

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

Herausgeber: Schweizerische Entomologische Gesellschaft

Band: 77 (2004)

Heft: 3-4

Artikel: On the Scaphidiinae (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) of Central India

Autor: Löbl, Ivan

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-402877>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 10.08.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

On the Scaphidiinae (Coleoptera, Staphylinidae) of Central India

IVAN LÖBL

Muséum d'histoire naturelle, case postale 6434, CH-1211 Genève 6, Switzerland

Eight scaphidiines species are reported from the Central Indian states Mahdy Pradesh and Maharashtra. One of them, *Scaphisoma hospitator* sp. n., is new to sciences. It may be reliably distinguished from allied species by its aedeagal characters.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Scaphidiinae, taxonomy, distribution, India.

INTRODUCTION

While 49 species of Scaphidiinae are known to occur in the South India, and 209 are recorded from North India and neighbouring Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan, no member of the subfamily was reported to date from Central India. The Central Indian scaphidiines, as other mycophagous beetles, are certainly under-represented in collections and consequently poorly known. The examined collection made by G. Cuccodoro in Mahdy Pradesh and Maharashtra suggests that the present lack of data is probably due to insufficient sampling and not to real absence of scaphidiines in the remnants of comparatively dry forest habitats. Eight species of scaphidiines were distinguished within the studied material, including one species new to sciences.

The material is deposited in the Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Geneva (MHNG).

NEW RECORDS AND SPECIES

Baeocera pseudincisa Löbl

Material examined. Mahdy Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills 1050m, 5 km SW Pachmarhi, along shortcut to Rorighat village, moist vegetable debris at base of rocks in a teck forest, 22°26'49" N 78°22'58" E, 18.x.2000, #3a, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 1 ex.; same data but 4.5 km SW Pachmarhi, 950m, «Vanshree Vihar», leaf litter near stream, 22°26'34" N 78°23'25" E, 16.x.2000, #1b, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 2 ex.; Maharashtra, Western Ghats, Purunthar Hills, 7km W Panchgani 1350 m, leaf litter near stream, 17°54'59" N 78°44'20" E, 24.x.2000, #8a, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 16 ex.

Distribution. Northeast and central India.

Comments. The shape of the parameral lobe ranges from denticle-like form as illustrated in Löbl (1984) to lobe-like form. However, the species may be readily distinguished (Löbl, 1984, 1992).

***Baeocera ventralis* (Löbl)**

Material examined. Mahdya Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills 1050m, 5 km SW Pachmarhi, along shortcut to Rorighat village, moist vegetable debris at base of rocks in a teck forest, 22°26'49" N 78°22'58" E, 18.x.2000, #3a, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 1 ex.

Distribution. India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand.

Comments. This species is usually common in lowland and hilly forested areas of India. The only record above 2000 m altitude from Lava, Darjeeling Distr. is based on unreliable locality data given by B. Bhakta.

***Baeocera serendibensis* (Löbl)**

Material examined. Mahdya Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills, 4.5 km SW Pachmarhi, 950m, «Vanshree Vihar», leaf litter near stream, 22°26'34"N 78°23'25"E, 16.x.2000, #1b, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 20 ex.

Distribution. Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, South China.

Comments. This species exhibits slightly variably rod of the internal sac of the aedeagus.

***Scaphobaeocera difficilis* Löbl**

Material examined. Mahdya Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills, 4.5 km SW Pachmarhi, 950m, «Vanshree Vihar», leaf litter near stream, 22°26'34"N 78°23'25"E, 16.x.2000, #1b, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 24 ex.

Distribution. Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand.

Comments. This species may be distinguished by the shape of the internal sac and apically widened parameres as illustrated in Löbl (1979), in combination with the medially striate metasternum. The latter character is sometimes obscured by dense metasternal pubescence.

***Scaphisoma besucheti* Löbl**

Material examined. Mahdya Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills, 4.5 km SW Pachmarhi, 950m, «Vanshree Vihar», leaf litter near stream, 22°26'34"N 78°23'25"E, 16.x.2000, #1b, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 31 ex.

Distribution. Sri Lanka, India, Nepal.

Comments. This species is characterized by the long, strongly curved articular process of the median lobe.

***Scaphisoma portevini* Pic**

Material examined. Mahdya Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills, 4.5 km SW Pachmarhi, 950m, «Vanshree Vihar», leaf litter near stream, 22°26'34"N 78°23'25"E, 16.x.2000, #1b, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 23 ex.

Distribution. India, China, Korea, Japan.

Comments. This species was previously misidentified as *S. rufum* Achard (see Löbl 1986). Its internal sac of the aedeagus has a flat sclerotized plate that may be straight and obscures membranous structures, or is arcuate. The length of antennomeres 4 and 5 is comparatively variable in this species, the segments 3 and 4 combined are usually distinctly shorter than the antennomere 5 in the specimens from Mahadeo.

***Scaphisoma* sp. near *atronotatum* Pic**

Material examined. Mahdy Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills, 4.5 km SW Pachmarhi, 950m, «Vanshree Vihar», leaf litter near stream, 22°26'34"N 78°23'25"E, 16.x.2000, #1b, leg. G. Cuccodoro, 1 ex.

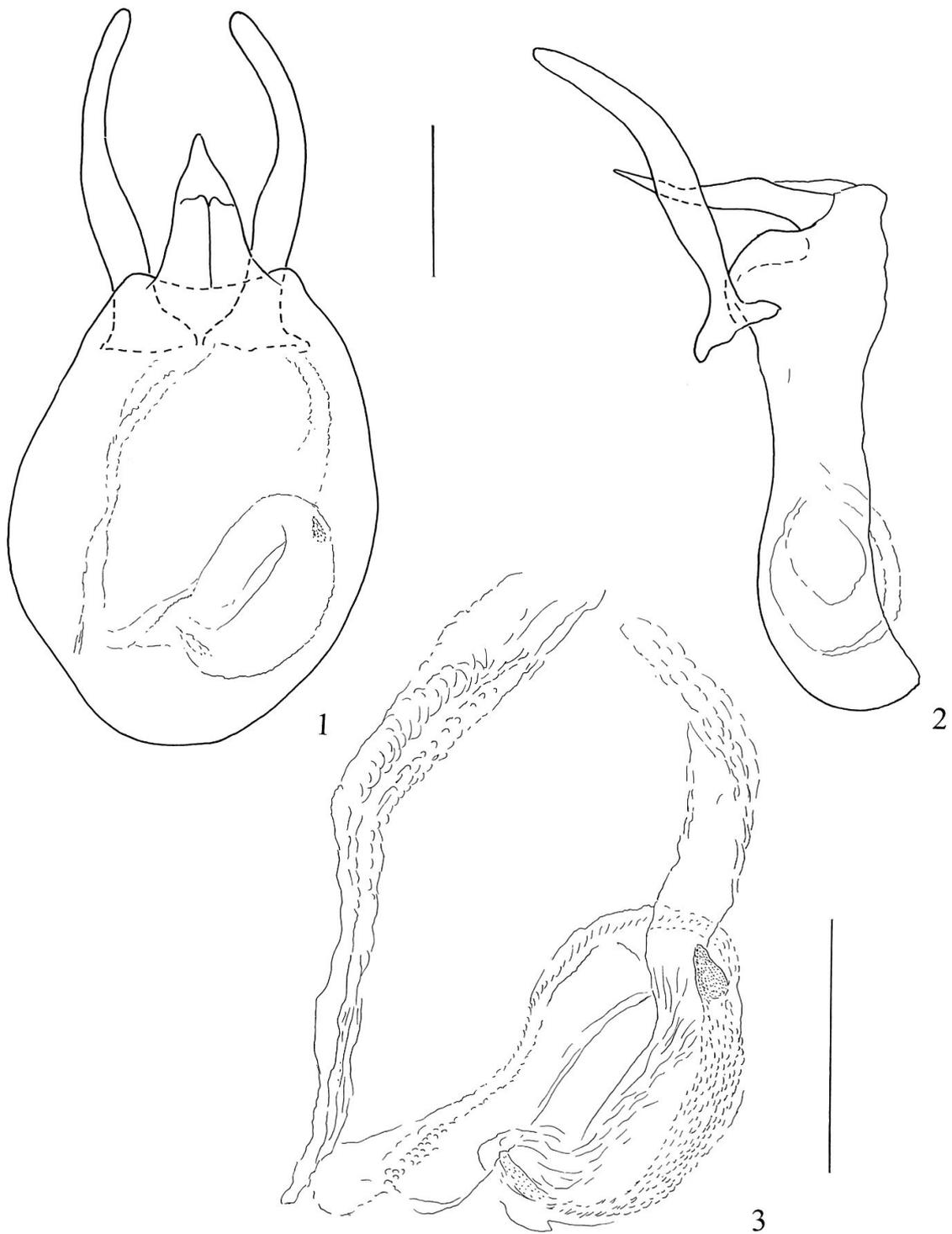
Comments. The specimen is in poor condition and cannot be reliably identified.

***Scaphisoma hospitator* sp. n.**

Holotype male: India, Mahdy Pradesh, Mahadeo Hills, 5.5 km SW Pachmarhi, Tridhara 900m, dry leaf litter in gallery forest, 22°26'09"N, 78°23'01"E, 19.x.2000, leg. G. Cuccodoro, #4b (MHNG). Paratype male. With same data as holotype (MHNG).

Description. Length 1.45 mm. Body ochreous, elytral and apex of abdomen paler, yellowish, legs and antennomeres 1 to 6 yellowish. Thorax and elytra lacking microsculpture. Antennae comparatively short, not reaching posterior pronotal base; antennomere 4 cylindrical, following antennomeres widened. Length/width ratios of antennomeres as follows: III 2/2; IV 4/2; V 10/3; VI 11/3.5; VII 14/4.5; VIII 9/4; IX 11/5; X 11/5; XI 16/5. Pronotum very finely punctate, with arcuate lateral margins, lateral carinae visible at dorsal view. Tip of scutellum visible. Elytra moderately narrowed apically, with lateral margins oblique in middle, lateral margin keels visible in dorsal view, apical margins truncate, inner apical angle denticulate, lying posterior outer angles, sutural striae distinct, parallel to sutural margin, curved along margin of pronotal lobe, extended about to line of lateral edges of pronotal lobe. Adsutural areas flat, with very fine punctures. Basal fourth to third of elytra with punctation very fine and similar to pronotal punctation, remainder of elytral disc distinctly coarser punctate than elytral base. Hind wings fully developed. Mesepimeral line about twice as long as interval to mesocoxa. Metasternum very finely punctate, lacking impressions, lacking antecoxal puncture rows, mesocoxal lines arcuate, mesocoxal areas about 0.03 mm long. Metepisterna flat, lying below plan of metasternum, distinctly narrowed anteriorly, with fine suture. Abdominal sternite 1 lacking microsculpture, very finely punctate laterally and medio-apically, with distinct punctation on anterior two third of median area. Metacoxal lines strongly arcuate, metacoxal areas 0.10 mm long, extended to sternal mid-length. Following sternites very finely punctate and with punctulate microsculpture.

Male. Protarsomeres 1 to 3 moderately widened. Apical process of abdominal sternite 6 triangular, about 0.04 mm long. Aedeagus (Figs 1 to 3) 0.46-0.49 mm long, symmetrical. Median lobe moderately sclerotized. Basal bulb large, suboval, with large ventral tubercle. Distal process strongly inclined, almost vertical to axis



Figs 1 - 3. *Scaphisoma hospitator* sp. n., aedeagus in dorsal and lateral views (1 and 2), and internal sac (3). Scale bars = 0.1 mm.

of median lobe, narrow in lateral view, with acute tip. Dorsal valves short, contiguous mesally. Internal sac vesicular basally, with single, small, sclerotized denticle. Parameres moderately long, arcuate, weakly inclined.

Comments. The aedeagal characters indicate relationships of this new species with *S. fraterculum* Löbl and *S. japonicum* Löbl. *Scaphisoma hospitator* is charac-

terized by its strongly curved and vesicular internal sac bearing a single, small sclerotized denticle. It differs from its allied in particular by the length ration of the antennomeres 3 to 5, the much lighter body coloration and the abdomen lacking striate microsculpture.

LITERATURE

- Löbl, I. 1979. Die Scaphidiidae (Coleoptera) Südindiens. *Revue suisse de Zoologie* 86: 77-129.
Löbl, I. 1984. Les Scaphidiidae (Coleoptera) du nord-est de l'Inde. – *Revue suisse de Zoologie* 91: 57-107.
Löbl, I. 1986. Les Scaphidiidae (Coleoptera) du nord-est de l'Inde et du Bhoutan II. – *Revue suisse de Zoologie* 93: 133-212.
Löbl, I. 1992. The Scaphidiidae (Coleoptera) of Nepal Himalaya. – *Revue suisse de Zoologie* 99: 471-627.

(received 7 October 2004; accepted 10 November 2004)

