

FAUNA OF INDIA CHECKLIST

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ARTHROPODA: ARACHNIDA: PSEUDOSCORPIONES, De Geer, 1778

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Introduction: Commonly known as false scorpions or book scorpions, belong to the order Pseudoscorpiones. They are small, dark-brown colour arachnids with a flat, pear-shaped body, and pincer-like pedipalps that resemble those of scorpions (Pocock, 1911). They are usually less than 8mm in length. The body is protected by tergite on the back and sternite underneath. Pseudoscorpions have eight legs with five to seven segments, and pedipalps. The number of fused segments is used to distinguish families and genera. These arachnids are not very mobile, but they will attach themselves to the legs of flies, beetles, and other insects.

Global Diversity: A total of 4116 known species of Pseudoscorpion are distributed under 472 genera and 25 families. However, 54 fossil species under 17 genera and 1 family have also been described. (Harvey, 2009; World Pseudoscorpiones Catalog, 2023).

Indian Diversity: Indian Pseudoscorpiones are known by 163 species belonging to 59 genera under 17 families.

Diversity in states

SI No.	State/UT	No. of Species
	INDIA Total	163
1	Andhra Pradesh	3
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3	Assam	6
4	Bihar	1
5	Chhattisgarh	1
6	Gujarat	0
7	Goa	1
8	Haryana	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	0
10	Jharkhand	1
11	Karnataka	13
12	Kerala	13
13	Madhya Pradesh	1
14	Maharashtra	6
15	Manipur	0
16	Meghalaya	0
17	Mizoram	0
18	Nagaland	0

SI No.	State/UT	No. of Species
19	Odisha	5
20	Punjab	0
21	Rajasthan	0
22	Sikkim	0
23	Tamil Nadu	77
24	Telangana	1
25	Tripura	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	1
27	Uttarakhand	6
28	West Bengal	7
29	Andaman & Nicobar	13
30	Chandigarh	0
31	Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	0
32	Delhi	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	2
34	Ladakh	1
35	Lakshadweep	0
36	Puducherry	3
37	State Unknown	19

Endemism: 105 species are endemic to India. High endemism is reported from the Western Ghats.

Habitat: They normally occur where moisture is present, such as in sinks, bathtubs, and drains. They have also been found between book pages and in stacks of newspapers. Outdoors they have been found in mulch, moss, leaf litter, under stones, under tree bark, in manure, and between boards in buildings. Pseudoscorpions are most active during warm days in the spring and summer.

Ecological Significance: Pseudoscorpions are predacious and therefore beneficial. They feed on other arthropods, particularly small insects, and mites. When capturing their prey, the pseudoscorpions use a poisonous gland inside the pincer-like claws to inject poison to subdue the prey (Weygoldt, 1969).

Human Significance: Pseudoscorpions are harmless to people and animals. Pseudoscorpions are generally beneficial to humans since they prey on clothes moth larvae, carpet beetle larvae, booklice, ants, mites, and small flies.

Threatened species as per IUCN: None of the species is included in the list of threatened species as per IUCN.

Protected species as per WPA (2022): None of the species is considered as protected species as per IWPA (2022).

Species under CITES: None of the species is considered under CITES.

Invasive Alien Species: None of the species is treated as invasive alien species.

Gap Areas: These lesser-known arachnids are mainly reported from the Southern Part of Western Ghats. They are poorly documented from Northeast, Himalayan, Trans Himalaya, and Semi-arid regions.

Systematic list of Pseudoscorpion of India (*Endemic species marked with**)

Order Pseudoscorpion

Family Atemnidae Kishida, 1929

1. *Anatemnus angustus* Redikorzev, 1938
2. *Anatemnus javanus* (Thorell, 1883)
3. *Anatemnus nilgiricus* Beier, 1932
4. *Anatemnus orites* (Thorell, 1889)
5. *Anatemnus orites orites* (Thorell, 1889)
6. *Anatemnus rotundus* (With, 1906)*
7. *Anatemnus vermiformis* (With, 1906)
8. *Atemnus politus* (Simon, 1878)
9. *Catatemnus concavus* (With, 1906)*
10. *Catatemnus nicobarensis* (With, 1906)
11. *Diploatemnus balcanicus* (Redikorzev, 1928)
12. *Micratemnus ceylonicus* Beier, 1973
13. *Oratemnus confusus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
14. *Oratemnus indicus* (With, 1906)
15. *Oratemnus loyolai* Sivaraman, 1980
16. *Oratemnus navigator* (With, 1906)
17. *Paratemnoides indicus* (Sivaraman, 1980)*
18. *Paratemnoides laosanus* (Beier, 1951)
19. *Paratemnoides mahnerti* (Sivaraman, 1981)*
20. *Paratemnoides pallidus* (Balzan, 1892)
21. *Paratemnoides plebejus* (With, 1906)
22. *Stenatemnus asiaticus* Sivaraman, 1980*
23. *Stenatemnus brincki* Beier, 1973
24. *Stenatemnus indicus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977
25. *Stenatemnus orientalis* Sivaraman, 1980*
26. *Tamenus indicus* Sivaraman, 1980*
27. *Tullgrenius indicus* Chamberlin, 1933*
28. *Tullgrenius orientalis* Sivaraman, 1980*
29. *Tamenus indicus* Sivaraman, 1980*

Family Cheliferidae Risso, 1827

30. *Apocheiridium indicum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
31. *Cheiridium museorum* (Leach, 1817)
32. *Chelifer cancroides cancroides* (Linnaeus, 1758)
33. *Dactylochelifer brachialis* Beier, 1952
34. *Dactylochelifer ladakhensis* Beier, 1978*
35. *Ellingsenius indicus* Chamberlin, 1932
36. *Hygrochelifer hoffi* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
37. *Hygrochelifer indicus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
38. *Lissochelifer depressoides* (Beier, 1967)
39. *Lissochelifer depressus* (C.L. Koch, 1843)*
40. *Lissochelifer hygricus* (Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977)*
41. *Lissochelifer superbus* (With, 1906)
42. *Lophochernes bisulcus* (Thorell, 1889)
43. *Lophochernes hansenii* (Thorell, 1889)
44. *Lophochernes indicus* Beier, 1967
45. *Lophochernes nilgiricus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
46. *Microchelifer sadiya* Chamberlin, 1949*

47. *Nannocheliferoidea mussardi* Beier, 1974*
 48. *Stenochelifera indicus* Beier, 1967*

Family Chernetidae Menge, 1855

49. *Allochernes tucanus* Beier, 1959*
 50. *Allochernes wideri* (C.L. Koch, 1843)
 51. *Allochernes wideri wideri* (C.L. Koch, 1843)
 52. *Ceriochernes nepalensis* Beier, 1974
 53. *Indochernes beieri* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 54. *Lamprochernes muscivorus* Redikorzev, 1949*
 55. *Lamprochernes nodosus* (Schrank, 1803)
 56. *Lamprochernes nodosus nodosus* (Schrank, 1803)
 57. *Lamprochernes savignyi* (Simon, 1881)
 58. *Megachernes himalayensis* (Ellingsen, 1914)
 59. *Ochrochernes asiaticus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 60. *Ochrochernes galathea* (With, 1906)
 61. *Ochrochernes granulatus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 62. *Ochrochernes indicus* Beier, 1974
 63. *Ochrochernes modestus* (With, 1906)*
 64. *Parachernes (Parachernes) indicus* Beier, 1967
 65. *Verrucachernes indicus* (Beier, 1974)*
 66. *Verrucachernes parvus* (Beier, 1930)*

Family Chthoniidae Daday, 1889

67. *Compsaditha camponota* Sivaraman, 1980*
 68. *Compsaditha indica* Murthy, 1960*
 69. *Lagynochthonius hygricus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 70. *Lagynochthonius indicus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 71. *Lechytia indica* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 72. *Lechytia madrasica* Sivaraman, 1980*
 73. *Tyrannochthonius bispinosus* (Beier, 1974)*
 74. *Tyrannochthonius chelatus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
 75. *Tyrannochthonius convivus* Beier, 1974*
 76. *Tyrannochthonius heterodontatus* Beier, 1930

Family Feaellidae Ellingsen, 1906

77. *Feaella (Tetrafeaella) indica* Chamberlin, 1931

Family Garypidae Simon, 1879

78. *Anagarypus oceanusindicus* Chamberlin, 1930
 79. *Garypus insularis* Tullgren, 1907
 80. *Garypus krusadiensis* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977
 81. *Garypus nicobarensis* Beier, 1930*

Family Garypinidae Daday, 1889

82. *Amblyolpium biaroliatum* (Tömösváry, 1884)*
 83. *Amblyolpium birmanicum* (With, 1906)
 84. *Indogarypinus minutus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*

Family Geogarypidae Chamberlin, 1930

85. *Geogarypus angulatus* Chamberlin, 1930*
 86. *Geogarypus asiaticus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*

87. *Geogarypus ceylonicus* Beier, 1973
88. *Geogarypus globulus* Sivaraman, 1980*
89. *Geogarypus granulatus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
90. *Geogarypus heterodentatus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
91. *Geogarypus indicus* (Beier, 1930)
92. *Geogarypus muchmorei* Novák & Harvey, 2018*

Family Hyidae Chamberlin, 1930

93. *Indohya besucheti* Beier, 1974*
94. *Indohya caecata* Beier, 1974*

Family Ideoroncidae Chamberlin, 1930

95. *Shravana indica* (Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977)*

Family Neobisiidae Chamberlin, 1930

96. *Bisetocreagris kaznakovi* (Redikorzev, 1918)
97. *Bisetocreagris kaznakovi* lahaulensis (Mani, 1959)*
98. *Microcreagris abnormis* Turk, 1946*
99. *Neobisium* (*Neobisium*) *carcinoides* (Hermann, 1804)
100. *Stenohya caelata* (Callaini, 1990)*
101. *Stenohya kashmirensis* (Schawaller, 1988)

Family Olpiidae Banks, 1895

102. *Calocheiridius amrithiensis* Sivaraman, 1980*
103. *Calocheiridius beieri* (Murthy, 1960)*
104. *Calocheiridius centralis* (Beier, 1952)*
105. *Calocheiridius centralis centralis* (Beier, 1952)
106. *Calocheiridius elegans* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
107. *Calocheiridius elegans elegans* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
108. *Calocheiridius elegans pallens* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
109. *Calocheiridius gabbutti* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
110. *Calocheiridius granulatus* Sivaraman, 1980*
111. *Calocheiridius hygricus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
112. *Calocheiridius indicus* Beier, 1967*
113. *Calocheiridius intermedius* Sivaraman, 1980*
114. *Calocheiridius loebli* Beier, 1974*
115. *Calocheiridius murthii* Sivaraman, 1980*
116. *Calocheiridius orientalis* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
117. *Calocheiridius viridis* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
118. *Euryolpium aureum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
119. *Euryolpium granulatum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
120. *Euryolpium indicum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
121. *Euryolpium intermedium* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
122. *Euryolpium oceanicum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
123. *Euryolpium robustum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
124. *Euryolpium striatum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
125. *Heterolpium indicum* Sivaraman, 1980*
126. *Indolpium asiaticum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
127. *Indolpium centrale* Beier, 1967*
128. *Indolpium intermedium* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
129. *Indolpium loyolae* (Murthy, 1961)

130. *Indolpium majusculum* Beier, 1967*
131. *Indolpium modestum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
132. *Indolpium politum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
133. *Indolpium robustum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
134. *Indolpium squalidum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
135. *Indolpium thevetium* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
136. *Indolpium transiens* Beier, 1967*
137. *Olpium asiaticum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
138. *Olpium crypticum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
139. *Olpium digitum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
140. *Olpium gladiatum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
141. *Olpium graminum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
142. *Olpium granulatum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
143. *Olpium indicum* Beier, 1967*
144. *Olpium jacobsoni* Tullgren, 1908
145. *Olpium lindbergi* Beier, 1959
146. *Olpium robustum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
147. *Olpium tropicum* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
148. *Parolpium pallidum* Beier, 1967*
149. *Xenolpium madagascariense* (Beier, 1931)

Family Pseudochiridiidae Chamberlin, 1923

150. *Pseudochiridium clavigerum* (Thorell, 1889)
151. *Pseudochiridium thorelli* With, 1906*

Family Sternophoridae Chamberlin, 1923

152. *Afrosternophorus ceylonicus* (Beier, 1973)
153. *Afrosternophorus longus* Mathew and Joseph, 2021*

Family Syarinidae Chamberlin, 1930

154. *Alocobisium ocellatum* Beier, 1978
155. *Ideobisium trifidum* (Stecker, 1875)

Family Withiidae Chamberlin, 1931

156. *Metawithius keralensis* Johnson, Mathew, Sebastian & Joseph, 2019*
157. *Metawithius murrayi* (Pocock, 1900)
158. *Microwithius bulli* (Sivaraman, 1980)*
159. *Microwithius chamundiensis* (Sivaraman, 1980)*
160. *Microwithius indicus* (Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977)*
161. *Withius indicus* Murthy and Ananthakrishnan, 1977*
162. *Withius piger* (Simon, 1878)
163. *Withius suis* Sivaraman, 1980*

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