

**CHECKLIST OF EUCHARITIDAE (INSECTA:
HYMENOPTERA: CHALCIDOIDEA) OF INDIA**

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INTRODUCTION

The family Eucharitidae is the largest and the most diverse group of hymenopteran parasitoids of eusocial insects. They are parasitic on ants. Most of them being brilliantly coloured and very attractive, they are one of the most beautiful forms in the superfamily Chalcidoidea. They are moderately sized, usually measuring approximately 4-5 mm in length. They are readily distinguished from other hymenopteran families by their reduced pronotum and elongated sickle-shaped mandibles.

The members are distributed in almost every zoogeographical regions of the world, and are most abundant and speciose in the tropics. They are relatively poorly represented throughout the Palaearctic. No genera are shared between the Nearctic and Palaearctic regions. A few New World genera like *Orasema* Cameron, *Kapala* Cameron and *Pseudochalcura* Ashmead are also found in Old World tropics (Boucek, 1988; Heraty, 2002).

Eucharitids have remarkable host relationships with ants. The eggs are laid on plants and the primary larva (planidium type) attaches itself to a worker ant and so is carried into the ant's nest where it is transferred to the ant larva. It waits till the host larva reaches the prepupal or pupal stage before it starts to feed and completes its development.

The Eucharitidae is an economically important group of insects. In their positive role they are beneficial parasites of pest ants, whereas in their negative role, they themselves are pests of beneficial plants. In India, *Orasema assectator* Kerrich deposits its eggs into the incisions in the leaf tissues of tea bushes, and the secondary

fungal disease, "sewing leaf-blight", occur in these incisions (Das, 1963; Kerrich, 1963).

Our information on the Eucharitid fauna of India is very scanty and fragmentary.



An adult female Eucharitid wasp
Orasema nirupama Girish Kumar and Narendran.

CHECKLIST

(Classification as per Heraty, 2002 ; Heraty et al., 2004)

Class: Insecta

Order: Hymenoptera

Suborder: Apocrita (Parasitica)

Superfamily: Chalcidoidea

Family: Eucharitidae

Subfamily 1. Oraseminae

Genus 1. *Indosema* Husain and Agarwal, 1983

1. *Indosema indica* Husain & Agarwal, 1983. India (New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh)

Genus 2. *Orasema* Cameron, 1884

2. *Orasema assectator* Kerrich, 1963. India (Assam)

3. *Orasema delhiensis* Narendran & Girish Kumar, 2005. India (New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh)

4. *Orasema initiator* Kerrich, 1963. India (Assam), Taiwan, Vietnam

5. *Orasema nirupama* Girish Kumar & Narendran, 2007. India (Kerala)

Subfamily 2. Gollumiellinae

Genus 3. *Anorasema* Boucek, 1988

6. *Anorasema manii* Heraty, 1992. India (West Bengal)

Genus 4. *Gollumiella* Hedqvist, 1978

7. *Gollumiella antennata* (Gahan, 1940). India (West Bengal), Malaysia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Indonesia, China, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam.

8. *Gollumiella longipetiolata* Hedqvist, 1978. India (Uttarakhand, West Bengal), Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, China, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan

Subfamily 3. Eucharitinae

Tribe 1. Psilocharitini

Genus 5. *Neolosbanus* Heraty, 1994

9. *Neolosbanus laeviceps* (Gahan, 1940). India (Kerala, Tamil Nadu), Sri Lanka

10. *Neolosbanus palgravei* (Girault, 1922). India (Kerala), Nepal, Algeria, Australia, Japan, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Solomon Islands, Caroline Islands.

Genus 6. *Psilocharis* Heraty, 1994

11. *Psilocharis hypena* Heraty, 1994. India (Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh), China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, Japan.

Tribe 2. Eucharitini

Genus 7. *Ancylotropus* Cameron, 1909

12. *Ancylotropus keralensis* Girish Kumar & Narendran, 2008. India (Kerala)

13. *Ancylotropus manipurensis* (Clausen, 1928). India (Manipur)

Genus 8. *Cherianella* Narendran, 1994

14. *Cherianella narayani* Narendran, 1994. India (Kerala, Tamil Nadu), Sri Lanka

Genus 9. *Stilbula* Spinola, 1811

15. *Stilbula ashokai* Narendran, 1996. India (Kerala)

16. *Stilbula bangalorica* Girish Kumar & Narendran, 2008. India (Karnataka)

17. *Stilbula indica* (Mani, 1935). India (Assam)

18. *Stilbula lata* Narendran, 1996. India (Kerala)

19. *Stilbula minispina* Heraty, 2002. India (Tamil Nadu)

20. *Stilbula mysorensis* (Mani & Dubey, 1974). India (Karnataka)

21. *Stilbula nilgiri* Heraty, 2002. India (Tamil Nadu)
22. *Stilbula tanjorensis* (Mani & Dubey, 1974). India (Kerala, Tamil Nadu)

Genus 10. *Schizaspidia* Westwood, 1835

23. *Schizaspidia andamanensis* (Mani, 1944). India (Andaman and Nicobar Islands)
24. *Schizaspidia brevifuniculata* Narendran, 1986. India (Kerala)
25. *Schizaspidia coromandelica* (Mani & Dubey, 1974). India (Tamil Nadu)
26. *Schizaspidia furcifera* Westwood, 1835. India (West Bengal)
27. *Schizaspidia malabarica* Narendran, 1986. India (Kerala)
28. *Schizaspidia sabariensis* (Mani & Dubey, 1974). India (Kerala)
29. *Schizaspidia sitarami* Narendran, 1986. India (Kerala)
30. *Schizaspidia travancorensis* (Mani, 1944). India (Kerala)

Genus 11. *Chalcura* Kirby, 1886

31. *Chalcura deprivata* (Walker, 1860). India (Kerala), Sri Lanka

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