

New species of mayfly discovered in India

July 28 2014



Labiobaetis soldani. Credit: Entomological Society of America

Scientists have discovered a new species of mayfly in the southern Western Ghats, a mountain range along the west coast of India. In fact, this is the first time that any mayfly belonging to the genus *Labiobaetis* has been collected in peninsular India.

The new [species](#), called *Labiobaetis soldani*, "is named in honor of Dr. T. Soldan for his substantial contribution to the understanding of the Ephemeroptera of Palaearctic and Oriental realms," according to the authors of a study that describes the new mayfly in the *Journal of Insect Science*.

The larvae have light-brown heads with light-yellow antennae, and they grow to be about 4-5 millimeters in length. Adults are also about five millimeters long, and the males and females both lack hind wings.

Labiobaetis soldani is closely related to *Labiobaetis pulchellus*, which has been described from Sri Lanka in the larval stage. However, it can be differentiated from all other *Labiobaetis* species described from the Oriental region by several morphological differences.

More information: The full, open-access article
www.insectscience.org/14.86/

Provided by Entomological Society of America

Citation: New species of mayfly discovered in India (2014, July 28) retrieved 6 August 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-07-species-mayfly-india.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--