



Notes on genus *Streblocera* Westwood (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) from India with record of subgenus *Asiastreblocera*

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INTRODUCTION & AIM

- ✓ Genus *Streblocera* Westwood is one of the unique among the braconid parasitic wasps (subfamily Euphorinae) with female having raptorial like antenna and long scape.
- ✓ *Streblocera* species are koinobiont endoparasitoids of adult chrysomelid beetles.
- ✓ Around 120 species are known worldwide under five subgenera - *Asiastreblocera*, *Cosmophoridia*, *Eutanycerus*, *Villocera*, and *Streblocera* (Li *et al.* 2021).

METHOD

- ✓ Surveys were conducted pan-India to collect braconid parasitoids using sweep net, yellow pan traps and malaise traps during the year 2022-24.
- ✓ Curation and identification was done in the National Insect Museum, ICAR-NBAIR, Bengaluru.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

- ✓ In India, a total of ten species were recorded under the subgenus *Eutanycerus*. Amongst them, nine species were recorded from **Northern India**- Uttar Pradesh (UP), **Central India**- Madhya Pradesh (MP) (Shamim, 2013) and one species was reported from **Southern India**- Tamil Nadu (TN) (Gupta *et al.*, 2022).
- ✓ **Indian species of genus *Streblocera* Westwood**
Northern India (UP): *S. (E.) sharifi* Shamim, *S. (E.) achterbergi* Shamim, *S. (E.) aurrayus* Shamim, *S. (E.) etawahiana* Shamim, *S. (E.) hayati* Shamim, *S. (E.) kanpurensis* Shamim, *S. (E.) shawi* Shamim and *S. (E.) shujaudini* Shamim.
Central India (MP): *S. (E.) levipleuron* Shamim
Southern India: *S. (E.) breviflagellata* Gupta & van Achterberg, 2022 (TN) (Fig. 1) and *S. (Asiastreblocera)* sp. (Karnataka) (Fig. 2).

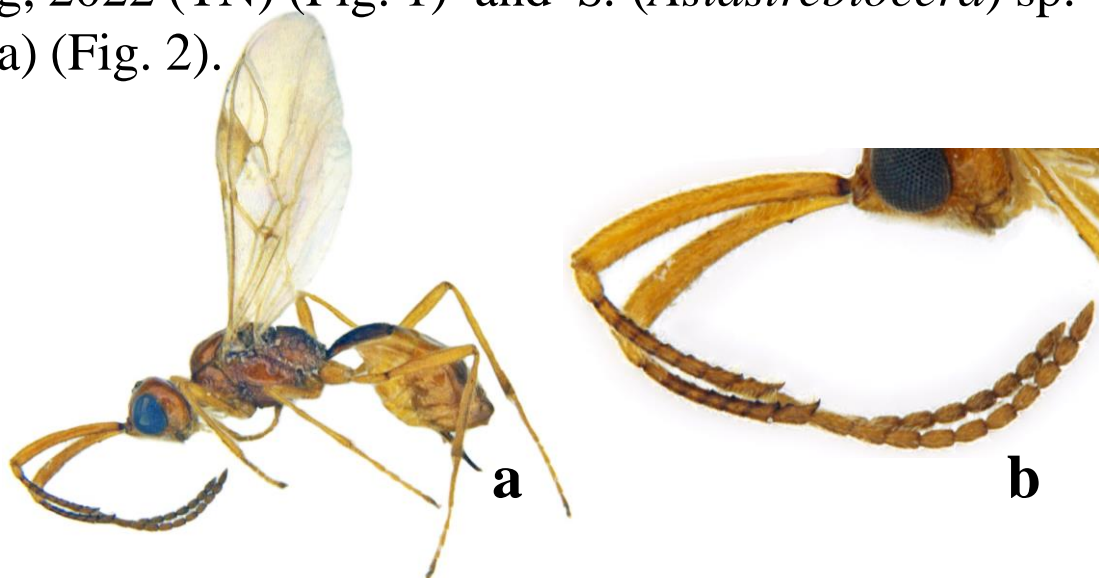


Fig. 1: *Streblocera (Eutanycerus)* sp. female (a. Habitus, b. Lateral face view without horn)

- ✓ *Streblocera (Asiastreblocera)* sp. (Fig. 2)
- ✓ The specimens were collected by sweeping general vegetation.
- ✓ Distribution: Karnataka (Peninsular India)



Fig. 2: *Streblocera (Asiastreblocera)* sp. female (a. Habitus, b. Lateral face view showing acute horn)

CONCLUSION/ FUTURE PROSPECTS

- ✓ **Subgenus *Asiastreblocera* is reported for the first time from India.**

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FUTURE PROSPECTS/REFERENCES

- ✓ Integrative studies (morphological & molecular) to understand the *Streblocera* species complex are in progress. Many species from same location might get synonymized.
- ✓ Li, J., van Achterberg, C., Zheng, M.-L. and Chen, J.-H. (2020) Revision of *Streblocera* Westwood (Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Euphorinae) from China, with the description of seven new species. *ZooKeys*, 1044: 729–782.
- ✓ Shamim, M. (2013) The genus *Streblocera* Westwood (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Euphorinae) from India, with descriptions of 9 new species. *Turkish Journal of Zoology*, 37 (4): 385–405.
- ✓ Gupta, A., van Achterberg, C., Pattar, R. and Navik, O. 2022. A new species of the genus *Streblocera* Westwood (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Euphorinae) from peninsular India. *Zootaxa*, 5175(4): 494 –498.