

# CHECKLIST OF INDIAN THYSANURA (MICROCORYPHIA AND ZYGENTOMA)

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*Thermobia domestica* (Pacard)

## INTRODUCTION

The order Microcoryphia and Zygentoma comprises insects popularly known as 'bristle-tail' and 'silverfish' and some species are considered as a serious household and library pest in India. The members of the order are small, soft bodied, mostly scaled, wingless. They are, relatively larger insects than the other members belonging to the subclass Apterygota and easily distinguishable from the other closely related orders by long, many segmented antennae, 2 anal cerci, and a single median telson projecting posterior from the terminal part of abdomen. These free-living forms are found in the forest floor, in the nests of ants and termites, under bark of trees, under rocks. The members of the family Machilidae representing 'bristle-tail' occur mostly in the decomposing litters of the forest floor and are capable of jumping by means of the apical ventral stylets.

The first important work of significance on those orders comes from the efforts of Escherich in 1905 in '*Das system der Lepismatiden*'. Thereafter, Silvestri (1913, '38, '48) described some new species from India, later Wygodzinsky (1954, '72) and Hazra and his co-workers (1980 to till date) doing extensive studies on Thysanurans and contributed significantly to the knowledge of Indian fauna. Mendes (1990) published on Zoogeographic affinities of Indian Thysanura and pointed out the poorly known diversity of the group due to not proper exploration.

With over 1200 described species of Microcoryphia and Zygentoma worldwide (Mendes, 1990). The poorly known Indian fauna of Microcoryphia represented by 10 species belonging to 6 genera and 2 families and Zygentoma presently represented by 28 species belonging to 15 genera and 3 families

## Order MICROCORYPHIA

### Family MACHILIDAE

#### 1. Genus *Machilanus* Silvestri, 1936

1. *Machilanus insensilis* Wygodzinsky, 1974
2. *Machilanus lapidocola* Wygodzinsky, 1974
3. *Machilanus schmidi* Wygodzinsky, 1974
4. *Machilanus hutchinsoni* Silvestri, 1936

#### 2. Genus *Graphitarsus* Carmen Bach de Roca, 1981

5. *Graphitarsus surindicus* Carmen Bach de Roca, 1981

#### 3. Genus *Haslundichilis* Wygodzinsky, 1952

6. *Haslundichilis qadrii* Wygodzinsky, 1952

#### 4. Genus *Himalayachilis* Wygodzinsky, 1952

7. *Himalayachilis murreensis* Wygodzinsky, 1952

#### 5. Genus *Allopsontus* Escherich, 1906

8. *Allopsontus annandalei* Escherich, 1906

### Family MEINERTELLIDAE

#### 6. Genus *Machilontus* Carmen Bach de Roca, 1981

9. *Machilontus lawrencei* Carmen Bach de Roca, 1981
10. *Machilontus lefroyi* Wygodzinsky, 1974

## Order ZYGENTOMA

## Family LEPISMATIDAE

### 1. Genus *Acrotelsa* Escherich, 1905

1. *Acrotelsa collaris* (Fabricius, 1793)

### 2. Genus *Afrolepisma* Mendes, 1981

2. *Afrolepisma nigrima* (Silvestri, 1936)

### 3. Genus *Ctenolepisma* Escherich, 1905

3. *Ctenolepisma longicaudata* Escherich, 1905

4. *Ctenolepisma nigra* (Oudemans, 1890)

5. *Ctenolepisma ciliata* (Dufour, 1831)

6. *Ctenolepisma targionii* (Grassi and Rovelli), 1889

7. *Ctenolepisma tripurensis* Hazra, 2000

8. *Ctenolepisma dubitalis* Wygodzinsky, 1959

9. *Ctenolepisma alticola* Escherich, 1905

10. *Ctenolepisma boettgenianum* Escherich, 1905

### 4. Genus *Lepisma* Linnaeus 1758

11. *Lepisma saccharina* Linnaeus, 1758

12. *Lepisma indica* sp. inq. Escherich, 1903

13. *Lepisma devadasii* Sukumar & Livingstone, 1993

### 5. Genus *Tricholepisma* Paclt, 1967

14. *Tricholepisma gravelyi* (Silvestri, 1913)

### 6. Genus *Xenolepisma* (Silvestri, 1913)

15. *Xenolepisma subnigrina* (Silvestri, 1938)

**7. Genus *Stylifera*** Escherich, 1905

16. *Stylifera wygodzinskyi* Hazra, 1980

17. *Stylifera impudica* ( Escherich, 1905)

**8. Genus *Silvestrella*** Escherich, 1905

18. *Silvestrella termitophila* Escherich, 1905

**9. Genus *Thermobia*** Bergroth, 1890

19. *Thermobia domestica* (Pacard, 1873)

**Family ATELURIDAE**

**10. Genus *Atelura*** Vonheyden, 1855

20. *Atelura typhloponis* Silvestri, 1913

**11. Genus *Bharatatelura*** Mendes, 1992

21. *Bharatatelura malabarica* Mendes, 1992

**12. Genus *Assumuthia*** Escherich, 1905

22. *Assumuthia inermis* Escherich, 1905

23. *Assumuthia spinosissima* Escherich, 1905

**13. Genus *Gastrotheus*** Silvestri , 1913

24. *Gastrotheus indicus* Silvestri, 1913

25. *Gastrotheus palpiseta* Silvestri, 1916

**14. Genus *Platystylea*** Escherich, 1905

26. *Platystylea barbifer* Escherich, 1905

**Family NICOLETIDAE**

**15. Genus *Lepidospora*** Escherich, 1905

27. *Lepidospora ceylonica* Silvestri, 1911

28. *Lepidospora notabilis* Silvestri, 1911

## REFERENCES

Escherich, K.1905. Das System der Lepismatiden. *Zoologica* (Stuttgart) 83: 1-164.

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