

**SCARABAEIDAE (INDIA COLEOPTERA) OF  
SILENT VALLEY, KERALA, INDIA WITH  
DESCRIPTIONS OF THREE NEW SPECIES**

By

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(With 4 Text-figures)

INTRODUCTION

This paper deals with the material collected from Silent Valley, Kerala by Dr. S. K. Bhattacharjee and party and Dr. R. S. Pillai and party of Zoological Survey of India during 1979-80. One of the authors (S.B.) happened to be one of the members in the second team.

Most of the species, collected are coprophagus in nature and the others phytophagus. Coprophagus species were collected from dung of elephant and faecal matter of carnivorous animals, non human primates and human faeces. Phytophagus species were collected from flower of wild *Solanum* sp. and other unidentified wild plant species.

Altogether 30 species under 13 genera belonging to 5 subfamilies are dealt with in this paper. Illustrations and detail descriptions of the new species have been provided. Synonymies for the species have been cited wherever necessary. Types of the species described here have been deposited in the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

**LIST OF SPECIES OF SCARABAEIDAE OF SILENT VALLEY**

**Subfamily CETONIINAE**

**Genus *Mycteristes* Castelnau**

1. *Mycteristes auritus* Arrow

**Genus *Macronota* Hoffmanssegg**

2. *Macronota bufo* Arrow
3. *M. flavosparsa* Waterhouse
4. *M. perraudieri* (Fairmaire)
5. *M. sannio* (Janson)

**Genus *Trigonophorus* Hope**

6. *Trigonophorus delesserti* (Guérin)

Subfamily DYNASTINAE  
Genus **Xylotrupes** Hope

7. *Xylotrupes gideon* (Linnaeus)

Subfamily RUTELINAE  
Genus **Popillia** Serville

8. *Popillia lucida* Newman

Genus **Anomala** Samouelle

9. *Anomala armata* Arrow  
10. *Anomala vittilatera* Arrow

Subfamily MELOLONTHINAE  
Genus **Autoserica** Brenske

11. *Autoserica atratula* Dalla Torre  
12. *Autoserica brevis* Blanchard  
13. *Autoserica mutabilis* Olivier  
14. *Autoserica tranquebarica* Brenske

Subfamily COPRINAE  
Genus **Catharsius** Geoffroy

15. *Catharsius granulatus* Sharp  
16. *Catharsius molossus* (Linnaeus)

Genus **Copris** Geoffroy

17. *Copris indicus* Gillet

Genus **Caccobius** Thomson

18. *Caccobius meridionalis* Boucomont  
19. *Caccobius unicornis* (Fabricius)

Genus **Onthophagus** Latreille

20. *Onthophagus andrewesi* Arrow  
21. *Onthophagus bifasciatus* (Fabricius)  
22. *Onthophagus castetsi* Lansberge  
23. *Onthophagus ensifer* Boucomont  
24. *Onthophagus fasciatus* Boucomont  
25. *Onthophagus keralicus* sp. nov.  
26. *Onthophagus sahai* sp. nov.  
27. *Onthophagus taruni* sp. nov.

28. *Onthophagus unifasciatus* (Schaller)Genus **Phacosoma** Boucomont29. *Phacosoma triste* ArrowGenus **Onitis** Fabricius30. *Onitis singhalensis* Lansberge

## SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

## Family SCARABAEIDAE

## Subfamily CETONIINAE

1 **Mycteristes auritus** Arrow

(Text Fig. 1)

1910. *Mycteristes auritus* Arrow. *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 39.

*Material examined*: 2 exs. (1 ♂, 1 ♀), Kerala, Silent Valley, 24. iii. '80, S. Biswas.

*Description*: ♀ Moderately long, depressed, tapering posteriorly; coppery or dark reddish, covered with minute yellowish hairs. Head coarsely and rugosely punctured, clypeal margin rounded and produced in front. Pronotum flat, strongly deeply punctured. Elytra broad at the base and tapering towards apex, sinuated at the shoulders, each elytron has a strong median costa, punctures moderately strong (and gradually transfer to longitudinal striae). Pygidium finely, transversely rugose and covered with long setae. Legs slender, front tibiae curved, with three strong external teeth and long erect hairs. Female larger than male, without cephalic horn.

*Distribution*: INDIA Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* Arrow (1910) described *M. auritus* on a single male specimen from south India (Nilgiri Hills) and the species was so long known by male sex only. This is the first time the female of *M. auritus* is being described.

2. **Macronota bufo** Arrow

1910. *Macronota bufo* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 54.

*Material examined*: 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Half way to Valiyaparathodu, 2. v. 1980, R. S. Pillai.

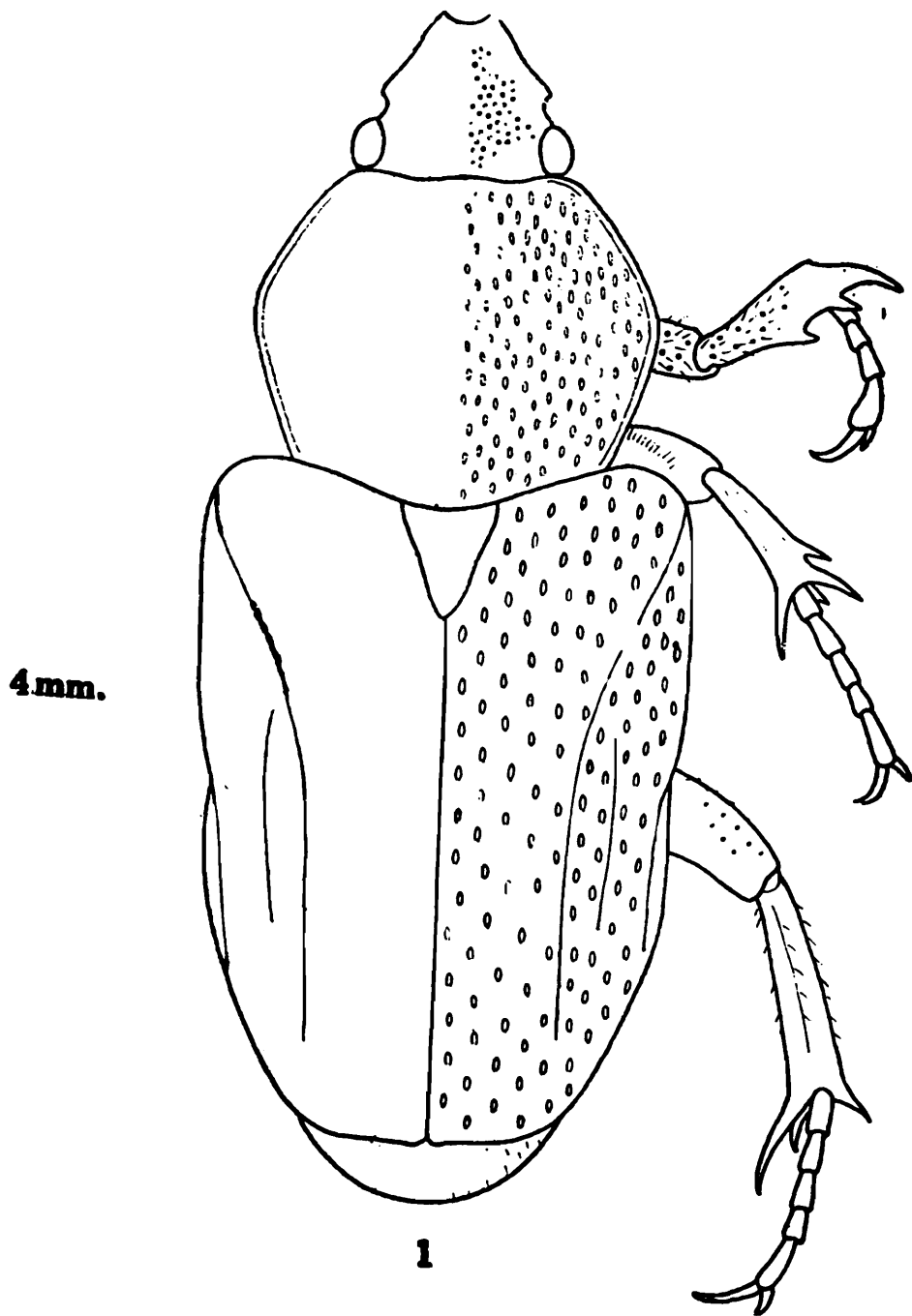


Fig. 1. *Mycteristes auritus* Arrow, dorsal view of female.

**Distribution :** INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala, (Tranvancore, Silent Valley).

**Remarks :** Specimen was collected from wild *solanum* sp.

### 3. *Macronota flavosparsa* Waterhouse

1888. *Macronota flavosparsa* Waterhouse, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (6) 1 : 262.

1910. *Macronota waterhousei* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 56-57.

1921. *Macronota flavosparsa* Waterhouse : Schenkling, *Coleopt. Cat., Berl.*, (72) 138.

*Material examined* : 2 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Half way to Valiyaparathodu, 2. v. 1980, R. S. Pillai and party.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

#### 4. *Macronota perraudieri* (Fairmaire)

1893. *Taeniodera perraudieri* Fairmaire, *Ann. Soc. ent. Belg.* p. 294.

1910, *Macronota perraudieri* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 61-62.

*Material examined* 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Half way to Valiyaparathodu, 2. v. 1980, R. S. Pillai.

*Distribution* CHINA ; INDIA : Nagaland, Manipur, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : The species was known in India only from North-Eastern part (Nagaland and Manipur). This is for the first time the species is being recorded from South India. The specimen agrees with the description of the species.

#### 5. *Macronota sannio* (Janson)

1883. *Taeniodera sannio* Janson, *Cist. Ent.*, 3 : 64.

1910. *Macronota sannio*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 57-58.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Half way to Valiyaparathodu, 2. v. 1980, R. S. Pillai and party.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Kerala (Travancore, Silent Valley).

#### 6. *Trigonophorus delesserti* (Guérin)

1839. *Goliathus delesserti* Guerin, *Rev. Zool.*, p 229.

1842. *Trigonophorus delesserti* Westwood, *Arc. Ent.*, 1 : 122, pl. 29, fig. 4.

1910. *Trigonophorus delesserti*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit., India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 107-108.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Base Camp, 24 Km. North East of Mukkali, Palghat, 18. i. 1980, S. K. Bhattacharjee and party.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

## Subfamily DYNASTINAE

7. *Xylotrupes gideon* (Linnaeus)

1767. *Scarabaeus gideon* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat* 12th ed 1 (2) : 541.  
 1789. *Scarabaeus phorbanta* Olivier, *Ent* , 1 (3) : 17, pl. 1, fig. 6  
 1770. *Scarabaeus oromeron* Drury, *Ill. Nat. Hist.*, p. 81, pl. 36, fig. 5.  
 1859. *Xylotrupes mniszzechi* Thomson, *Arcana Nat.*, p. 18.  
 1859. *Xylotrupes australicus* Thomson, *Arcana Nat.*, p. 18.  
 1885. *Xylotrupes socrates* Schauffuss, *Hor. Ent. Soc. Ross.*, p. 192.  
 1910. *Xylotrupes gideon*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 1 : 262-265.

*Material examined* : 3 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : SRILANKA ; INDIA : Assam, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : This is one of the widely distributed species of Indian Dynastinae.

## Subfamily RUTELINAE

8. *Popillia lucida* Newman

1838. *Popillia lucida* Newman, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (2) 2 : 377.  
 1917. *Popillia lucida*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 2 : 81-82.

*Material examined* : 2 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : Specimens were collected from the flowers of an unidentified wild plant grown on the cleared area.

9. *Anomala armata* Arrow

1911. *Anomala (Spilota) armata* Arrow, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (8) 8 : 474.  
 1917. *Anomala armata* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 2 : 255-256.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Kummattanthodu Dam site, 22. iv. 1980, R. S. Pillai and party.

*Distribution* INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

10. *Anomala vittilatera* Arrow

1917. *Anomala vittilatera* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 2 : 256-257, p 13, figs. 39-40.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, R. S. Pillai and party.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

Subfamily MELOLONTHINAE

11. *Autoserica atratula* Dalla Torre

1855. *Serica atrata* Burmister, *Handb. Ent.*, (4) 2 : 167. (nec. Reiche, 1847).  
1898. *Autoserica atrata* Brenske, *Berl. Ent. Zeitschr.*, 63 : 263.  
1912. *Autoserica atratula* Dalla Torre, *Coleopt. Cat. Berl.*, 20 (45) : 20.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, R. S. Pillai and party.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

12. *Autoserica brevis* (Blanchard)

1850. *Omaloplia brevis* Blanchard, *Cat. Col. Ent.*, 1 : 78.  
1898. *Autoserica brevis* Brenske, *Berl. Ent. Zeitschr.*, 63 : 263.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

13. *Autoserica mutabilis* (Olivier)

1789. *Melolontha mutabilis* Olivier, *Entom.*, 1 : 51, pl. 3, fig. 24.  
1898. *Autoserica mutabilis* Brenske, *Berl. Ent. Zeitschr.*, 63 : 227.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Kerala, (Silent Valley).

14. *Autoserica tranquebarica* Brenske

1898. *Autoserica tranquebarica* Brenske, *Berl. Ent. Zeitschr.*, 63 : 272.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, R. S. Pillai and party.

*Distribution*: : INDIA : Kerala (Silent Valley).

Subfamily COPRINAE

15. *Catharsius granulatus* Sharp

1875. *Catharsius granulatus* Sharp, *Col. Hefte*, 13 : 41.

1931. *Catharsius granulatus*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 95-96.

*Material examined*: 3 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, 15. i. 1980, S. K. Bhattacharjee and party.

*Distribution*: : SRILANKA ; PAKISTAN ; INDIA : Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks*: Specimens were collected from elephant dung and the species was found together with closely related and more common species. *Catharsius molossus* (L.)

16. *Catharsius molossus* (Linnaeus)

1758. *Scarabaeus molossus* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, 10 : 347.

1801. *Copris ursus* Fabricius, *Syst. Eleuth.*, 1 : 43.

1931. *Catharsius molossus*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 94-95.

*Material examined*: 2 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution*: : SRILANKA ; INDIA : West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Orissa, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala (Silent Valley) and Andaman Island

*Remarks* This species is widely distributed in India and found both in hills and plains.

17. *Copris indicus* Gillet,

1910. *Copris indicus* Gillet, *Notes Leyd. Mus.*, 32 : 5.

1931. *Copris indicus*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 106-107.

*Material examined*: 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.



*Distribution* : SRILANKA ; INDIA : Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala (Silent Valley).

18. ***Caccobius meridionalis* Boucomont**

1914. *Caccobius meridionalis* Boucomont, *Annali Mus. Civ. Stor. nat. Giacoma Doria*, 67 : 239.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, i. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : SRILANKA ; INDIA : Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

19. ***Caccobius unicornis* (Fabricius)**

1798. *Copris unicornu* Fabricius, *Supp. Ent. Syst.*, p. 33.

1801. *Copris unicornis* Fabricius, *Syst. Eleut.*, 1 : 52.

1893. *Onthophagus nitidiceps* Fairman, *Ann. Soc. ent. Belg*, 37 : 304.

1931. *Caccobius unicornis*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia) 3 : 145-146.

*Material examined* : 2 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : CHINA ; TONKIN ; JAVA ; BORNEO ; PHILIPPINE ISLAND ; MALAYPENINSULA ; SRILANKA ; BANGLADESH ; INDIA : Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : The specimens were collected from the elephant dung along with *Catharsius* spp. and *Ontis shinghalensis*.

20. ***Onthophagus andrewesi* Arrow**

1931. *Onthophagus andrewesi* Arrow. *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia) 3 : 324.

*Material examined* : 2 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : Specimens were collected from Human faeces. Arrow (1931) described this species from South India and specimens under report agree well with his description.

### 21. *Onthophagus bifasciatus* (Fabricius)

1781. *Scarabaeus bifasciatus* Fabricius, *Spec. Ins.*, 1 : 25.  
 1879. *Onthopoagus birmanicus* Harold, *Col. Hefte*, 16 : 226.  
 1931. *Onthophagus bifasciatus*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 339-340.

*Material examined* 4 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : BURMA ; INDIA : West Bengal, Assam, Sikkim, Bihar, Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : This is one of the species which was been reported to be associated with Scarabiasis. Specimens were collected from human faeces.

### 22. *Onthophagus castetsi* Lansberge

1887. *Onthophagus castetsi*, Lansberg, *Notes Leyd. Mus.*, 9 : 163.  
 1931. *Onthophagus castetsi*, Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 215-216.

*Material examined* : 4 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Trivandrum, Silent Valley).

*Remarks* Specimens collected from Silent Valley slightly differ in puncturation and rows of hairs bordering on each side of elytron otherwise agrees well with *O. castetsi*.

### 23. *Onthophagus ensifer* Boucomont

1914. *Onthophagus ensifer* Boucomont, *Annali. Mus. civ. stor. nat. Giacoma. Doria*, 66 : 220.  
 1931. *Onthophagus ensifer* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 334-335.

*Material examined* 9 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : The species was common in human faeces and shows considerable intraspecific variations.

24. ***Onthophagus fasciatus* Boucomont**

1914. *Onthophagus fasciatus* Boucomont, *Annali. Mus. civ. stor. nat. Giacoma Doria* 66 : 231.
1931. *Onthophagus fasciatus* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 311-312.

*Material examined* : 5 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : BANGLADESH ; INDIA : Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : The species was known to occur in fungus. Specimens under report have been collected from human faeces.

25. ***Onthophagus keralicus* sp. nov.**

(Text Fig. 2)

Male : Length 8.16 mm. Breadth 4.4 mm.

Black, shining and smooth above, antennae, mouth parts and legs brownish, under surface covered with scanty hairs.

Broadly oval and compact. Head semicircular, clypeofrontal carina absent ; strongly punctured in the middle, slightly rugosely at the sides. Vertex with two tubercles between the eyes. Eyes narrowed posteriorly. Pronotum strongly punctured ; little less strongly in the middle, lateral margin almost straight in front, rounded behind and behind the middle of front margin with a feeble depression. Elytra moderately striate and strongly punctured, intervals slightly convexed and feebly but uniformly punctured. Pygidium covered with very short, erect hairs margined at base, moderately strongly punctured. Hind tibiae short, broad at apex. Metasternum smooth and with a feeble impressed line in the middle, covered with setigerous punctures at the sides.

♀ clypeus more strongly, rugosely punctured. Pronotal tubercles more strongly developed.

This species is closely related to *O. laevis* Harold but differs in (1) absence of clypeofrontal carina in both sexes (II) presence of two tubercles between the eyes and (III) punctures on pronotum is stronger than that of the later.

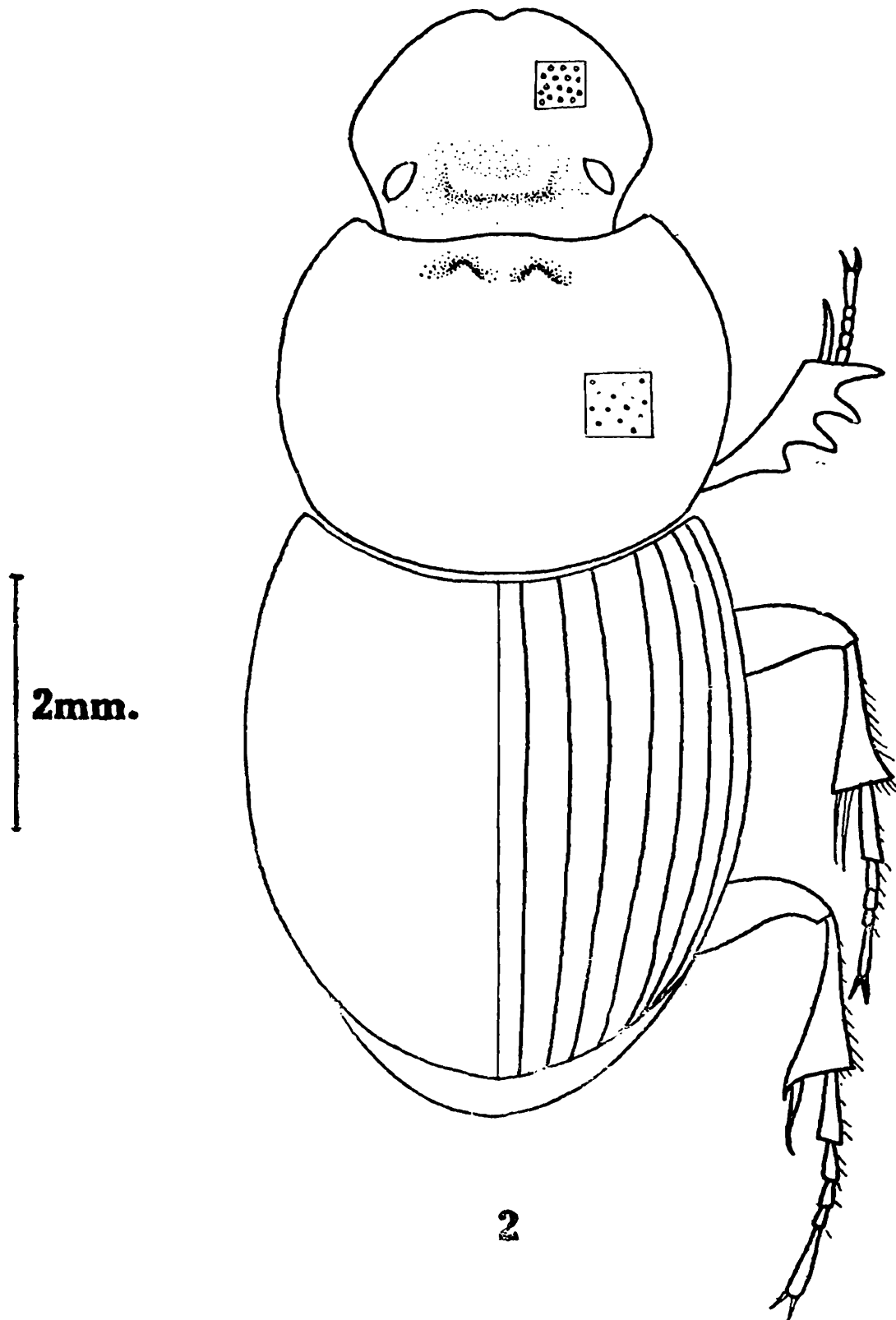


Fig. 2. *Onthophagus keralicus* sp. nov., dorsal view of male.

*Holotype* : ♂, INDIA : Kerala, Silent Valley, 2. v. 80, S. Biswas.

*Paratype* : 1♂, 1♀, INDIA, Kerala, Silent Valley, 2. v. 80, S. Biswas.

26. *Onthophagus sahai* sp. nov.

(Text Fig. 3)

Male : Length 5.2 mm. Breadth 3.2 mm.

Dark brown and shining with mouth parts, femora tibiae, tarsi, light brown, base of elytra reddish. Broadly oval and compact not

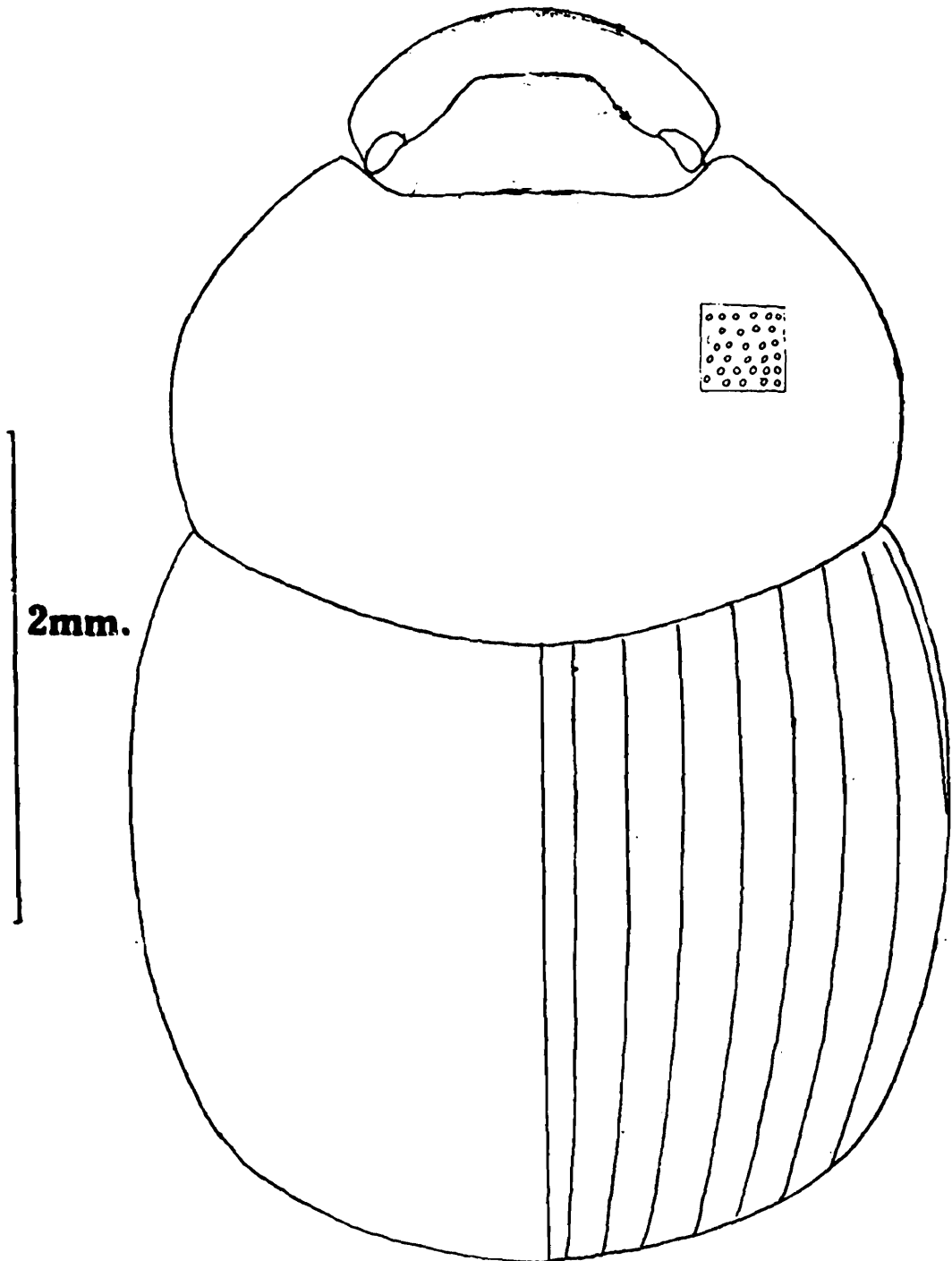


Fig. 3. *Onthophagus sahai* sp. nov., dorsal view of male.

very convex. Head nearly semicircular, middle of the front margin more or less straight with a short straight and strong clypeofrontal carina. Vertex with a feebly bicuspid prominence, surface behind the prominence almost smooth. Clypeus and frons finely and uniformly punctured, ocular lobe a little strongly punctured. Lateral margin of pronotum rounded in front and feebly sinuate behind, front angle blunt, hind angle obsolete, pronotum gradually sloping in front and uniformly punctured except the upper margin of declivity. Elytra moderately strongly striate, striae sparsely punctured, interval almost imperceptibly punctured. Pygidium margined at the base and very finely punctured. Metasternum smooth and with a longitudinal groove in the middle, covered with setigerous punctures at sides.

This species is closely related to *O. lapillus* Arrow but can be differentiated by the cephalic armature in male and female and by having an extra carina on clypeus.

*Holotype* : ♂ INDIA, Kerala, Silent Valley, 22. iv. 80, S. Biswas.

*Paratype* : 1 ♂, 1 ♀ exs., INDIA, Kerala, Silent Valley, 22. iv. 80, S. Biswas.

### 27. *Onthophagus taruni* sp. nov.

(Text Fig. 4)

Male : Length 6.64 mm Breadth 3.52 mm.

Brownish, with anterior and lateral margin of pronotum, irregular markings on elytra, pygidium, ventral sides of metasternal shield and antennal club pale; elongated oval, moderately convex, clypeofrontal carina absent and with two conical prominences between the eyes. Anterior margin of head truncated in the middle and reflexed giving rise to a long vertical process rounded at tip, clypeus uniformly punctured and stronger at sides. Pronotum with long process in the middle, a little behind the front margin, declivity at the middle on each side of the process; front angles produced, hind angles obtuse base somewhat produced, lateral margin straight in front, feebly bisinuate behind, strongly and uniformly punctured except the anterior declivity. Elytra finely striate, striae not very closely and strongly punctured, intervals flat, covered with small granules and short pale setae. Pygidium margined at base covered with moderate

punctures. Metasternum with a longitudinal groove in the middle with fairly strong punctures at sides ; a prominence in the middle a little behind the anterior margin, almost smooth along the mid ventral line. Anterior tibiae narrow, with four external teeth, apical spine bent downwards, basal half with tubercles.

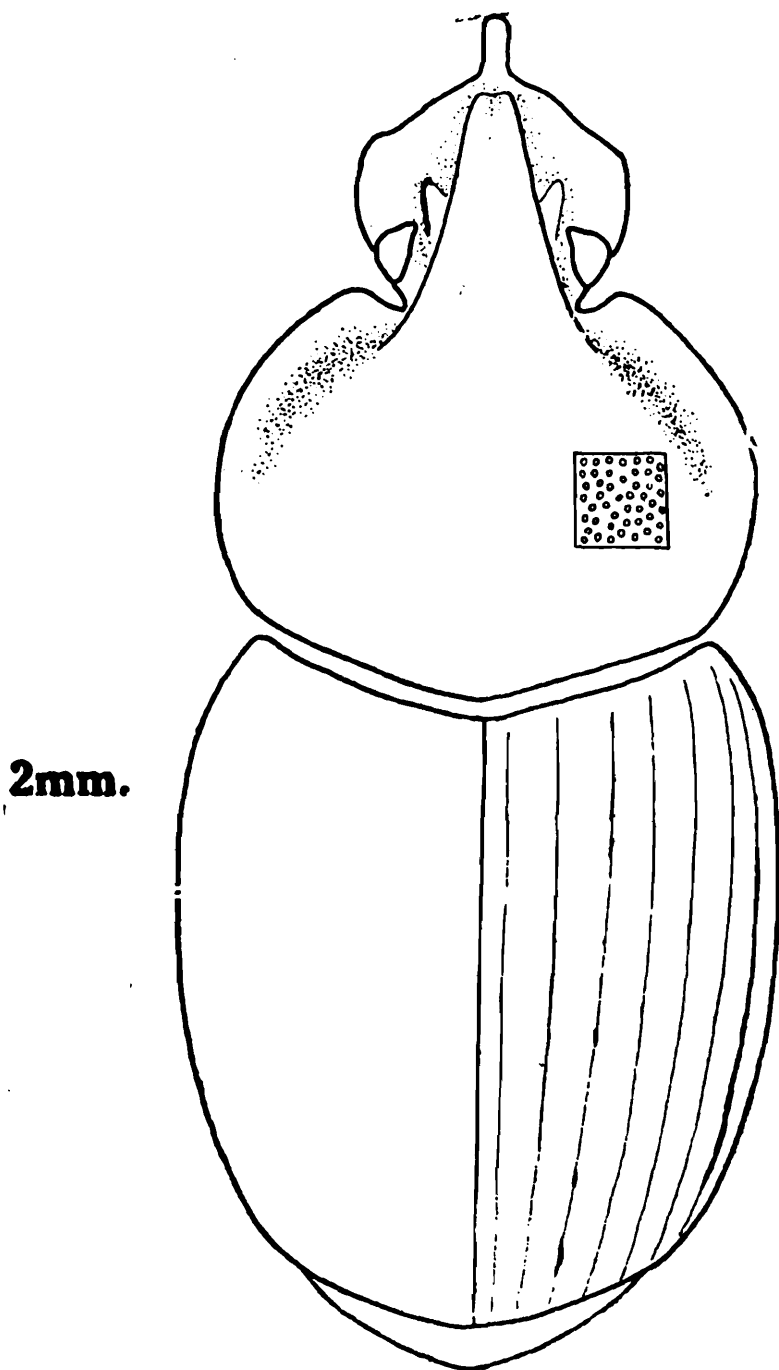


Fig. 4. *Onthophagus taruni* sp. nov., dorsal view of male.

♀ Pronotum with a carina just behind the front margin, clypeo-frontal carina long and extending throughout the breadth, clypeus more strongly punctured.

*Holotype* : ♂, INDIA, Kerala, Silent Valley, 28.iv.80, S. Biswas.

*Paratype* : 1 ♂, 2 ♀ ♀, INDIA, Kerala, Silent Valley, 28. iv. 80, S. Biswas.

### 28. *Onthophagus unifasciatus* (Schaller)

1783. *Scarabaeus unifasciatus* Schaller, *Abh. Hall. Nat. Ges.*, 1 : 240.

1858. *Onthophagus prolixus* Walker, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (2) 3 : 208.

1931. *Onthophagus unifasciatus* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia) 3 : 341.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : SRILANKA ; BANGLADESH ; INDIA : West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : This is one of the species of *Onthophagus*, responsible for a disease known as "scarabiasis", a disorder in young children, in which the beetles make their way into the intestinal tract.

### 29. *Phacosoma triste* Arrow

1931. *Phacosma triste* Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India* (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 355.

*Material examined* : 2 exs., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).

*Remarks* : Specimens were collected from the faeces of non-human primate species.

### 30. *Onitis singhalensis* Lansberge

1875. *Onitis singhalensis* Lansberge, *Ann. Soc. ent. Belg.*, 18 : 140.

1931. *Onitis singhalensis* : Arrow, *Fauna Brit. India*, (Coleoptera : Lamellicornia), 3 : 394-395.

*Material examined* 14 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, iv. 1980, S. Biswas.

*Distribution* : INDIA : Tamilnadu, Kerala (Silent Valley).



*Remarks* Specimens were collected from elephant dung from grassland near stream.

#### SUMMARY

This paper records 30 species belonging to 13 genera and 5 sub-families of Lamellicorn beetles from Silent valley, Kerala. Three species namely *Onthophagus keralicus*, *O. sahai* and *O. taruni* are described as new to science. Female of *Mycteristes auritus* Arrow is described for the first time. Distributional records of all the species included in the paper have been provided on the basis of literature and collections present in Zoological Survey of India.

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