>Ceriagrion rubiae</i> Laidlaw, 1916
15			<i>Enallagma parvum</i> Selys, 1876
16		<i>Ischnura delicata</i>	<i>Ischnura aurora</i> (Brauer, 1865)
17		<i>Ischnura senegalensis</i>	<i>Ischnura senegalensis</i> (Ramb., 1842)
18		<i>Mortonagrion varralli</i>	<i>Mortonagrion varralli</i> Fraser, 1920
19		<i>Onychargia atrocyana</i>	<i>Onychargia atrocyana</i> Selys, 1877
20		<i>Pseudagrion decorum</i>	<i>Pseudagrion decorum</i> (Rambur, 1842)
21			<i>Pseudagrion hypermelas</i> Selys, 1876
22		<i>Pseudagrion indicum</i>	<i>Pseudagrion indicum</i> Fraser, 1924
23		<i>Pseudagrion malabaricum</i>	<i>Pseudagrion malabaricum</i> Fraser, 1924
24		<i>Pseudagrion microcephalum</i>	<i>Pseudagrion microcephalum</i>
(Rambur, 1842)			
25		<i>Pseudagrion rubriceps</i>	<i>Pseudagrion rubriceps</i> Selys, 1876
II	Platycenemididae		
26		<i>Copera marginipes</i>	<i>Copera marginipes</i> (Ramb., 1842)
27		<i>Copera vittata</i>	<i>Copera vittata</i> Laidlaw, 1917
III	Platystictidae		
28		<i>Platysticta deccanensis</i>	<i>Platysticta maculata</i> Laidlaw, 1915
29		<i>Protosticta antelopoides</i>	<i>Protosticta antelopoides</i> Fraser, 1931
30		<i>Protosticta devanporti</i>	<i>Protosticta devanporti</i> Fraser, 1931
31		<i>Protosticta gravelyi</i>	<i>Protosticta gravelyi</i> Laidlaw, 1915
32		<i>Protosticta hearseyi</i>	<i>Protosticta hearseyi</i> Fraser, 1922
33		<i>Protosticta mortoni</i>	<i>Protosticta mortoni</i> Fraser, 1924
34		<i>Protosticta rufostigma</i>	<i>Protosticta rufostigma</i> Kimmins, 1958
35		<i>Protosticta sanguinostigma</i>	<i>Protosticta sanguinostigma</i> Fraser, 1922
IV	Protoneuridae		
36			<i>Caconeura gomphoides</i> (Ramb., 1842)
37		<i>Caconeura verticalis</i>	<i>Prodasineura verticalis</i> (Fraser, 1921)
38		<i>Chloroneura apicalis</i>	<i>Disparoneura apicalis</i> (Fraser, 1924)
39		<i>Chloroneura quadrimaculata</i>	<i>Disparoneura quadrimaculata</i> (Ramb., 1842)
40		<i>Disparoneura canningi</i>	<i>Disparoneura canningi</i> Fraser, 1922

41		<i>Disparoneura nigerrima</i>	<i>Elattoneura nigerrima</i> Laidlaw, 1917
42		<i>Disparoneura souteri</i>	<i>Elattoneura souteri</i> Fraser, 1924
43		<i>Disparoneura tetrica</i>	<i>Elattoneura tetrica</i> Laidlaw, 1917
44		<i>Esme cyaneovittata</i>	<i>Esme cyaneovittata</i> Fraser, 1922
45		<i>Esme longistyla</i>	<i>Esme longistyla</i> Fraser, 1931
46		<i>Esme mudiensis</i>	<i>Esme mudiensis</i> Fraser, 1931
47		<i>Indoneura ramburi</i>	<i>Caconeura ramburi</i> Fraser, 1933
48		<i>Indoneura risi</i>	<i>Caconeura risi</i> Fraser, 1931
49		<i>Melanoneura bilineata</i>	<i>Melanoneura bilineata</i> Fraser, 1931
50		<i>Phylloneura westermanni</i>	<i>Phylloneura westermanni</i> Selys, 1860

V Lestidae

51		<i>Ceylonolestes davenporti</i>	<i>Indolestes davenporti</i> Fraser, 1930
52		<i>Ceylonolestes pulcherrima</i>	<i>Indolestes pulcherrimus</i> Fraser, 1924
53		<i>Lestes dorothea</i>	<i>Lestes dorothea</i> Fraser, 1930
54		<i>Lestes elata</i>	<i>Lestes elatus</i> Hagen in Selys, 1862
55		<i>Lestes malabarica</i>	<i>Lestes malabarica</i> Fraser, 1929
56		<i>Lestes patricia</i>	<i>Lestes patricia</i> Fraser, 1924
57		<i>Lestes praemrosa</i>	<i>Lestes praemrosus</i> Kirby, 1893
58		<i>Lestes viridula</i>	<i>Lestes viridulus</i> Rambur, 1842

VI Calopterygidae

59		<i>Neurobasis chinensis</i>	<i>Neurobasis chinensis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)
60		<i>Vestalis apicalis</i>	<i>Vestalis apicalis</i> Selys, 1873
61		<i>Vestalis gracilis</i>	<i>Vestalis gracilis</i> (Rambur, 1842)

VII Chlorocyphidae

62		<i>Calocypha laidlawi</i>	<i>Calocypha laidlawi</i> (Fraser, 1924)
63		<i>Libellago lineata</i>	<i>Libellago lineata</i> (Fraser, 1928)
64		<i>Rhinocypha bisignata</i>	<i>Rhinocypha bisignata</i> (Selys, 1853)

VIII Euphaeidae

65		<i>Indophaea cardinalis</i>	<i>Euphaea cardinalis</i> Fraser, 1924
66		<i>Indophaea dispar</i>	<i>Euphaea dispar</i> (Ramb., 1842)
67		<i>Indophaea fraseri</i>	<i>Euphaea fraseri</i> (Laidlaw, 1920)
68		<i>Dysphaea ethela</i>	<i>Dysphaea ethela</i> Fraser, 1924

Dragonflies (Anisoptera)

SINO:	Family	Name as in Fraser, 1933-36	Name as in Prasad & Varshney, 1996
IX	Gomphidae		
69		<i>Acrogomphus fraseri</i>	<i>Acrogomphus fraseri</i> Laidlaw, 1925
79		<i>Gomphus nilgircus</i>	<i>Asiagomphus nilgircus</i> (Laidlaw, 1922)
70		<i>Burmagomphus cauvericus</i>	<i>Burmagomphus cauvericus</i> Fraser, 1926
71		<i>Burmagomphus laidlawi</i>	<i>Burmagomphus laidlawi</i> Fraser, 1924
72		<i>Burmagomphus pyramidalis</i>	<i>Burmagomphus pyramidalis</i> Fraser, 1922
73		<i>Cyclogomphus heterostylus</i>	<i>Cyclogomphus heterostylus</i> Selys, 1854
74		<i>Cyclogomphus wilkinsi</i>	<i>Cyclogomphus wilkinsi</i> Fraser, 1924
75		<i>Davidioides martini</i>	<i>Davidioides martini</i> Fraser, 1924
76		<i>Gomphidia fletcheri</i>	<i>Gomphidia fletcheri</i> Fraser, 1923
77		<i>Gomphidia kodaguensis</i>	<i>Gomphidia kodaguensis</i> Fraser, 1923
78		<i>Gomphidia T-nigrum</i>	<i>Gomphidia T-nigrum</i> Selys, 1854
80		<i>Heliogomphus kalarensis</i>	<i>Heliogomphus kalarensis</i> Fraser, 1934
81		<i>Heliogomphus promelas</i>	<i>Heliogomphus promelas</i> (Selys, 1873)
82		<i>Ictinus rapax</i>	<i>Ictinogomphus rapax</i> Rambur, 1842
86		<i>Macrogomphus annulatus</i>	<i>Macrogomphus annulatus</i> (Selys, 1854)
87		<i>Macrogomphus wynaadicus</i>	<i>Macrogomphus wynaadicus</i> (Fraser, 1924)
88		<i>Megalogomphus hannyingtoni</i>	<i>Megalogomphus hannyingtoni</i> (Fraser, 1923)

89		Megalogomphus superbus	Megalogomphus superbus Fraser,1931
90		Merogomphus longistigma	Merogomphus longistigma (Fraser,1922)
92			<i>Microgomphus chelifera</i> Selys,1858
93		Microgomphus souteri	Microgomphus souteri Fraser,1924
94		<i>Microgomphus torquatus</i>	<i>Microgomphus torquatus</i> (Selys,1854)
83		Lamelligomphus acinaces	Onychogomphus acinaces (Laidlaw,1922)
84		Lamelligomphus malabarensis	Onychogomphus malabarens (Fraser,1924)
85		Lamelligomphus nilgiriensis	Onychogomphus nilgiriensis (Fraser,1934)
95		Onychogomphus striatus	Onychogomphus striatus (Fraser,1924)
91		<i>Mesogomphus lineatus</i>	<i>Paragomphus lineatus</i> (Selys,1850)
X	Aeshnidae		
96		<i>Anaciaeschna jaspidea</i>	<i>Anaciaeschna jaspidea</i> (Burmeister,1839)
97		<i>Anaciaeschna martini</i>	Anaciaeschna donaldi (Fraser,1922)
98		<i>Anax guttatus</i>	<i>Anax guttatus</i> (Burmeister,1839)
99		<i>Anax immaculifrons</i>	<i>Anax immaculifrons</i> Rambur,1842
100		<i>Anax parthenope</i>	<i>Anax parthenope</i> (Selys,1839)
101		<i>Gynacantha hyalina</i>	<i>Gynacantha dravida</i> Lieftnick,1960
102		<i>Gynacantha millardi</i>	<i>Gynacantha bayadera</i> Selys,1891
103			<i>Hemianax ephippiger</i> (Burmeister,1839)
XI	Cordulegasteridae		
104		Chlorogomphus campioni	Chlorogomphus campioni (Fraser,1924)
105		Chlorogomphus xanthoptera	Chlorogomphus xanthoptera
	(Fraser,1919)		
XII	Cordulidae		
106		<i>Epopthalmia frontalis</i>	<i>Epopthalmia frontalis</i> Fraser,1924
107		<i>Epopthalmia vittata</i>	<i>Epopthalmia vittata</i> Burmeister,1839
108		<i>Hemicordulia asiatica</i>	<i>Hemicordulia asiatica</i> Selys,1878
109		Idionyx burliyiensis	Idionyx corona Fraser,1928
110		Idionyx galeata	Idionyx galeata Fraser,1924
111		Idionyx minima	Idionyx minima Fraser,1931
112		Idionyx nadganiensis	Idionyx nadganiensis Fraser,1924
116		Idiophya nilgiriensis	Idionyx nilgiriensis Fraser,1918
117			Idionyx periyashola Fraser,1939
113		Idionyx rhinoceroideis	Idionyx rhinoceroideis Fraser,1934
114		Idionyx saffronata	Idionyx saffronata Fraser,1924
115		Idionyx travancorensis	Idionyx travancorensis Fraser,1931
118		Macromia annaimallaiensis	Macromia annaimallaiensis Fraser,1931
119		Macromia bellicosa	Macromia bellicosa Fraser,1924
120		<i>Macromia cingulata</i>	<i>Macromia cingulata</i> Rambur,1842
121		Macromia ellisoni	Macromia ellisoni Fraser,1924
122		<i>Macromia flavicincta</i>	<i>Macromia flavicincta</i> Selys 1874
123		<i>Macromia flavocolorata</i>	<i>Macromia flavocolorata</i> Fraser,1935
124		Macromia ida	Macromia ida Fraser,1924
127		Macromia indica	Macromia indica Fraser,1924
125		Macromia irata	Macromia irata Fraser,1924
126		Macromidia donaldi	Macromidia donaldi Fraser,1924
XIII	Libellulidae		
128		<i>Acisoma panorpoides</i>	<i>Acisoma panorpoides</i> Rambur,1842
129		<i>Aethriamanta brevipennis</i>	<i>Aethriamanta brevipennis</i> (Rambur,1842)
130		<i>Barchydiplax sobrina</i>	<i>Barchydiplax sobrina</i> (Rambur,1842)
131		<i>Brachythemis contaminata</i>	<i>Brachythemis contaminata</i> (Fabr.,1793)
132		<i>Bradinopyga geminata</i>	<i>Bradinopyga geminata</i> (Rambur,1842)
133		<i>Cratilla lineata</i>	<i>Cratilla lineata</i> Foerster,1903
134		<i>Crocothemis servilia</i>	<i>Crocothemis servilia</i> (Drury,1770)

135	<i>Diplacodes lefebvrei</i>	<i>Diplacodes lefebvrei</i> (Rambur, 1842)
136	<i>Diplacodes nebulosa</i>	<i>Diplacodes nebulosa</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
137	<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i>	<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i> (Rambur, 1842)
138	<i>Amphithemis mariae</i>	<i>Epithemis mariae</i> Laidlaw, 1915
139	<i>Hydrobasileus croceus</i>	<i>Hydrobasileus croceus</i> Brauer, 1867
140	<i>Hylaeothemis frushtorferi</i>	<i>Hylaeothemis frushtorferi</i> Fraser, 1924
141	<i>Indothemis caesia</i>	<i>Indothemis carnatica</i> (Fabr., 1798)
142	<i>Indothemis limbata</i>	<i>Indothemis limbata</i> Champion, 1923
143	<i>Lathrecista asiatica</i>	<i>Lathrecista asiatica</i> (Fabr., 1798)
144	<i>Macrodiplax cora</i>	<i>Macrodiplax cora</i> (Brauer, 1867)
145	<i>Neurothemis fulvia</i>	<i>Neurothemis fulvia</i> (Drury, 1773)
146	<i>Neurothemis intermedia</i>	<i>Neurothemis intermedia</i> (Ris, 1919)
147	<i>Neurothemis tullia</i>	<i>Neurothemis tullia</i> (Drury, 1773)
148	<i>Onychothemis testacea</i>	<i>Onychothemis testacea</i> Ris, 1912
149	<i>Orthetrum chrysis</i>	<i>Orthetrum chrysis</i> (Selys, 1892)
150	<i>Orthetrum chrysostigma</i>	<i>Orthetrum luzonicum</i> (Brauer, 1868)
151	<i>Orthetrum glaucum</i>	<i>Orthetrum glaucum</i> (Brauer, 1865)
152	<i>Orthetrum pruinatum</i>	<i>Orthetrum pruinatum</i> (Rambur, 1842)
153	<i>Orthetrum sabina</i>	<i>Orthetrum sabina</i> (Drury, 1770)
154	<i>Orthetrum triangulare</i>	<i>Orthetrum triangulare</i> (Selys, 1878)
155	<i>Palpopleura sexmaculata</i>	<i>Palpopleura sexmaculata</i> (Fabr., 1787)
156	<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	<i>Pantala flavescens</i> (Fabr., 1798)
157	<i>Potamarcha obscura</i>	<i>Potamarcha congener</i> (Rambur, 1842)
158	<i>Rhodothemis rufa</i>	<i>Rhodothemis rufa</i> (Rambur, 1842)
159	<i>Rhyothemis triangularis</i>	<i>Rhyothemis triangularis</i> Kirby, 1889
160	<i>Rhyothemis variegata</i>	<i>Rhyothemis variegata</i> Linn., 1763
161	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombi</i>	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombi</i> (Selys, 1840)
162		<i>Sympetrum hypomelas</i> (Selys, 1844)
163	<i>Tetrathemis platyptera</i>	<i>Tetrathemis platyptera</i> Selys, 1878
164	<i>Tholymis tillarga</i>	<i>Tholymis tillarga</i> (Fabr., 1798)
165	<i>Tamea basilaris</i>	<i>Tamea basilaris</i> Kirby, 1889
166		<i>Tamea eurybia</i> Selys, 1878
167	<i>Tamea limbata</i>	<i>Tamea limbata</i> (Rambur, 1842)
168		<i>Tamea virgata</i> (Rambur, 1842)
169	<i>Trithemis aurora</i>	<i>Trithemis aurora</i> (Burmeister, 1839)
170	<i>Trithemis festiva</i>	<i>Trithemis festiva</i> (Rambur, 1842)
171	<i>Trithemis kirbyi</i>	<i>Trithemis kirbyi</i> Selys, 1891
172	<i>Trithemis pallidinervis</i>	<i>Trithemis pallidinervis</i> Selys, 1889
173	<i>Urothemis signata</i>	<i>Urothemis signata</i> (Rambur, 1842)
174	<i>Zygonyx iris</i>	<i>Zygonyx malabaricus</i> Fraser, 1926
175		<i>Zygonyx metallicus</i> Fraser, 1931
176	<i>Zygonyx torrida</i>	<i>Zygonyx torridus</i> Fraser, 1924
177	<i>Zyxomma petiolatum</i>	<i>Zyxomma petiolatum</i> Rambur, 1842

Note: 1. Species in bold are endemic to peninsular India.

2. Family and species level classification follows:

1. Davies, D.A.L and Tobin, P. (1984, 1985). The dragonflies of the world: A systematic list of the extant species of Odonata. Vol. I&II. Soc. Internat. Odonatol. Rapid Comm. (Suppl.), Nos.3&5. Pages 1-127&1-151.

2. Prasad, M and Varshney, R.K (1995). A checklist of the Odonata of India including data on larval studies. *Oriental Insects*, 29:385-428.

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