

A new genus and two species of the subfamily Acridinae (Orthopt., Acrididae) from India

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Objektyp: **Article**

Zeitschrift: **Mitteilungen der Schweizerischen Entomologischen Gesellschaft = Bulletin de la Société Entomologique Suisse = Journal of the Swiss Entomological Society**

Band (Jahr): **56 (1983)**

Heft 3-4

PDF erstellt am: **15.09.2024**

Persistenter Link: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-402096>

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A new genus and two species of the subfamily Acridinae (Orthopt.,
Acrididae) from India

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A new genus and two species of Acridinae from India are described and illustrated.

Neophlaeoba gen. n.

Type-species: *Neophlaeoba walayarensis* sp. n.

Small; integument finely rugose; antennae flattened in basal half, shorter than head and pronotum together; head conical; fastigium of vertex angular, slightly concave, with lateral carinulae; vertex without median carinula; fastigial foveolae present; frons oblique; frontal ridge shallowly depressed with low, obtuse lateral carinulae diverging downwards; dorsum of pronotum granulose, slightly tectiform; median carina well developed, crossed by posterior transverse sulcus, lateral carinae well developed and subparallel; metazona distinctly shorter than prozona, posterior margin obtusely rounded; prosternal process absent; mesosternal interspace open; tegmina and wings fully developed; hind femur short; external apical spine of hind tibia absent; arolium small. Male genitalia: supra-anal plate broadly triangular, apex obtuse, cercus gradually narrowing apically and down curved (fig. 2 A); sugenital plate short; epiphallus (fig. 2 B), bridge narrow, undivided medially, ancorae large, lophi lobiform; aedeagus (fig. 2 C), apical valve shorter and much narrower than basal valve. Female genitalia: subgenital plate (fig. 2 D), posterior margin wavy and without setae; ovipositor (fig. 2 E), dorsal valve shorter than lateral apodeme, apical tips blunt; spermatheca (fig. 2 F), apical diverticulum long with a protuberance, pre-apical diverticulum sac-like, apex acute.

The new genus superficially resembles *Phlaeoba* STÅL, 1860 but differs strongly from it in vertex without median carinula, in fastigial foveolae visible from above, in slightly depressed frontal ridge and in shorter and slightly flattened antennae. The two genera differ particularly in the genitalic structures, especially in shape of male cercus which is gradually narrowing apically and downcurved (fig. 2 A), in apical diverticulum of spermatheca which is long with a protuberance (fig. 2 F), and in the absence of setae on posterior margin of female subgenital plate (fig. 2 D).

Neophlaeoba walayarensis sp. n.
(Figs. 1 A, B; 2 A–F)

Female (Type)

Head brownish; antennae including scape and pedicel 19-segmented; pronotum brownish, unicolorous and short; metazona with low lateral carinae; tegmina

brownish reaching well beyond the apex of abdomen; fore and mid femora brown; hind femur brown, knees dark; hind tibiae brown; abdomen brown.

Other Characters as in generic description.

Male

As the female, but shorter. Genitalia as in generic description and as shown in figures.

Measurements (mm): Length of body, ♀ 20.5, ♂ 16.5; pronotum, ♀ 4.5, ♂ 3.5; tegmen, ♀ 19.5, ♂ 13.5; hind femur, ♀ 13.5, ♂ 11.5.

Holotype ♀. India: Kerala, Palghat, Walayar Forest, on dry leaves, 28.III.1979 (M. KAMIL USMANI).

Paratypes 1 ♀, 2 ♂ same data as holotype.

Type and paratypes in Zoology Museum of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India.

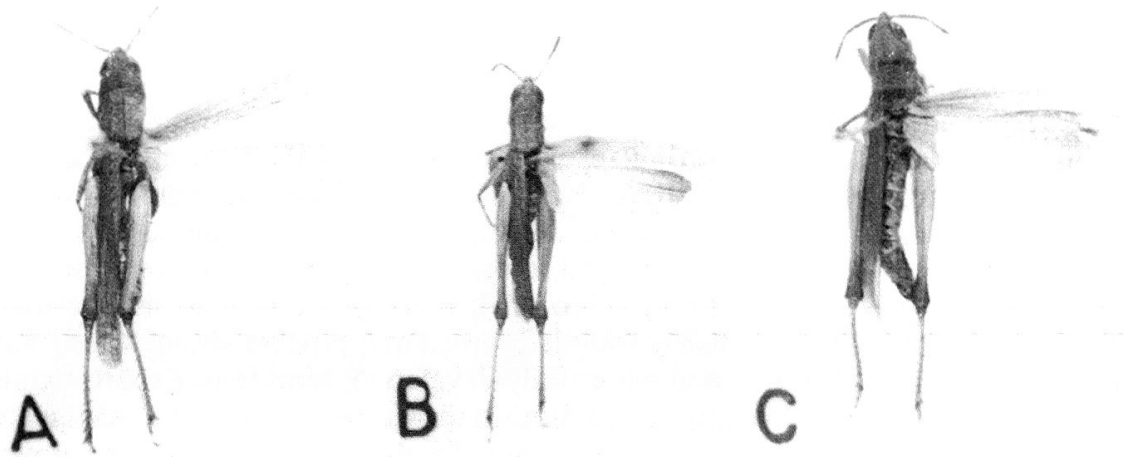


Fig. 1 A-B: *Neophaeoba walayarensis* gen. sp. n. (A) Female type; (B) Male.

Fig. 1 C: *Neophaeoba maculata* sp. n. (C) Female.

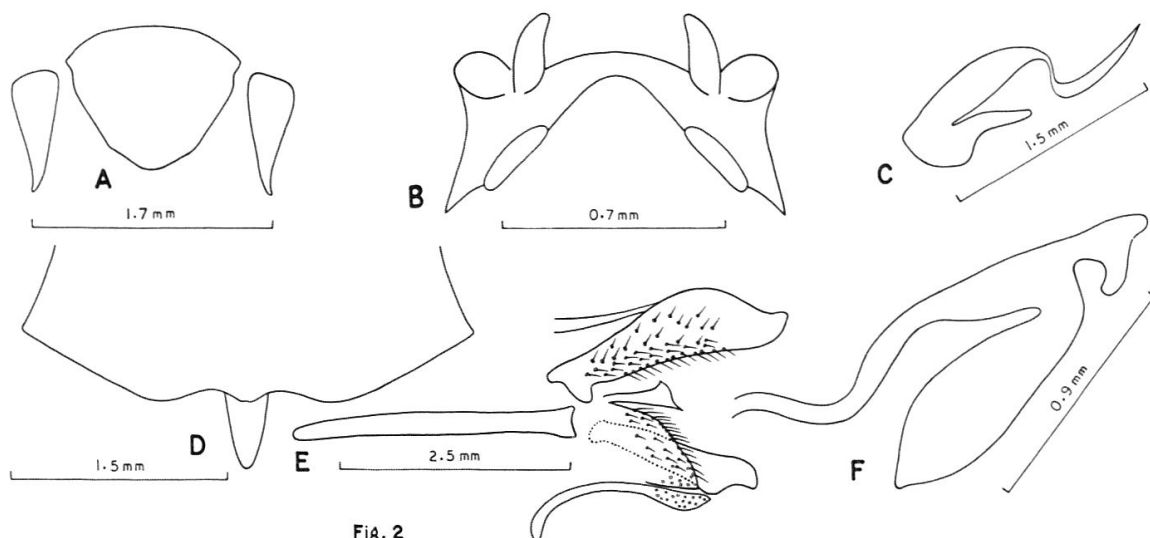


Fig. 2

Fig. 2 A-F: *Neophaeoba walayarensis* gen. sp. n. (A) Supra-anal plate and cerci, ♂; (B) Epiphallus, ♂; (C) Aedeagus, ♂; (D) Subgenital plate, ventral view, ♀; (E) Ovipositor, ♀; (F) Spermatheca, ♀.

Neophaeoba maculata sp. n.

(Fig. 1 C)

Female (Type)

Resembles *Neophaeoba walayarensis* sp. n. except in the following characters:

Pronotum brown, disc with four distinct dark spots, two in prozona near anterior margin and two just behind the posterior sulcus; metazona with lateral carinae raised; tegmina reaching upto apex of abdomen.

Only female known.

Measurements (mm): Length of body, 22.5; pronotum, 5; tegmen, 17.5; hind femur, 14.

Holotype ♀. India: Kerala, Palghat, Walayar Forest, on dry leaves, 28.III.1979 (M. KAMIL USMANI).

Type in Zoology Museum of the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are indebted to Prof. NAWAB H. KHAN, Chairman, Department of Zoology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for providing research facilities. Thanks are also due to Prof. S. MASHHOOD ALAM, former Head, Department of Zoology for encouragements. One of us (M. K. USMANI) is thankful to Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, for financial help during the tenure of this work.

LITERATURE

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(received May 2, 1983)

