



## On an account of family Scutelleridae (Pentatomidea: hemiptera) from Dumna Nature Park, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, India

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### Abstract

In the present paper, we report two species of family Scutelleridae from Dumna Nature Park, Jabalpur. The two species are *Chrysocoris perpureus* and *Scutellera perplexa*. Both the species are recorded first time from the Park.

**Keywords:** scutelleridae, ochraceous, rostrum, trochanter, Dumna Nature Park

### 1. Introduction

The bugs of family Scutelleridae are commonly known as Jewel bugs and belong to the superfamily Pentatomoidea (Slater, 1982; Cassis and Gross, 2002) <sup>[11, 1]</sup>. These bugs have enlarged scutellum which covers most part of abdomen and membrane tip is visible caudally in most of the cases. Most species of the subfamily Scutellerinae, and few members of the Pachycorinae and Sphaerocorinae, are characterised by attractive colourful bodies. There are about 450 species under 80 genera of Jewel bugs reported all over the world (Lattin, 1964) <sup>[3]</sup>. According to Distant (1902) <sup>[2]</sup>, 14 species are known from India. Jewel bugs are moderately diverse in comparison to other pentatomoid families (Cassis and Gross, 2002) <sup>[1]</sup>.

Dumna Nature Park (DNP) is a forest area and an ecotourism site located in the Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh. No work on insect fauna except few species of Hemiptera and Hymenoptera has been reported from the Park (Sheikh *et al.*, 2016ab; Sheikh *et al.*, 2017 abcef) <sup>[4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]</sup>. In this paper, we are reporting two species of family Scutelleridae from DNP; all are recorded first time from the Park.

### 2. Methodology

Two sampling methods viz. Sweep Net and Hand picking were used to collect the species belonging to family Scutelleridae during the 2015 year. The identification of the collected specimens was done in collaboration with Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur.

### 3. Results

Two species viz. *Chrysocoris perpureus* (Westwood, 1837) and *Scutellera perplexa* (Westwood, 1837) are reported from the Dumna Nature Park, Jabalpur. Both the species are reported first time from the Park. The systematic list and systematic account of the two species is given below.

#### 3.1 Systematic list

Order	Hemiptera
Suborder	Heteroptera
Superfamily	Pentatomoidea

Family Scutelleridae

Subfamily Scutellerinae

Genus *Chrysocoris* Hahn, 1843

1. Species *Chrysocoris perpureus* (Westwood, 1837)

Genus *Scutellera* Lambert, 1801

2. Species *Scutellera perplexa* (Westwood, 1837)

#### 3.2 Systematic account

Genus: *Chrysocoris* Hahn, 1843

#### Diagnostic characters

The scutellum completely covers the abdomen except at base.

**1. *Chrysocoris perpureus*** (Westwood, 1837)

1837. *Callidea purpureus* Westwood, in *Hope Cat.*, 1: 15.

1902. *Chrysocoris perpureus* (Westwood): Distant, *Fauna Brit. India, Rhynchota*, 1: 58.

#### Diagnostic Characters

Head moderately oblique and large; labium four segmented; antennae five segmented; small black punctures over pronotum and scutellum; seven spots on scutellum, six arranged in pairs and one on anterior disk; antenna black; pronotum convexed, more towards base, anterior margin slightly sinuated, lateral margins straight; body above purplish-green; five spots on pronotum, two on anterior and three on posterior disk; first antermal segment, labium, coxae, trochanters, femora (except apices) tibiae and abdomen ochraceous; body beneath, base of first joint of antennae, and femora ochraceous, lateral margins of the abdomen purplish, rest of antennal segments, apices of femora and tibiae metallic green or violaceous blue. Length: 16 mm (Fig. A).

Material Examined: India: Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur district, Dumna Nature Park, 11.x.2015, Coll. Altat Hussain Sheikh.

#### Distribution

India: Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu; Elsewhere: Sri Lanka (ZSI, 2011) <sup>[12]</sup>.

## Genus *Scutellera* Lambert, 1801

### Diagnostic Characters

Head long, triangular, convexly and obliquely directed downwards; rostrum extending to the apex of the second abdominal segment or beyond it; mesosternum distinctly sulcated; abdomen very strongly and broadly sulcated.

### 2. *Scutellera perplexa* (Westwood, 1837)

1775. *Cimex nobilis* Fabricius, 697.

1837. *Tectocoris perplexa* Westwood, 4.

1902. *Scutellera nobilis* Distant, 51.

### Diagnostic Characters

Head porrect, tylus round distally, projected beyond jugal lobes; labium four segmented; antennae five segmented; body metallic green or violaceous blue; pronotum with anterior margin sinuated, anterior angles acute; anterolateral margins slightly sinuated; red coloured, lateral pronotal angles big and obtuse; scutellum slightly convexed dorsally, anterior margin almost straight; abdomen elongated, convexed medially; distinctly forrowed longitudinally and mid-ventrally extended upto fifth segment. Length: 19 mm (Fig. B).

Material Examined: India: Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur district, Dumna Nature Park, 14.ix. 2015, Coll. Altaf Hussain Sheikh.

### Distribution

Andra Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra; Elsewhere: Myanmar and Sri Lanka (ZSI, 2011) <sup>[12]</sup>.

### 4. Conclusion

The paper deals with two species viz. *C. perpureus* and *S. perplexa* of family Scutelleridae, recorded from Dumna Nature Park. Both the species are reported first time from the Park. Therefore, a new distribution record of Scutelleridae came to light.

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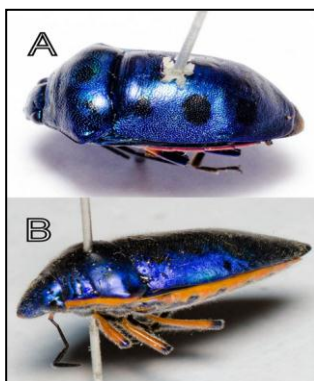


Fig: A. *Chrysocoris perpureus* and Fig. B. *Scutellera perplexa*

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