

# New species of mayfly discovered in India

July 28 2014

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*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/](http://www.insectscience.org/14.86/)

Provided by Entomological Society of America

Citation: New species of mayfly discovered in India (2014, July 28) retrieved 11 July 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-07-species-mayfly-india.html>

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