

ODONATE FAUNA OF TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, COIMBATORE, INDIA

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Abstract – An annotated list of 26 spp. is presented. *Anax guttatus*, *Gynacantha hyalina*, *Epophthalmia frontalis* and *Tholymis tillarga* were attracted by a light source.

The site

The topographic position of the locality is shown in Figure 1. The Campus is situated at an altitude of 426 m a.s.l. The area has an annual rainfall of 900 mm. The mean maximum and minimum temperatures are 17-23°C in winter and 29-35°C in summer.

List of species

Collections (of adults only) were made between July 2006 and April 2007. The work of FRASER (1933-1936) was used for identification. Voucher specimens are deposited in the collections of Insect Biosystematics Laboratory, Department of Agricultural Entomology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

Taxa	Habitat / collection place	V	C	R
Coenagrionidae				
<i>Agriocnemis pygmaea</i>	(Rambur) rice field	-	√	-
<i>Ceriagrion coromandelianum</i>	(Fabricius) rice field	√	-	-
<i>Ischnura aurora</i>	Brauer rice field	√	-	-
<i>Ischnura senegalensis</i>	(Rambur) rice field	-	√	-
Lestidae				
<i>Lestes elatus</i> Hagen	in Selys rice field	-	√	-
Calopterygidae				
<i>Vestalis apicalis</i>	Selys grassland	-	-	√
<i>Vestalis gracilis</i>	(Rambur) grassland	-	-	√
Aeshnidae				

<i>Anax ephippiger</i> (Burmeister)	rice field	-	-	√	(Drury)	rice field / grassland	√	-	-
<i>Anax guttatus</i> (Burmeister)	light source	-	-	√	<i>Pantala flavescens</i> (Fabricius)	rice field / grassland / water bodies	√	-	-
<i>Gynacantha hyalina</i> Selys	light source	-	-	√	<i>Potamarcha congener</i> (Rambur)	water bodies	-	-	√
Libellulidae					<i>Tholymis tillarga</i> (Fabricius)	rice field / light source	-	√	-
<i>Acisoma panorpoides</i> Rambur	rice field	-	√	-	<i>Tramea basilaris</i> (Palisot de Beauvois)	water bodies	-	√	-
<i>Brachythemis contaminata</i> (Fabricius)	rice field	-	√	-	<i>Tramea limbata</i> (Desjardins)	water bodies	-	√	-
<i>Bradynopyga geminata</i> (Rambur)	man-made concrete tanks	-	√	-	<i>Trithemis aurora</i> (Burmeister)	rice field	-	√	-
<i>Crocothemis servilia</i> (Drury)	rice field	-	√	-	<i>Urothemis signata</i> (Rambur)	rice field	-	-	√
<i>Diplacodes trivialis</i> (Rambur)	rice field / grasslands	√	-	-	<i>Zyxomma petiolatum</i> Rambur	light source	-	-	√
<i>Epophthalmia frontalis</i> Selys	light source	-	-	√	V: Very common C: Common R: Rare				
<i>Orthetrum chrysis</i> (Selys)	rice field	-	√	-					
<i>Orthetrum sabina</i>									

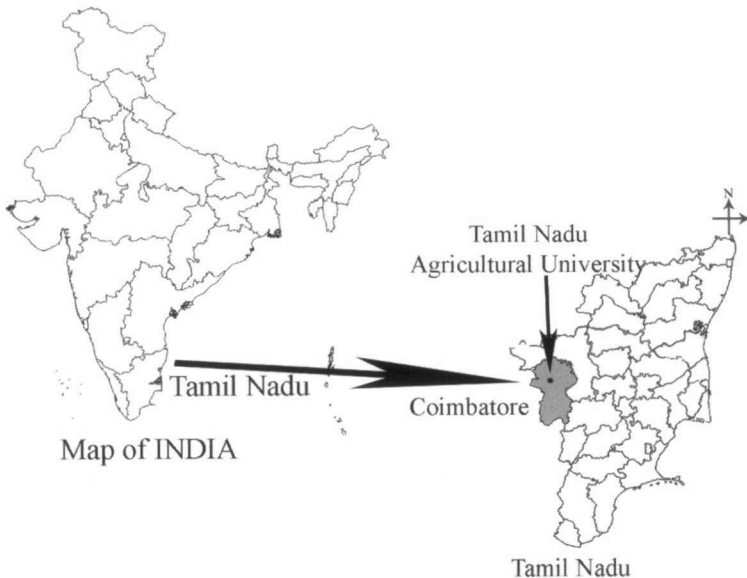


Fig. 1. Topographic position of the locality.

Discussion

The two *Vestalis* species are breeding in streams, but when aestivating they are known to spread far inland. The remaining members of the assemblage are stagnicolous, common and widespread.

Anax guttatus, *Gynacantha hyaline*, *Epopthalmia frontalis* and *Tholymis tillarga* were attracted by a light source. To our knowledge, in *E. frontalis* this behaviour has not been recorded previously.

As to the abundance of various species on the Campus, *Ischnura aurora* was the most abundant zygopteran, and *Diplacodes trivialis* was so among the Anisoptera.

Reference

FRASER, F.C., 1933, 1934, 1936. *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma: Odonata*, vols 1-3. Taylor & Francis, London.

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