

A SHORT NOTE ON THREE SPECIES OF *STIBARA* (CERAMBYCIDAE: LAMIINAE: SAPERDINI)

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web supplement

Species of the Genus *Stibara* Hope 1840 are of moderate size, brownish insects, often with a pattern of black punctures or maculae. The Lamiinae members, under Cerambycidae, typically possess hypognathous head. Saperdini members are distinguished easily because of their anteriorly convex, broad metepisternum as well as by the eye character (each eye not divided into two separate lobes). Insects of the genus *Stibara* possess more or less robust antennae, which are often black and pubescent, and the third antennomere is the longest. The identity of the species present in the collections of Modern College was established by consulting Dr. Carolus Holzschuh, Austria, and internet resources.

The three species we have in our collection include the smallest, *S. tetraspilota* Hope (female, 20.1mm); medium sized *S. suturalis* Gahan (23.0mm, female) and large *S. nigricornis* (Fabricius) (27.0, female). All the species are yellow brown in colouration but legs and the prothorax in the two species, viz., *tetraspilota* and *suturalis* are with orange hue. Body in all the species is covered with very fine dirty yellow, adpressed pubescence. Antennae are black in all species. Prothorax is squarish in all the species, is broader than long, finely punctate in *tetraspilota* and *suturalis* and very distinctly punctured in *nigricornis*. Prothorax also possesses one mid dorsal and two lateral tubercles situated near the base. Of these, the mid dorsal tubercle has a fine, median sulcus. Elytra are broad at the base and narrow at the apex in all species and also possess one or more costae. There are coarse punctures on elytra, especially in the humeral area and slightly beyond laterally. In *nigricornis*, these coarse punctures may be seen throughout the lateral side except the last 1/4th of the elytra. In *tetraspilota*, elytral punctures are arranged in rows. Such punctures are not visible in the other two species. In general, in the three species, elytra are apically truncate and possess distinct but small sutural spine in *tetraspilota*, which in other two species is very small.

Ventrally, *suturalis* and *tetraspilota* possess more or less distinct orange shade all over. Body is more or less shiny due to sparse pubescence but in *nigricornis*, all the ventral side, including legs, is covered in dirty green adpressed pubescence and hence appears dull. As far as occurrence of these species in India, we have no recent literature. In an unpublished list of Indian Cerambycidae (Database "Longikhorn" by Norbert Delahaye, France) all the three species are treated as under the genus *Stibara* and the subgenus *Stibara*. Rondon and Breuning (1970) report that *S. tetraspilota* [as *Stibara* (*s. sr.*) *tetraspilota*], which is the type species for the genus *Stibara*, is found in Sikkim, India. Out of the three species, two were collected from Pune, Maharashtra. These were found in association with a Convolvulaceae weed *Ipomoea fistula* (= *Ipomoea carnea*). *S. tetraspilota* was collected in Himachal Pradesh (exact location and host plant unknown). Web supplement Image 1^w shows all three species in colour while morphometrical data on three species is provided in Table 1.

As far as male genitalia are concerned, there is no marked difference in the genitalia of the two species that we could dissect, namely, *S. nigricornis* and *S. tetraspilota*. In *nigricornis*, tegmen is almost flat, not much curved and about 3.6mm long. Parameres are also very short. Apical setae are almost equal to the length of parameres. Median lobe is long (about 4.6 to 4.7mm), slender and slightly curved. Median struts are long, less sclerotized (See Images A to D ^w).

REFERENCE

Rondon, J.A. and S. von Breuning (1970). Lamiines du Laos. *Pacific Insects Monographs* 24: 315- 571.

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^w See Images in the web supplement at www.zoosprint.org

Table 1. Morphometrical data on three species of *Stibara*

Parameter	<i>Stibara nigricornis</i>								<i>Stibara suturalis</i>		<i>Stibara tetraspilota</i>		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	1	2	3
TL	21.0	23.5	23.0	23.5	22.5	23.5	21.5	23.5	24.0	20.0	20.1	17.3	
HB	6.6	7.2	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.3	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.0	7.0	5.6	
PL	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.5	3.7	3.8	3.1	
PB	4.2	4.7	4.4	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.5	4.8	5.1	4.0	

All measurements are in mm. TL- Total Length; HB - Humeral Breadth; PL- Prothorax Length; PB - Prothorax Breadth.

