

The Genus *Philonthus* Curtis (Coleoptera: Staphilinidae) from Andaman and Nicobar Island, with One New Record from Port Blair

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Introduction

The genus *Philonthus* Curtis belongs to the family Staphilinidae of the order Coleoptera. Two species viz; *P. kempii* Cameron and *P. notabilis* Kraatz were reported (Sar, 2012) from Wrafters creak, Baratong and Rajatghat, Baratong of South Andaman respectively. While sorting out the earlier collections in the National Zoological Collections of Zoological Survey of India, the species *P. fimetarius* Gr. collected from Webi, Port Blair, constitutes the first record of that species from the island Port Blair.

Systematic position

Order: Coleoptera

Family: Staphylinidae

Subfamily: Staphylininae

Tribe: Staphylinini

Genus: *Philonthus* Curtis

Species: *Fimetarius* Gr.

Material examined

INDIA: Webi, Port Blair, Andaman Island, 803.1975, G.K. Srivastava. Collected from dung.

Diagnostic characters

Head suborbicular. Elytra with greenish metallic reflex, thorax with dorsal row of four punctures; abdomen slightly iridescent. Antennae black. Legs brownish-yellow, the tibiae grey-brown. Length 5.5 mm.

Head suborbicular, as wide as the thorax, Eyes much shorter than the impunctate post ocular region,



Fig: *Philonthus sfimetarius* Gr.

median and lateral interocular punctures close together, at the base and the sides with a few large punctures. Antennae with the penultimate joints scarcely transverse. Thorax distinctly longer than broad, the sides almost parallel, the anterior and posterior angles rounded; dorsal row of four large punctures, externally with three smaller ones placed. Elytra longer and broader than the thorax, moderately closely and moderately finely punctured. Abdomen finely and not very closely punctured. Anterior tarsi very simple; first joint of the posterior tarsi scarcely as long as the last.

Male: Sixth ventral segment very slightly arcuate emargination.

Distribution

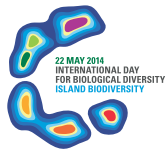
INDIA: Andaman: Webi, Port Blair, Northern India. Elsewhere: Widely distributed in Europe.

Remarks

The record of this species constitutes the first report from the Andaman Island.

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