

# FAUNA OF INDIA CHECKLIST

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## ARTHROPODA: INSECTA: MEGALOPTERA

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**Comments on the checklist:**

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

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**Introduction:** The order Megaloptera are commonly known as alderflies, dobsonflies and fishflies. The order name is derived from Greek word for “large” (*Mega*) “wings” (*Ptera*). The larvae are aquatic and adults are terrestrial. The adults are crepuscular and often get attracted to light at night. Adult females lay eggs on vegetation over hanging larval habitat. The larvae are aquatic predators and feed on small invertebrates. They develop very slowly (1-5 years) and undergo a primitive form of metamorphosis. The mature larvae crawl to land and pupate under logs and damp leaf litter. The pupae is fully mobile and short-lived adults emerge to mate.

**Global diversity:** Globally 420 species under 54 genera and 4 families are known.

**Diversity in India:** In India 32 species in two genera and two families are.

**Table: Diversity of Megaloptera in States**

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. Species	No. Endemic Species
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7	1
3	Assam	6	1
4	Bihar	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0
6	Gujarat	0	0
7	Goa	0	0
8	Haryana	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	3	0
10	Jharkhand	1	0
11	Karnataka	2	2
12	Kerala	1	1
13	Madhya Pradesh	0	0
14	Maharashtra	0	0
15	Manipur	5	2
16	Meghalaya	11	5
17	Mizoram	1	0
18	Nagaland	2	1
19	Odisha	0	0
20	Punjab	0	0
21	Rajasthan	0	0
22	Sikkim	4	0

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. Species	No. Endemic Species
23	Tamil Nadu	1	1
24	Telangana	0	0
25	Tripura	0	0
26	Uttarpradesh	0	0
27	Uttarakhand	2	1
28	West Bengal	4	0
29	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0
31	Dadra Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	0	0
32	Delhi	0	0
33	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0
34	Ladakh	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0
36	Puducherry	1	1
37	State Unknown	5	1
	<b>INDIA TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>13</b>

**Endemism:** Thirteen species are endemic to India.

**Habitat:** The larvae are aquatic and found in cold, pristine fast flowing streams.

**Ecological Significance:** The larvae are predators of many small aquatic invertebrates.

**Human Significance:** The larvae are good indicators of pollution and used in biomonitoring of streams.

**Threatened species:** No species are reported as threatened in India.

**Protected Species as per WPA (2022):** Species reported from India are not listed under any Schedules of the Wildlife Protection Act.

**Species under CITES:** Species reported from India are not listed under CITES.

**Invasive alien species:** No invasive alien species are reported from this order.

**Gap areas:** Extensive surveys in the Himalayan states are required to understand the diversity and distribution of the species.

### Checklist of Megaloptera

**Family: Corydalidae Leach in Brewster, 1815**

1. *Acanthacorydalis asiatica* (Wood-Mason, 1884)
2. *Acanthacorydalis horrenda* Navás, 1931
3. *Anachauliodes laboissierei* (Navás, 1913)
4. *Ctenochauliodes khasianus* (van der Weele, 1909)
5. *Neochauliodes fletcheri* Kimmins, 1954
6. *Neochauliodes flinti* Liu & Hayashi, 2019
7. *Neochauliodes indicus* (van der Weele, 1907)

8. *Neochauliodes obscurus* van der Weele, 1909
9. *Neochauliodes simplex* (Walker, 1853)
10. *Neochauliodes truncatus* Kimmins, 1954
11. *Neoneuromus fenestralis* (McLachlan, 1869)
12. *Neoneuromus latratus* (McLachlan, 1869)
13. *Neoneuromus sikkimensis* (van der Weele, 1907)
14. *Nevromus austroindicus* Liu & Viraktamath in Liu, 2012
15. *Nevromus intimus* McLachlan, 1869
16. *Protohermes albipennis* (Walker, 1853)
17. *Protohermes arunachalensis* Ghosh, 1991
18. *Protohermes assamensis* Kimmins, 1949
19. *Protohermes costatostrigatus* (van der Weele, 1907)
20. *Protohermes curvicornis* Liu, Hayashi & D. Yang, 2013
21. *Protohermes decemmaculatus* (Walker, 1860)
22. *Protohermes infectus* (McLachlan, 1869)
23. *Protohermes maculiferus* (Walker, 1853)
24. *Protohermes maculipennis* (Gray in Cuvier, 1832)
25. *Protohermes montanus* (McLachlan, 1869)
26. *Protohermes motuoensis* Liu & D. Yang, 2006
27. *Protohermes nigerescens* (Liu, Hayashi & D. Yang, 2015)
28. *Protohermes ohli* Liu, Hayashi & D. Yang, 2013
29. *Protohermes selysi* (van der Weele, 1909)
30. *Protohermes sublunatus* Liu, Hayashi & D. Yang, 2013
31. *Protohermes walkeri* Navás, 1929

**Family: Sialidae Leach in Brewster, 1815**

32. *Indosialis indica* Liu, Flint & D. Yang, 2008

**References:**

- Martins C.C., Ardila-Camacho A., Rivera-Gasperín S.L., Oswald J.D., Liu X. & Contreras-Ramos A. 2022. A world checklist of extant and extinct species of Megaloptera (Insecta: Neuropterida). *European Journal of Taxonomy* 812: 1–93. <https://doi.org/10.5852/ejt.2022.812.1727>