

FAUNA OF INDIA CHECKLIST

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ARTHROPODA: INSECTA: DERMAPTERA, De Geer, 1773

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ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

ARTHROPODA: INSECTA: DERMAPTERA, De Geer, 1773

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Introduction: The Insect order Dermaptera is one of the smallest insect orders, commonly known as Earwigs. The name Dermaptera was given by de Geer in 1773, where the Greek word "*derma*" means skin and "*ptera*" means wings. They are soft bodied, slender, flattened, elongated insects with bead like antennae having three jointed tarsi and unsegmented, chitinous cerci or forceps present at the posterior end of the body (Srivastava, 1988; Deepak and Ghosh, 2018). The forceps are defence organs but also serve a variety of functions, such as sexual selection and prey capturing, wing folding etc. (Burr, 1910; Haas and Kukalova-Peck, 2001). Many species of earwigs are wingless or if wings present, the fore wings are reduced, smooth and leathery. The hind wings are large, circular or fanlike and folded under the fore wings, when not in use. The earwigs are hemimetabolous insects.

The earwigs are mainly nocturnal in habits, and usually found in a variety of habitats. There are certain species of earwigs which are pests by feeding on crops, vegetables, fruits, apple, maize, cabbage, cauliflower, beans, strawberries etc., by chewing on stamens and petals. But some species are biocontrol agents by feeding on aphids, mites, nematodes, scale insects, slugs and their eggs. There are two families of Dermaptera are known to be parasitic on mammals. The members of families Hemimeridae and Arixeniidae are parasitic on rats in South Africa and on bats in South East Asia respectively (Naegle *et al.*, 2016). The earwigs exhibit maternal care, unlike many other non-social insect groups, by guards the eggs from predators as well as clean them by licking to reduce fungal growth (Rentz & Kevan, 1991).

Global diversity: There are approximately 2000 described species of Dermaptera belonging to 245 genera and 16 families throughout the world, except in Antarctica (Fattorini, 2022).

Diversity in India: In India, 286 species under 73 genera and 9 families of earwigs are recorded (Karthik *et al.*, 2022, Srivastava, 1988, 2003 & 2013, Lal & Hegde, 2012, Emiliyamma, 2017).

Diversity in States (Table)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. Species	No. Endemic Species
1	Andhra Pradesh	10	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	91	16
3	Assam	52	3
4	Bihar	10	3
5	Chhattisgarh	13	0
6	Gujarat	3	0
7	Goa	0	0
8	Haryana	4	0

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. Species	No. Endemic Species
9	Himachal Pradesh	34	6
10	Jharkhand	3	0
11	Karnataka	48	7
12	Kerala	35	4
13	Madhya Pradesh	13	1
14	Maharashtra	12	6
15	Manipur	38	1
16	Meghalaya	56	8
17	Mizoram	11	0
18	Nagaland	7	0
19	Odisha	16	3
20	Punjab	5	0
21	Rajasthan	7	1
22	Sikkim	86	4
23	Tamil Nadu	80	37
24	Telangana	8	0
25	Tripura	16	1
26	Uttar Pradesh	33	1
27	Uttarakhand	56	9
28	West Bengal	83	9
29	Andaman & Nicobar	21	6
30	Chandigarh	0	0
31	Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	0	0
32	Delhi	3	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	19	3
34	Ladakh	7	0
35	Lakshadweep	5	1
36	Puducherry	6	0
	INDIA TOTAL	286	165

Endemism: There are 165 species are endemic to India. The highest endemism is found in Tamil Nadu, followed by Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya and Karnataka.

Habitat: Earwigs can be found in a variety of habitats throughout the world but tends to be more abundant in the tropical regions. During monsoon they may be found in foliage and flowers as well (Srivastava, 1988). They normally prefer to live in dark, damp environments, under the dead and decaying bark and logs, below debris, dry leaves, soil, and vegetation, while certain other species prefer to live in large numbers under stones on the sides of rivers, streams, and mostly wet places as well as the high altitudes under the boulders and stones (Srivastava, 1986).

Ecological Significance: The ecological importance of earwigs is very less, but this group has both positive and negative ecological roles depending on their feeding habits. Earwigs damage plant materials by chewing and damaging the petals of flowers and fruits.

Human Significance: Earwigs are acting as biocontrol agents in some extents, though it is not visible in the nature. Due to its omnivorous habits, they feed on armyworms, aphids, spiders, mites, scale insects and tropical corn borers (Cranston and Gullan, 2009)

Threatened species: Species from India are not assessed for IUCN threat categories.

Protected Species as per WPA (2022): Dermaptera are not listed under any schedules of Wildlife Protection Act (2022).

Species under CITES: Indian earwigs are not listed under any appendices of CITES.

Invasive alien species: No earwig species are reported to be invasive in India.

Gap areas: Some states and UTs are with very less number (Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Punjab, Delhi etc.) or without Dermaptera species (Chandigarh, Goa, and Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu), due to lack of collections or studies. Recently, many States and UTs were surveyed and representative samples collected and published reports (Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand and Nagaland) by the authors.

Systematic list:

Superfamily-**Anisolaboidea** Sakai, 1982

Family-**Anisolabididae** Verhoeff, 1902

1. *Aborolabis emarginata* Srivastava, 1976
2. *Aborolabis kalaktangensis* Srivastava, 1972
3. *Aborolabis meghalayaensis* Srivastava, 1993
4. *Aborolabis pervicina* (Burr, 1913)
5. *Aborolabis sikkimensis* Srivastava, 1993
6. *Anisolabis bhowmiki* Srivastava, 1991
7. *Anisolabis deplanata* Srivastava, 1985
8. *Anisolabis gaudens* Burr, 1904
9. *Anisolabella carinatus* (Srivastava, 1987)
10. *Anisolabella denticulatus* (Srivastava, 1987)
11. *Anisolabella dohrni* (Kirby, 1891)
12. *Anisolabella montshadskii* (Bey-Bienko, 1959)
13. *Anisolabella nandii* (Srivastava, 1987)
14. *Apolabis aborensis* (Burr, 1913)
15. *Apolabis castetsi* (Bormans, 1897)
16. *Apolabis genitalis* (Kapoor, 1967)
17. *Apolabis ramchandrai* (Ramamurthi & David, 1973)
18. *Apolabis thusharagiriensis* Srivastava, 2003
19. *Brachylabis formicoides* (Burr, 1911)
20. *Ctenisolabis fletcheri* Burr, 1910
21. *Epilandex burri* (Borelli, 1921)
22. *Euborellia abbreviata* Srivastava, 1977
23. *Euborellia annandalei* (Burr, 1906)
24. *Euborellia annulata* (Fabricius, 1793)
25. *Euborellia annulipes* (Lucas, 1847)
26. *Euborellia compressa* (Borelli, 1907)
27. *Euborellia dattai* Srivastava, 1977
28. *Euborellia femoralis* (Dohrn, 1863)
29. *Euborellia manipurensis* Srivastava, 1979
30. *Euborellia nainitalensis* Lal and Hegde, 2012
31. *Euborellia plebeja* (Dohrn, 1863)
32. *Euborellia rajasthanensis* Sivastava, 1977
33. *Gonolabis analia* (Ramamurthi & David, 1973)

34. *Gonolabis burri* (Srivastava, 1970)
35. *Gonolabis electa* Burr, 1910
36. *Gonolabis emarginata* (Ramamurthi&David,1973)
37. *Gonolabis krishnappai* Srivastava, 2003
38. *Gonolabis nilgiriensis* (Srivastava, 1978)
39. *Gonolabis penicillata* (Borelli, 1911)
40. *Gonolabis punctata* (Srivastava, 1978)
41. *Gonolabis sisera* (Burr,1914)
42. *Isolaboides burri* (Borelli, 1909)
43. *Isolaboides elegans* (Hebard, 1917)
44. *Isolaboides immsi* (Burr, 1913)
45. *Isolaboides rimosus* Steinmann, 1983
46. *Metisolabis bifoveolata* (Bolivar, 1897)
47. *Metisolabis caudelli* (Burr, 1908)
48. *Mongolabis vallakadaiensis* (Ramamurthi& David, 1973)
49. *Platylabia brindlei* Srivastava, 1981
50. *Platylabia nathani* Srivastava, 1981
51. *Titanolabis maindroni* (Borelli, 1911)

Family- **Labiduridae** Verhoeff, 1902

52. *Allostethus anamalayanus* Ramamurthi, 1968
53. *Forcipula abbreviata* Srivastava, 1986
54. *Forcipula aborensis* Brindle, 1966
55. *Forcipula borelli* Chopard, 1924
56. *Forcipula clavata* Liu, 1946
57. *Forcipula despinosa* Hebard, 1917
58. *Forcipula elongata* Srivastava, 1970
59. *Forcipula indica* Brindle, 1966
60. *Forcipula lurida* Bolivar, 1897
61. *Forcipula quadrispinosa* (Dohrn, 1863)
62. *Forcipula trispinosa* (Dohrn, 1863)
63. *Forcipula tuberculata* Srivastava, 1977
64. *Gonolabidura astruci* Burr, 1911
65. *Gonolabidura biswasi* Srivastava, 1933
66. *Gonolabidura minor* Burr, 1914
67. *Gonolabidura nathani* Brindle, 1965
68. *Labidura dharchulensis* Gangola, 1968
69. *Labidura riparia* (Pallas, 1773)
70. *Nala basalis* Bey-Bienko, 1970
71. *Nala lividipes* (Dufour, 1829)
72. *Nala nainitalensis* Baijal & Singh, 1954
73. *Nala nepalensis* (Burr, 1907)

Superfamily- **Apachyoidea** Tillyard, 1926

Family- **Apachyidae** Verhoeff, 1902

74. *Apachyus feae* Bormans, 1894
75. *Dendroketes corticinus* (Burr, 1908)

Superfamily: **Forficuloidea** Latreille, 1810

Family- **Chelisochidae** Burr, 1907

76. *Adiathella dravidius* (Burr, 1910)
77. *Adiathella glaucopterus* (Bormans, 1888)

78. *Adiathella metallicus* (Srivastava, 1885)
79. *Adiathella nigrocastaneus* (Burr, 1910)
80. *Adiathetus shelfordi* (Burr, 1900)
81. *Adiathella tenebrator* (Kirby, 1891)
82. *Chelisoches brevipennis* Borelli, 1923
83. *Chelisoches morio* (Fabricius, 1775)
84. *Chelisochella superba* (Dohrn, 1865)
85. *Exypnus koorgensis* Hebard, 1923
86. *Exypnus nathani* Srivastava, 2002
87. *Exypnus pulchripennis* (Bormans, 1883)
88. *Hamaxas chandrai* Srivastava, 2001
89. *Hamaxas feae* (Bormans, 1894)
90. *Hamaxas kempfi* Burr, 1913
91. *Hamaxas melanocephalus* (Dohrn, 1865)
92. *Hamaxas sakaii* Srivastava, 2000
93. *Hamaxas tigris* (Burr, 1913)
94. *Hamaxas weisi* (Burr, 1904)
95. *Laprophorella kervillei* (Burr, 1905)
96. *Proreus cunctator* Burr, 1911
97. *Proreus decipiens* (Kirby, 1891)
98. *Proreus ritsemae* (Bormans, 1884)
99. *Solenosoma birmanum* (Burr, 1888)

Family- **Forficulidae** Stephens, 1829

100. *Allodahlia ahrimanes* (Burr, 1900)
101. *Allodahlia coriacea* (Bormans, 1894)
102. *Allodahlia dineshi* Gangola, 1965
103. *Allodahlia guptae* Kapoor, 1968
104. *Allodahlia julkai* Srivastava, 1978
105. *Allodahlia macropyga* (Westwood, 1839)
106. *Allodahlia scabriuscula* (Serville, 1839)
107. *Anechura biswasi* Srivastava, 1993
108. *Anechura crinitata* (Shiraki, 1906)
109. *Anechura filchneri* (Burr, 1908)
110. *Anechura stoliczkae* Burr, 1911
111. *Anechura svenhedini* Bey-Bienko, 1933
112. *Anechura zubovskii* Semenov, 1901
113. *Cordax armatus* (Haan, 1842)
114. *Elaunon bipartitus* (Kirby, 1891)
115. *Elaunon gangoli* Gangola, 1965
116. *Eparchus insignis* (Haan, 1842)
117. *Eparchus simplex* (Bormans, 1894)
118. *Eudohrnia metallica* (Dohrn, 1865)
119. *Forficula abbottabadiensis* Bharadwaj and Kapoor, 1968
120. *Forficula asketi* Purohit, Julka and Lal, 1985
121. *Forficula beebei* Burr, 1911
122. *Forficula beelzebub* (Burr, 1900)
123. *Forficula bhutanensis* Brindle, 1975
124. *Forficula biplaga* Bey-Bienko, 1959
125. *Forficula choprai* Srivastava, 2013
126. *Forficula cristata* Srivastava, 1982
127. *Forficula davidi* Burr, 1905

128. *Forficula genitalia* Kapoor, 1968
129. *Forficula gravelyi* Burr, 1914
130. *Forficula greeni* Burr, 1907
131. *Forficula interrogans* Burr, 1905
132. *Forficula jayarami* Srivastava, 1972
133. *Forficula kashmirensis* Srivastava, 1984
134. *Forficula lucasi* (Dohrn, 1865)
135. *Forficula lucens* Brindle, 1975
136. *Forficula mogul* Burr, 1904
137. *Forficula planicollis* Kirby, 1891
138. *Forficula schlagintweiti* (Burr, 1904)
139. *Forficula taoyuanensis* Ma and Chen, 1992
140. *Forficula tawangensis* Srivastava, 1984
141. *Forficula vicaria* Semenov, 1902
142. *Forficula wittmeri* Srivastava, 1982
143. *Guanchia bicarinata* Hincks, 1947
144. *Guanchia chirurga* Burr, 1911
145. *Guanchia medica* Burr, 1911
146. *Hypergus humeralis* (Kirby, 1891)
147. *Liparura debrepaniensis* (Kapoor, Bharadwaj and Banerjee, 1971)
148. *Liparura dentata* Srivastava, 1977
149. *Liparura kamengensis* Srivastava, 1977
150. *Liparura punctata* Burr, 1907
151. *Liparura serrata* Srivastava, 1977
152. *Lipodes vivax* (Burr, 1905)
153. *Neopterygida circulata* (Dohrn, 1865)
154. *Obelura asiatica* (Bormans, 1897)
155. *Oreasiobia calciatii* (Borelli, 1909)
156. *Oreasiobia fedtschenkoi* (Saussure, 1874)
157. *Paracordax julkai* Srivastava, 1998
158. *Paracordax politus* (Burr, 1911)
159. *Paracordax vandermeermohri* (Menozzi, 1933)
160. *Paradohrnia mundgodae* (Kapoor, Bharadwaj and Banerjee, 1971)
161. *Paradohrnia punctata* Srivastava, 1979
162. *Paradohrnia uniformes* (Brindle, 1975)
163. *Parasondax cantralli* Srivastava, 1978
164. *Paratimomenus brahma* (Burr, 1904)
165. *Paratimomenus nathani* (Srivastava), 1969
166. *Pareparchus pelvimeter* Hebard, 1923
167. *Pareparchus pillai* Srivastava, 2002
168. *Prosadiya tricota* Hebard, 1923
169. *Pterygida pulchripes* (Bormans, 1894)
170. *Pterygida temora* (Burr, 1904)
171. *Pterygida vishnu* (Burr, 1904)
172. *Sondax repens* Burr, 1910
173. *Timomenus ares* (Burr, 1900)
174. *Timomenus josephi* Srivastava, 1977
175. *Timomenus lugens* (Bormans, 1894)
176. *Timomenus nevilli* (Burr, 1904)
177. *Timomenus oannes* (Burr, 1900)

Family- **Spongiphoridae** Zacher, 1915

178. *Apovostox agrawali* Srivastava, 1999
179. *Apovostox chauhani* (Srivastava, 1975)
180. *Apovostox fulleri* (Ramamurthi, 1963)
181. *Apovostox pygidiatus* (Dubrony, 1879)
182. *Apovostox serratus* (Kapoor, 1967)
183. *Apovostox stella samsingensis* (Srivastava, 1975)
184. *Auchenomus hincksi* Ramamurthi, 1960
185. *Auchenomus nathani* Ramamurthi, 1968
186. *Chaetolabia bihastata* (Börg, 1904)
187. *Chaetolabia sahai* Srivastava, 2001
188. *Chaetospania acuminata* Srivastava, 1990
189. *Chaetospania alfredi* Srivastava, 2002
190. *Chaetospania anamalaiensis* Srivastava, 1969
191. *Chaetospania anderssoni* Brindle, 1971
192. *Chaetospania bormansi* Srivastava, 1981
193. *Chaetospania feae* Bormans, 1894
194. *Chaetospania kapoori* Srivastava, 1995
195. *Chaetospania kurseongae* Hebard, 1923
196. *Chaetospania nigriceps* (Kirby, 1891)
197. *Chaetospania shillongensis* Srivastava, 1982
198. *Chaetospania stiletta* Burr, 1911
199. *Chaetospania thoracica* (Dohrn, 1867)
200. *Circolabia bhatiai* Srivastava, 2001
201. *Circolabia curvicauda* (Motschulsky, 1863)
202. *Circolabia dubronyi* (Hebard, 1922)
203. *Circolabia pillicornis* (Motschulsky, 1863)
204. *Homotages feae* (Bormans, 1888)
205. *Homotages tawangensis* Srivastava, 1977
206. *Irdex cingalensis* (Dohrn, 1865)
207. *Irdex escheri* (Borelli, 1931)
208. *Irdex nitidipennis* (Bormans, 1894)
209. *Labia minor* (Linnaeus, 1758)
210. *Marava arachidis* (Yersin, 1860)
211. *Marava sakaii* Srivastava, 1995
212. *Nesogaster minusculus* Rehn, 1946
213. *Paralabella fruehstorferi* (Burr, 1897)
214. *Paratages mucronatus* (Stål, 1860)
215. *Spongovostox anamalaiensis* Srivastava, 1970
216. *Spongovostox semiflavus* (Bormans, 1894)

Superfamily- **Pygidicranoidea** Bruce, Melander & Carpenter, 1954Family: **Diplatyidae** Verhoeff, 1902

217. *Diplatys adjacens* Hincks, 1955
218. *Diplatys anamaliensis* Srivastava, 1970
219. *Diplatys baijali* Duda & Malhotra, 1970
220. *Diplatys brindleyi* Steinmann, 1974
221. *Diplatys carinatus* Srivastava, 1988
222. *Diplatys carli* Srivastava, 1988
223. *Diplatys chopardi* Hincks, 1955
224. *Diplatys chowdhuryi* Srivastava, 1989
225. *Diplatys coelebs* Hincks, 1955

226. *Diplatys confuses* Hincks, 1955
227. *Diplatys devlensis* Srivastava, 1974
228. *Diplatys excidens* Hincks, 1954
229. *Diplatys flavobrunneus* Chopard, 1924
230. *Diplatys fletcheri* Burr, 1910
231. *Diplatys jawalagiriensis* Kapoor, Bharadwaj & Banerjee, 1971
232. *Diplatys lefroyi* Burr, 1910
233. *Diplatys menoni* Kapoor & Bharadwaj, 1968
234. *Diplatys nathani* Hincks, 1960
235. *Diplatys nilgiriensis* Hincks, 1955
236. *Diplatys papovi* Bey- Bienko, 1959
237. *Diplatys sahyadriensis* Karthik et.al., 2022
238. *Diplatys sinuatus* Hincks, 1955
239. *Diplatys tikaderi* Srivastava, 1988
240. *Diplatys dolens* Hincks, 1957
241. *Diplatys himalayanus* Bajjal & Singh, 1954
242. *Paradiplatys gladiator* (Burr, 1905)

Family: **Haplodiplatyidae** Engel, 2017

243. *Haplodiplatys bhowmiki* (Srivastava & Saha, 1975)
244. *Haplodiplatys bidentatus* (Hincks, 1955)
245. *Haplodiplatys brancuccii* Srivastava, 1983
246. *Haplodiplatys chinensis* (Hincks, 1954)
247. *Haplodiplatys glenis* (Kapoor, 1968)
248. *Haplodiplatys kurseongensis* Srivastava, 1988
249. *Haplodiplatys lobatus* Srivastava, 1988
250. *Haplodiplatys malaise* (Hincks, 1947)
251. *Haplodiplatys niger* Hincks, 1955
252. *Haplodiplatys rileyi* (Hincks, 1955)
253. *Haplodiplatys rufescens* (Kirby, 1896)
254. *Haplodiplatys shillongensis* Srivastava, 1988
255. *Haplodiplatys simlaensis* (Kapoor, 1968)
256. *Haplodiplatys siva* (Burr, 1904)
257. *Haplodiplatys srivastavi* (Kapoor, 1974)
258. *Haplodiplatys stemmleri* (Brindle, 1975)
259. *Haplodiplatys trisinuatus* Srivastava, 1988
260. *Haplodiplatys urbanii* (Brindle, 1975)

Family: **Pygidicranidae** Verhoeff, 1902

261. *Cranopygia assamensis* Hincks, 1955
262. *Cranopygia bhallaie* Kapoor, 1966
263. *Cranopygia bifurcata* Srivastava, 1980
264. *Cranopygia brindlei* Srivastava, 1988
265. *Cranopygia burri* Hincks, 1955
266. *Cranopygia constricta* (Hincks, 1955)
267. *Cranopygia dravidia* (Burr, 1904)
268. *Cranopygia eximia* (Dohrn, 1863)
269. *Cranopygia fletcheri* Bharadwaj and Kapoor, 1967
270. *Cranopygia kallipygos* (Dohrn, 1863)
271. *Cranopygia manipurensis* Srivastava, 1975
272. *Cranopygia picta* (Guérin-Méneville, 1839)
273. *Cranopygia raja* (Burr, 1911)

274. *Cranopygia similis* (Zacher, 1911)
275. *Cranopygia steinmanni* Srivastava, 1988
276. *Cranopygia tumida* Borelli, 1930
277. *Cranopygia vittipennis* Hincks, 1955
278. *Schizodiplatys angustatus* (Burr, 1910)
279. *Echinosoma andamanensis* Srivastava, 1988
280. *Echinosoma convolutum* Hincks, 1959
281. *Echinosoma dentiferum* Borelli, 1912
282. *Echinosoma nandi* Srivastava, 1988
283. *Echinosoma parvulum* Dohrn, 1863
284. *Echinosoma rufomarginatum* Borelli, 1931
285. *Echinosoma trilineatum* Borelli, 1921
286. *Parapsalis infernalis* (Burr, 1913)

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Adiathella tenebrator (Kirby,1891)



Hypergus humeralis (Kirby,1891)



Gonolabis electa Burr, 1910



Circolabia curvicauda (Motschulsky, 1863)



Nala lividipes (Dufour, 1829)



Labidura riparia (Pallas, 1773)