



JULY 2025
ONLINE VERSION 2.0

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

ARTHROPODA: INSECTA: MEGALOPTERA Latreille, 1802

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DOI : <https://doi.org/10.26515/Fauna/2/2025/Arthropoda:Insecta:Megaloptera>

Key words: Megaloptera, Alderflies, Dobsonflies, India, checklist, insect diversity

Citation: Pandher, M. S and Subramanian, K.A. (2025). Fauna of India Checklist: Arthropoda: Insecta: Megaloptera. Version 2.0. Zoological Survey India. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26515/Fauna/2/2025/Arthropoda:Insecta:Megaloptera>

Comments on the checklist:

E-mail your comments and suggestions to improve the checklist to zsifaunachecklists@gmail.com; subbuka.zsi@gmail.com

FAUNA OF INDIA CHECKLIST



ARTHROPODA: INSECTA: MEGALOPTERA

Latreille, 1802

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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 are 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 31 species in 8 genera and two families of Megaloptera are known so far.

Table: Diversity of Megaloptera in States

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



Sl. No.	State / Union Territory	No. of Species	No. of Endemic Species
21	Rajasthan	0	0
22	Sikkim	6	1
23	Tamil Nadu	1	0
24	Telangana	0	0
25	Tripura	0	0
26	Uttar Pradesh	0	0
27	Uttarakhand	2	0
28	West Bengal	5	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	0	0
34	Ladakh	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0
36	Puducherry	1	1
37	State Unknown	2	0
	INDIA TOTAL	31	12

Endemism: Twelve 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 Latreille, 1802

Family: Corydalidae Leach in Brewster, 1815

1. *Acanthacorydalis asiatica* (Wood-Mason, 1884)
2. *Acanthacorydalis horrenda* Navás, 1931
3. *Neoneuromus fenestralis* (McLachlan, 1869)
4. *Neoneuromus latratus* (McLachlan, 1869)
5. *Neoneuromus sikkimensis* (van der Weele, 1907)
6. *Nevromus austroindicus* Liu & Viraktamath in Liu, 2012
7. *Nevromus intimus* McLachlan, 1869



8. *Protohermes albipennis* (Walker, 1853)
9. *Protohermes arunachalensis* Ghosh, 1991
10. *Protohermes assamensis* Kimmins, 1949
11. *Protohermes costatostratus* (van der Weele, 1907)
12. *Protohermes curvicornis* Liu, Hayashi & Yang, 2013
13. *Protohermes decemmaculatus* (Walker, 1860)
14. *Protohermes infectus* (McLachlan, 1869)
15. *Protohermes maculiferus* (Walker, 1853)
16. *Protohermes montanus* (McLachlan, 1869)
17. *Protohermes motuoensis* Liu & Yang, 2006
18. *Protohermes nigerescens* (Liu, Hayashi & Yang, 2015)
19. *Protohermes ohli* Liu, Hayashi & Yang, 2013
20. *Protohermes selysi* (van der Weele, 1909)
21. *Protohermes sublunatus* Liu, Hayashi & Yang, 2013
22. *Protohermes walkeri* Navás, 1929
23. *Anachauliodes laboissierei* (Navás, 1913)
24. *Ctenochauliodes khasianus* (van der Weele, 1909)
25. *Neochauliodes fletcheri* Kimmins, 1954
26. *Neochauliodes flinti* Liu & Hayashi, 2019
27. *Neochauliodes indicus* (van der Weele, 1907)
28. *Neochauliodes obscurus* van der Weele, 1909
29. *Neochauliodes simplex* (Walker, 1853)
30. *Neochauliodes truncatus* Kimmins, 1954

Family: Sialidae Leach in Brewster, 1815

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

References:

Wachkoo, A.A., Kaur, S., Akbar, S.A., Hassan, M.A., Pandher, M.S. & Oswald, J.D. 2024. Catalog of the Neuropterida of India (Insecta: Neuroptera, Megaloptera, Raphidioptera). *Zootaxa* 5544 (1): 001–128.

