



Research Paper

LONG HORN BEETLES (CERAMBYCIDAE: COLEOPTERA) OF NAGALAND, INDIA

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Abstract

The fauna of Cerambycid beetle of Nagaland is very poorly known and only 17 species have been reported so far. In this contribution, all together 19 species of 17 genera belonging to 13 tribes under 3 subfamilies are documented for the first time in a consolidated manner. Of them, *Neoplocaederus obesus* (Gahan, 1890) and *Glenea (Glenea) pulchra* Aurivillius, 1926 are reported as new records from this Northeastern Indian state. Three species, namely, *Protaxis fulvescens* Gahan, 1906, *Moechotypa assamensis* Breuning, 1936 and *Paraepepeotes affinis* (Breuning, 1938) are found in this state as endemic to India.

Key words: *Cerambycidae*, *India*, *Nagaland*, *New records*.

INTRODUCTION

Nagaland is one of the smallest states of Northeastern India. This state has an area of 16,579 square kilometers and establishes an international boundary with Myanmar to the east. On the respect of domestic boundaries this state borders with Assam to the west, Arunachal Pradesh and a part of Assam to the north and Manipur to the South. About one-sixth of Nagaland is covered by tropical and sub-tropical evergreen forests (figure no. 1).

Altogether, 17 Cerambycidae beetle species have been reported so far from the Northeastern Indian state, Nagaland. Two species were identified from the old collection of National Zoological collection of Zoological Survey of India, namely, *Neoplocaederus obesus* (Gahan, 1890) and *Glenea (Glenea) pulchra* Aurivillius, 1926. These two species are new records from this state. Therefore, overall 19 species of 17 genera belonging to 13 tribes under 3 subfamilies are documented here. Of them, three species, namely, *Protaxis fulvescens* Gahan, 1906, *Moechotypa assamensis* Breuning, 1936 and *Paraepepeotes affinis* (Breuning, 1938) are endemic to India. Classification and validation of species is followed after Lamières du monde (lamières du monde: <http://www.lamiinae.org/>)

RESULTS
SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

SUBFAMILY PRIONINAE Latreille, 1802

Tribe Aegosomatini Thomson, 1861

***Nepiodes bowringi* (Gahan, 1894)**

1894. *Aegosoma Bowringi* Gahan, ([Syntypes] BMNH)

2010. *Nepiodes bowringi* Löbl & Smetana, [nov. comb.] (Löbl & Smetana, 2010 [catalogue];

Komiya & Drumont, 2010 [clef] ([Lectotype] Sylhet BMNH))

Distribution: India: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, North India, Sikkim and West Bengal.
Elsewhere: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan.

Remarks: This species was reported as *Megopis* (*s. str.*) *bowringi* (Gahan, 1894) from Assam and North India [4] and *Megopis* (*s. str.*) *bowringi* (Gahan, 1894) by [5] from Nagaland.

SUBFAMILY CERAMBYCINAE Latreille, 1802

Tribe Callichromatini Swainson & Shuckard, 1840

***Chelidonium argentatum* (Dalman, 1817)**

1817. *Chelidonium argentatum* Dalman (Cerambyx) Schonh. *Syn. Ins.App.*, P. 151.

1906. *Chelidonium argentatum* Gahan, (Coleoptera :Cerambycidae), *Fauna. Brit. India*, 1: 211-212.

Distribution: India: Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu.

Elsewhere: China, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [6].

Tribe Cerambycini Martins & Monne, 2002

***Aeolesthes (Aeolesthes) holosericea* (Fabricius, 1787)**

1787. *Ceramryx holosericeus* Fabricius, 1787 [misspelling] ([Holotype] India *Orientali* ZMUC)

2008. *Aeolesthes (Aeolesthes) holosericea* Gressitt & Rondon, 1970, Makihara, H., Mannakkara, A., Fujimura, T. & Ohtake A., Checklist of longicorn coleoptera of Sri Lanka (1) Vesperidae and Cerambycidae excluding Lamiinae, *Bulletin of the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute*, Ibaraki 7 (2) 407: 95-110, 26 figs

Distribution: India: Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Assam, Maharashtra, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu.

Elsewhere: Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, South China, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

Remarks: This species was reported from Naga Hills by [1].

***Neoplocaederus obesus* (Gahan, 1890)**

1890. *Plocaederus obesus* Gahan, Charles J. Descriptions of new species of Longicornia from India and Ceylon, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5(6): 48-66

2010. *Neoplocaederus obesus*: Löbl & Smetana, *Cat. Palaerctic Coleopt*, 6 Apollo Book:161

Material examined: 1ex. Dimapur Forest office complex, Dimapur district, dt. 11. ix. 1994, Coll. M. Sil & Party.

Distribution: India: Andaman Islands, Assam, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: Laos, Myanmar, Siam, South China, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

Remarks: This is the first report of this species from Nagaland.

Tribe Cleomenini Lacordaire, 1869

***Artimpaza obscura* Gardner 1926**

1926. *Artimpaza obscura* Gardner, *Ind. For. Rec.*, 12(7): 15.

Distribution: India: Assam, Nagaland.

Elsewhere: Nepal.

Remarks: This species was reported from Naga Hills by [1].

Tribe Clytini Mulsant, 1839

***Demonax leucoscutellatus* (Hope, 1831)**

1831. *Clytus leucoscutellatus* Hope. Gray's Zool. Misc., P. 28.

1906. *Demonax leucoscutellatus* Gahan, (Coleoptera :Cerambycidae), *Fauna. Brit. India*, 1: 286.

Distribution: India: Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Sikkim.

Elsewhere: Nepal.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [6].

***Rhaphuma horsfieldii* (White, 1855)**

1855. *Rhaphuma horsfieldii* White (Clytus), *Cat Coleopt. B. M., Longic*, P. 284.

1906. *Rhalphuma horsfieldii* White: Gahan. (Coleoptera:Cerambycidae), *Fauna. Brit. India*, 1: 272-273.

Distribution: India: Manipur, Nagaland and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: China, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [6].

Tribe Protaxini Gahan, 1906

***Protaxis fulvescens* Gahan, 1906**

1906. *Protaxis fulvescens* Gahan, (Coleoptera:Cerambycidae), *Fauna. Brit. India*, 1: 93-94.

Distribution: India: Manipur and Nagaland.

Elsewhere: None

Remarks: This species was reported by [6] and **restricted to India so far.**

SUBFAMILY LAMIINAE Latreille, 1825

Tribe Batocerini Thomson, 1864

***Batocera horsfieldii* Hope, 1839**

1839. *Batocera horsfieldi* Hope, *Proc. Linn. Soc. Lond.*, 1: 42 [nov ill]

1948. *Batocera horsfieldi* m. *flavicans* : Breuning, *Bull. Mus. Hist. nat. Belg.*, 24, 38: 15

Material examined: 2 exs., Naga Hills, Nagaland, dt. 24.01.1936. coll. K. N. Das & B. N. Chopra

Distribution: Arunachal and Nagaland.

Elsewhere: Bhutan, Myanmar and Palaeartic China.

Remarks: This species was reported from Naga Hills by [1]. Present communication reports two specimens of NZC collection present in Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata.

***Batocera roylei* (Hope, 1833)**

1833. *Lamia roylei* Hope; Hope, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, 1(2): 64

2012. *Batocera roylei* : Perger & Vitali, *Les Cahiers Magellanes* ser, NS, 7: 10

Distribution: India: Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Nagaland and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: China, Korea, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Naga Hills by [1].

***Batocera rufomaculata* (De Geer, 1775)**

1775. *Cerambyx rufomaculatus* De Geer, Stockholm, *Impr. Pierre Hesselberg*, 1775, 5: 107

2011. *Batocera rufomaculata* : Sakenin *et al.*, *Calodema*, 2011, 143: 7.

Distribution: India: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: Africa: Comoros, China, East Turkey, Egypt, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Madagascar, Nepal, Pakistan, Palearctic Oman, Syria and Yemen.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [7].

Tribe Ceroplesini Thomson, 1860

***Thysia wallichii* (Hope, 1831)**

1831, *Lamia wallichii* Hope F. W., Synopsis of the new species of Nepaul Insects in the collection of Major General Hardwicke, *Gray's Zoologica Miscellanea* 1: 21-32

1861. *Thysia wallichii* : Thomson, J. Essai d'une classification de la famille des Cérambycides, et matériaux pour servir à une monographie de cette famille. 404 pp.

Distribution: India: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: China, Indonesia, Iran, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Naga Hills by [1].

Tribe Crossotini Thomson, 1864

***Moechotypa assamensis* Breuning, 1936**

1936. *Moechotypa assamensis* Breuning, *Festschr. E. Strand* ; 1:274-326.

Distribution: India: Nagaland and Peninsular India.

Elsewhere: None

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [2] and **restricted to India so far.**

Tribe Mesosini Mulsant, 1839

***Coptops leucostictica* White, 1858**

1858. *Coptops leucostictica* White, *The Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, 1858, 3, 2: 272 [nov]

Distribution: India: Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Naga Hills by [1].

Tribe Monochamini Gistel, 1856

***Aristobia reticulator* (Fabricius, 1781)**

1781. *Lamia reticulator* Fabricius., *Bohn. Hamburgiet Kilonii*, 1: 219

2012. *Aristobia reticulator* : Agarwala, B. K. & Bhattacharjee, N. S. Redescription of *Aristobia reticulator* (Fab., 1781) (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Lamiinae), with a taxonomic note and record of a new food plant for adults in Northeastern India. *The Coleopterists' Bulletin*, 69, 2: 205-212.

Distribution: India: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura.

Elsewhere: Bangladesh, China, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [7].

***Paraepeotes affinis* Breuning, 1938**

1938. *Parepeotes affinis* Breuning, *Festschr. E. Strand*, 1938, 4: 183 [nov]

Distribution: India: Himalayan India, Nagaland and Peninsular India.

Elsewhere: None

Remarks: This species is reported from Nagaland by [3] and **restricted to India so far.**

***Pseudonemophas versteegi* (Ritsema, 1881)**

1881. *Monohammus versteegi* Ritsema, *Not. leyd. Mus.* 3:155

2002. *Pseudonemophas versteegi* : Linga felter & Hoebeke, *Entomol. Soc. Wash.*: 143(102)

Distribution: India: Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Subtropical China, Sumatra Island, Thailand and Vietnam.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [7].

Tribe Petrognathini Blanchard, 1845

***Pseudapriona flavoantennata* Breuning, 1936**

1936. *Pseudapriona flavoantennata* Breuning, *Festschr. E. Strand*, 1: 304 [novloc des]

Distribution: India: Himalayan India, Nagaland and Peninsular India.

Elsewhere: Myanmar, Palearctic China.

Remarks: This species was reported from Nagaland by [2].

Tribe Saperdini Mulsant, 1839

***Glenea (Glenea) pulchra* Aurivillius, 1926**

1926. *Glenea (Glenea) pulchra* Aurivillius, C. Revision of the Philippine species of the Gleneini (Coleoptera), longicornia), *The Philippine Journal of Science*, 30, 1: 89-115.

Material examined: 1 ex., Atoiju village, Zunheboto district, dt. 8.vii. 1991. Coll. Y.P.Sinha & Party.

Distribution: India: Karnataka, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

Elsewhere: Bangladesh, Borneo, China, Indian Himalaya, Java, Laos, Peninsular India,

Remarks: **This is the first report of this species from this state.**

DISCUSSION

Due to enrich floral diversity, Nagaland is diversified for insect fauna. In an aspect of plant insect interaction, insect plays equally the role of pollinator and pest. But among them, the round-headed borer belonging to the family Cerambycidae of the order Coleoptera, is one of the notorious group of insect pest due to their colossal damage to wood. From this communication it can be defined that among the three subfamilies of family Cerambycidae recorded from this state, subfamily Lamiinae holds the highest number of species and Cerambycinae and Prioninae hold the next position respectively (figure no. 2). Among the 19 species recorded from Nagaland, *Neoplocaederus obesus* (Gahan, 1890) and *Glenea pulchra* Aurivillius, 1926 are recorded for the first time. The study also demonstrates that three species viz. *Protaxis fulvescens* Gahan, 1906, *Moechothypa assamensis* Breuning, 1936 and *Paraepepeotes affinis* (Breuning, 1938) restricted their distribution within India limit. Advance work is required on this coleopteran family to enlighten the environmental and economic importance of these insects.

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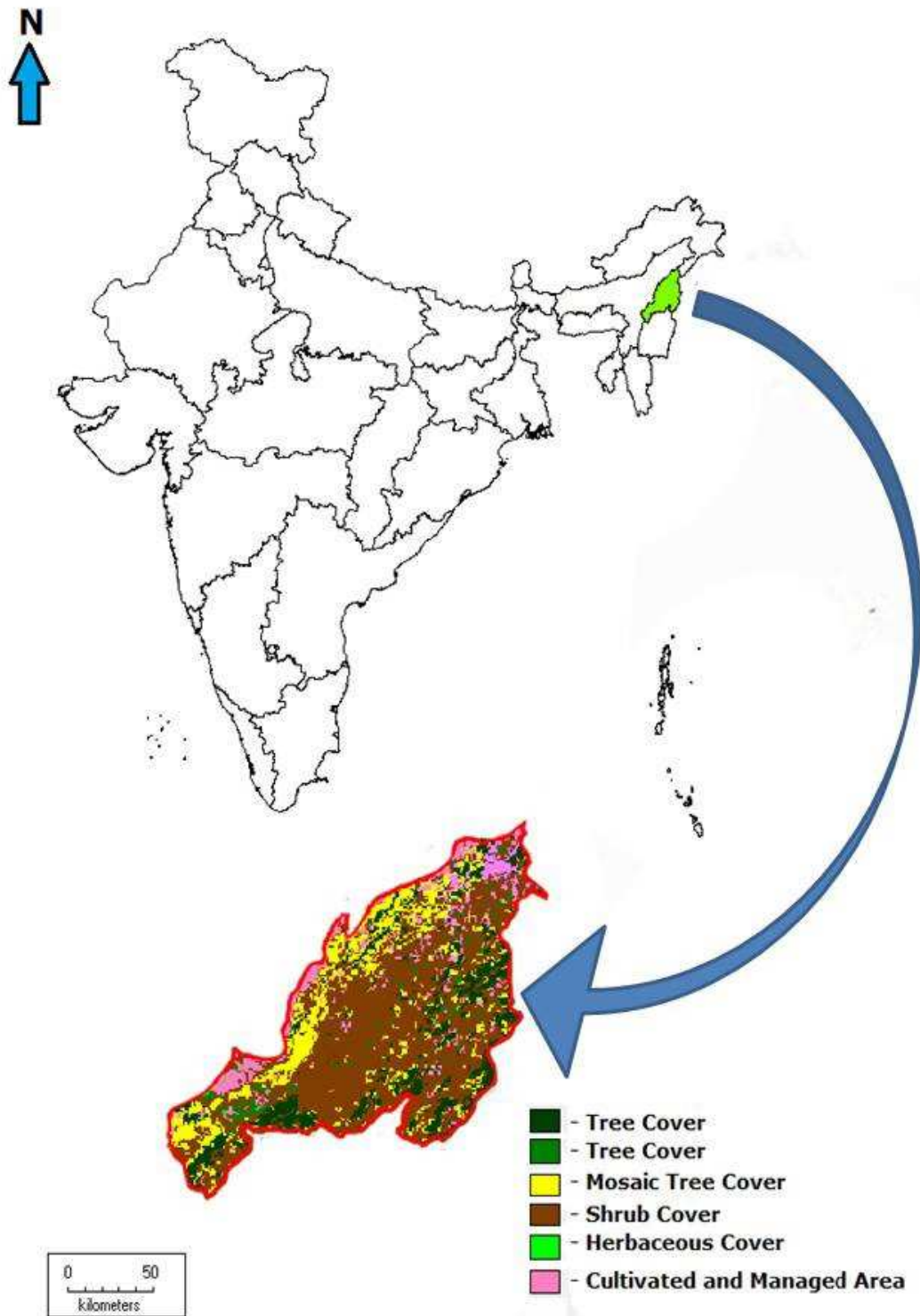


Figure 1: Vegetation map of the state Nagaland, India

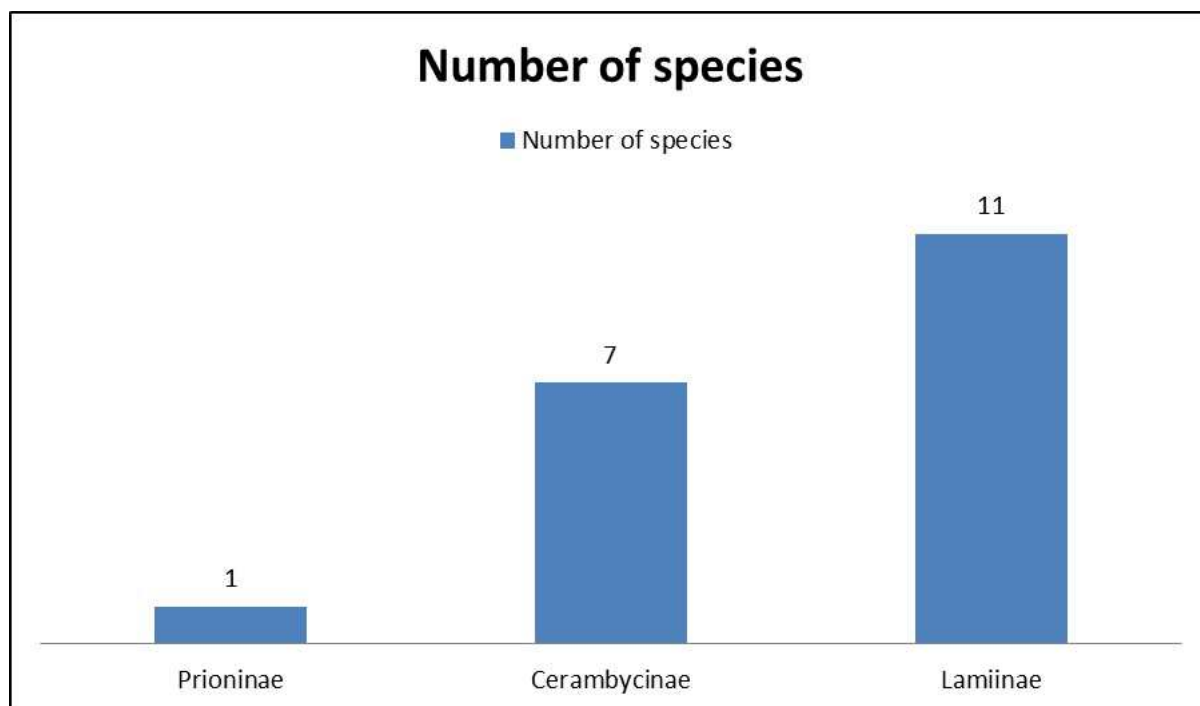


Figure 2: Sub family wise graphical representation of Cerambycids species found in Nagalands