



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3652.2.5>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:9DAD0064-A4EA-4343-A8B5-261E59844206>

***Idionyx* (Odonata: Corduliidae) of the Western Ghats with a description of a new species**

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Abstract

The status and distribution of *Idionyx* Hagen, 1867 (Odonata: Corduliidae), of the Western Ghats, India, is updated and a new species *Idionyx gomantakensis* is described and illustrated based on male and female specimens from Kulem (=Collem), Goa, India. This new species can be differentiated from other species of *Idionyx* by long and slender cerci and epiproct, absence of teeth in the basal half of the cerci, and a tuft of golden hairs at the end of the lateral lobes of the epiproct. A revised key to the species of the genus is provided, and its diversity and ecology in the Western Ghats is discussed.

Key words: *Idionyx*, India, hill streams, diversity, distribution

Introduction

The family Corduliidae is of worldwide distribution and comprises 41 genera and 239 species (Kalkman *et al.* 2008). The genus *Idionyx* Hagen, 1867, is restricted to the Oriental region and is distributed in an area ranging from southern India to Zhejiang in southern China to Sundaland, the Lesser Sunda Islands and the Philippines (Hämäläinen 2002). The type species of the genus is *Idionyx yolanda* Selys, 1871. The highest diversity of the genus is reported from the Western Ghats of India, where nine species and one subspecies have been reported (Subramanian 2007). Fraser (1926) provided a comprehensive revision of the genus from India and Myanmar. Within the genus male anal appendages provide reliable characters for species identification (Fraser 1926). Females of some species have a distinctively shaped vesicle on the dorsal surface of the head. In the Western Ghats, *Idionyx* are restricted to evergreen forests and breed in hill streams. Most of the *Idionyx* species from the Western Ghats are reported from Nilgiri, Wayanad and Coorg. Recently, Rangnekar *et al.* (2010) reported *I. saffronata* from Goa, extending the range of the genus up to 15°N. Here we report a new species of *Idionyx* from Goa and discuss the distribution and ecology of the genus in the Western Ghats.

Authors and dates of description of species are given in Table 2.

***Idionyx gomantakensis*, sp. nov.**

(Plates 1–5)

Holotype (mature male in paper envelope): INDIA: Goa: South Goa district: Kulem (=Collem), N15.334°, E74.273°, altitude 103m; 13/VII/2008. Leg Parag Rangnekar. Deposited at Central Entomological Laboratory, National Zoological Collection, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata-700 053, India. Reg. No: 4871/H13; Odonata Type Register Page No. 57, dated 05/10/2012.