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Cover: Pipistrellus tenuis recorded during the small mammalian fauna study, Manipur, India. © Uttam Saikia.

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New records of odonates from Trongsa and Zhemgang, central Bhutan with a checklist of Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park

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Abstract: New records of 43 species of dragonflies and damselflies from Trongsa and Zhemgang districts in central Bhutan are provided. Two of these, *Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni* (Selys, 1878) and *Tetrathemis platyptera* (Selys, 1878), are new to Bhutan bringing the number of species known from Bhutan to 125. A checklist of the 60 species known from Trongsa district, Zhemgang district and the Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park is provided.

Keywords: Damselfly, dragonfly, freshwater ecology, protected area.

Editor: Anonymity requested.

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Author contributions: MMG—carried fieldwork and drafted the manuscript; CD—carried fieldwork with first author and reviewed the manuscript; AMS supported the fieldwork and logistics and reviewed the manuscript; SKR—escorted the fieldwork in Nabji Korphu with first author; KCD—escorted the entire fieldwork, arranged the logistics and reviewed the manuscript; VJK—provided the critical review and supplemented with useful literatures.

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INTRODUCTION

In the last few years, an increasing number of studies were published on the dragonflies and damselflies of Bhutan with numerous species being reported new to the country. The checklist published by Gyeltshen et al. (2017) included 92 species and that of Kalkman et al. (2020) contained 114 species. A further nine species were recorded by Gurung et al (2021) bringing the total to 123 species. Rasaily et al. (2021) provided an overview of the odonates of Bhutan with a checklist, distribution maps, data on phenology, and altitudinal distribution for all species. The dragonfly and damselfly fauna of Bhutan compared to adjacent region in the eastern Himalaya, is relatively well known although it is likely that more species remain to be discovered. Most of the studies on Bhutanese odonates were carried out in non-protected areas with limited field survey periods and proximity to the main roads. Data on the occurrence of dragonflies and damselflies in the protected areas is scant in Bhutan. Here, we present distribution data collected in 2021 of 43 species of odonates from Trongsa and Zhemgang districts. Part of these records originate from the Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park (JSWNP). These records include two species new to Bhutan.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

Opportunistic sampling was carried out from 23 April 2021 to 20 May 2021 during the pre-monsoon and 18 October 2021 to 05 November 2021 during the post-monsoon season in two districts-Trongsa and Zhemgang in central Bhutan (Figure 1)—along an altitudinal gradient stretching from 400 m to 2,800 m. The survey was conducted from 0900–1500 h in suitable habitats such as brooks, wetlands, ponds, paddy fields, and rivers. Odonates were photographed using a Nikon D5600 DSLR camera attached to Nikkor 70-300 mm zoom lens during the survey. Common species were identified in the field following Gyeltshen et al. (2017). Species which could not be identified in the field were captured using an insect sweep net and brought to the College of Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan lab for examination. All specimens collected from this study were deposited in the College of Natural Resources Museum. The specimens were examined under the microscope and were identified using the taxonomic monograph of Fraser (1933, 1934, 1936) and Karube (2002). All species identifications are based upon adult specimens except for two records of Perissogomphus *stevensi* and one records of *Neurobasis chinensis* which were identified from larvae.

Abbreviations

DoFPS: Department of Forest and Park Services; FR: forest ranger; FW: forewing; HW: hindwing; JSWNP: Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park; MG1–37: Locality 1 to 37; pt: pterostigma; S1–10: abdominal segment 1 to 10.

List of localities (Figure 1)

All observations were made by the first author unless specified otherwise. Some localities were visited multiple times and in these cases a, b, c, or d indicates the date on which they were visited (see list of localities). 'X' denotes those cases where a locality was visited multiple times but the date on which a species was recorded is unknown.

(MG1) Zhemgang district, Tingtibi, Dakpay Chhu, shallow stream with thick vegetation by the side of marshy land, (27.152121°N, 90.693088°E, altitude 555 m), 25 October 2021.

(MG2) Zhemgang district, Tingtibi, streams with thick lowland vegetations, (27.142237°N, 90.692395°E, altitude 558 m), (a) 26 April 2021; (b) 25 October 2021.

(MG3) Zhemgang district, Takabi Chhu stream, tall tree canopies with thick riparian vegetation, (27.146026°N, 90.687720°E, altitude 561 m), 21 October 2021.

(MG4) Zhemgang, Tingtibi, Takabi Chhu, stream with thick vegetation and tall tree canopy habitat, (27.144651°N, 90.687412°E, altitude 483 m), (a) 12 May 2021; (b) 21 October 2021.

(MG5) Zhemgang district, Tingtibi, Maidagang Chhu streams with dense riparian vegetation, (27.127601°N 90.715601°E, altitude 534 m), (a) 25 April 2021; (b) 22 October 2021.

(MG6) Zhemgang district, way to Berti from Tingtibi, along the roadside pools with bushy vegetation, (27.150037°N, 90.684622°E, altitude 599 m), (a) 27 March 2021; (b) 25 October 2021.

(MG7) Zhemgang district, Tingtibi, common along stream side vegetation, (27.139521°N, 90.698527°E, altitude 789 m), 26 October 2021.

(MG8) Zhemgang district, way to Berti from Tingtibi, wetlands and slow flowing streams, (27.150343°N, 90.670788°E, altitude 571 m), (a) 25 April 2021; (b) 25 October 2021.

(MG9) Zhemgang, Berti, slow flowing stream near the Berti fishing community, (27.160623°N, 90.654518°E, altitude 662 m), 25 October 2021.



Figure 1. Survey localities along Mangdechhu basin, Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park, Trongsa and Zhemgang districts.

(MG10) Zhemgang district, way to Manas, standing water, wetland and slow flowing streams, (27.049563°N, 90.787988°E, altitude 1,476 m), (a) 28 April 2021; (b) 23 October 2021.

(MG11) Zhemgang district, on stream side riparian vegetation, (27.177540°N, 90.819670°E, altitude 1,539 m), (a) 26 April 2021; (b) 24 October 2021.

(MG12) Zhemgang district, Tamala, standing water and mountain brooks, (27.085926°N, 90.642640°E, altitude 2,181 m), 25 April 2021.

(MG13) Zhemgang district, Tamala passes, lake below Tamala check post, thick tree canopies, and permanent standing water, (27.081386°N, 90.643579°E, altitude 1,397 m), 25 April 2021.

(MG14) Trongsa district, Nabji Korphu, fast flowing montane streams along the thick forest canopy, (27.190785°N, 90.526465°E, altitude 1,223 m), 16 May 2021.

(MG15) Trongsa district, Nabji Korphu, thick vegetation along forest streams, (27.195754°N,

90.515107°E, altitude 1,416 m), 19 May 2021.

(MG16) Trongsa district, Nabji Korphu, wetland with thick vegetation, (27.189306°N, 90.529591°E, altitude 1,187 m), 16 May 2021.

(MG17) Trongsa district, Nabji Korphu, streams with thick riparian vegetation and tree canopies, (27.184594°N, 90.521300°E, altitude 1,218 m), 16 May 2021.

(MG18) Trongsa district, Langthel, forest along the streams, (27.360582°N, 90.590122°E, altitude 1,571 m), (a) 16 May 2021; (b) 22 October 2021.

(MG19) Trongsa district, Langthel, stream with thick vegetation and tree canopies, (27.349298°N, 90.581241°E, altitude 1,140 m), (a) 16 May 2021; (b) 22 October 2021.

(MG20) Trongsa district, Langthel, above Bayzam bridge, grasslands and bushes by the wetland, (27.320119°N, 90.583442°E, altitude 1,082 m), (a) 14 April 2020; (b) 23 October 2021.

(MG21) Trongsa district, Langthel, wetland, water

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channels, and paddy fields, (27.343525°N, 90.578323°E, altitude 1,002 m), (a) 20 April 2021; (b) 22 October 2021.

(MG22) Trongsa district, Langthel, streams along the forest, (27.348525°N, 90.582566°E, altitude 1,251 m), (a) 10 May 2021; (b) 22 October 2021.

(MG23) Trongsa district, Langthel, fast flowing streams with tree canopies, (27.334342°N, 90.596369°E, altitude 1,151 m), 10 May 2021.

(MG24) Trongsa district, Chendebji, wetland and brooks, (27.489954°N, 90.319323°E, altitude 2,712 m), (a) 14 May 2021; (b) 18 October 2021.

(MG25) Trongsa district, Nika Chhu stream with thick undisturbed riparian vegetation (27.44833°N, 90.37397°E, altitude 2,251 m), 01 December 2021.

(MG26) Samdrupjongkhar district, Jomotshangkha, stagnant pool side in Jangsa area with low land vegetation, (26.884801°N, 92.096801°E, altitude 280 m), 26 September 2020.

(MG27) Trongsa district, Kartigang Chhu, stream with thick vegetation and tall canopies away from settlements, on the way to Langthel from Tingtibi, (27.278597°N, 90.629933°E, altitude 1,355 m), 22 October 2021.

Other observations

(MG28) Zhemgang district, Buli, wetland by the forest, (27.206561°N, 90.711347°E, altitude 1,510 m), 30 November 2021, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho.

(MG29) Zhemgang district, Kikhar, stream with thick fern growth, (27.171210°N 90.698348°E, altitude 698 m) 25 September 2019, leg. Reta Bdr.

(MG30) Zhemgang district, tandem flight capture over the grassland, (27.053908°N 90.847121°E, altitude 1,459 m), 23 March 2020, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho.

(MG31) Zhemgang district, Nimshong Shingkhar, vegetation by the forest side, (27.246188°N 90.947851°E, altitude 1,252 m), (a) 14 May 2020; (b) 18 July 2020; (c) 25 August 2020, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho.

(MG32) Zhemgang district, Therang, Shingkhar, perching by the forest, (27.278504°N 90.945818°E, altitude 1,911 m), (a) 30 May 2019; (b) 01 June 2019, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho

(MG33) Zhemgang, Nimshong Shingkhar, thick vegetation near a steam, (27.191413°N 90.966913°E, altitude 1,464 m), (a) 26 July 2020; (b) 18 August 2019, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho.

(MG34) Zhemgang, Nimshong Shingkhar, perching by the forest side, (27.225310°N 90.955527°E, altitude 1,544 m), 21 July 2018, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho.

(MG35) Zhemgang district, Radhi Shingkhar, by the forest side, (27.271882°N 90.944047°E, altitude 1,881 m), 21 June 2019, leg. Sherub D. Jamtsho.

(MG36) Trongsa district, Jigme Singye Wangchuck

National Park, bamboo dominated forest (27.194522°N 90.479680°E, altitude 1,525 m), 18 November 2020, leg. Kado Rinchen.

(MG37) Trongsa district, Langthel, woodland by the standing water habitat, (27.326706°N, 90.583657°E, altitude 1,069 m), 11 July 2019, leg. Kado Rinchen.

RESULTS

Our survey resulted in 43 new species records of from Trongsa and Zhemgang, Central Bhutan. In addition, 17 other species were recorded from these dzongkhags (provinces) in previous publications bringing the total to 60 species belonging to 16 genera and 11 families (Table 1). Two of the species recorded by us, *Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni* and *Tetrathemis platyptera*, are new to Bhutan bringing the total number of species known from the country to 125.

All 37 localities from which we present records are in Trongsa and Zhemgang districts with the exception of locality 26 which is in Samdrupjongkhar district. This is however included here in order to include a second record of *T. platyptera*.

List of species recorded

Anisoptera (dragonfly)

Family Aeshnidae

1. Aeshna petalura (Martin, 1908), MG27, MG35, MG36.

2. Cephalaeschna sp. Selys, 1883, MG27.

3. Gynacantha sp. Rambur, 1842, MG27.

4. Polycanthagyna erythromelas (McLachlan, 1896), MG37.

Family Chlorogomphidae

5. Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni* (Selys, 1878), MG15.

Family Cordulegasteridae

6. Anotogaster nipalensis (Selys, 1854), MG30.

Family Gomphidae

7. Davidius sp. Selys 1878, MG30.

8. Lamelligomphus risi (Fraser, 1922), MG1, MG2b, MG3, MG5b, MG6b.

9. Perissogomphus stevensi Laidlaw, 1922, MG2a, MG5b (3 larvae), MG6b (3 larvae), MG15, MG16, MG17.

10. Scalmogomphus bistrigatus Hagen, 1854. MG31c.

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Family Libellulidae

11. Crocothemis sp. Brauer, 1868, MG1, MG2x, MG6x, MG7, MG25, MG32x.

12. Diplacodes trivialis (Rambur, 1842), MG2x, MG4x, MG10x, MG20a, MG24x.

13. Orthetrum glaucum (Brauer, 1865), MG2x, MG3, MG4x, MG11b, MG18x, MG22x.

14. Orthetrum internum MacLachlan, 1894, MG15, MG19a, MG20b, MG21x.

15. Orthetrum luzonicum (Brauer, 1868), MG2x, MG3, MG4x, MG10x.

16. Orthetrum pruinosum (Burmeister, 1839), MG1, MG2x, MG11a, MG12, MG23.

17. Orthetrum sabina (Drury, 1773), MG1, MG2x, MG11x, MG12, MG22a.

18. Orthetrum triangulare (Selys, 1878), MG1, MG3, MG4x, MG9, MG18b, MG23.

19. Palpopleura sexmaculata (Fabricius, 1787), MG1, MG2, MG6x, MG18x, MG22b.

20. Pantala flavescens (Fanricius, 1798), MG2x, MG3, MG14, MG16, MG19x.

21. Sympetrum commixtum (Selys, 1884), MG20x, MG24a, MG30.

22. Tetrathemis platyptera* (Selys, 1878), MG1, MG26.

23. Trithemis aurora (Burmeister, 1839), MG2b, MG3, MG5a, MG9, MG19b

24. Trithemis festiva (Rambur, 1842), MG2x, MG5x, MG7, MG8x, MG10a, MG21b.

25. Trithemis pallidinervis (Kirby, 1889), MG1, MG2.

Family Macromidae

26. Macromia moorei Selys, 1874, MG2x, MG3, MG5x, MG7, MG8x, MG14, MG15.

Zygoptera (damselfly)

Family Calopterygidae

27. Caliphaea confusa Hagen in Selys, 1859, MG3, MG15, MG17, MG32a.

28. Neurobasis chinensis (Linnaeus, 1758), MG1, MG4x, MG5b (2 larvae), MG15, MG17.

Family Chlorocyphidae,

29. Aristocypha cuneata (Selys, 1853), MG1, MG2b, MG4b, MG5b, M7, MG9, MG10b.

Family Coenagrionidae

30. Aciagrion olympicum Laidlaw, 1919, MG31a.

31. Agriocnemis pygmaea Rambur, 1842, MG8b.

32. Ceriagrion fallax Ris, 1914, MG4, MG10b, MG11x.

33. Ischnura rubilio (Selys, 1876), MG2b, MG3, MG6b, MG8b, MG32b.

34. Pseudagrion rubriceps (Selys, 1876), MG6a, MG8a.

Family Euphaeidae

35. Anisopleura comes Hagen, 1880, MG14, MG15, MG16, MG17, MG33a & b.

36. Anisopleura subplatystyla Fraser, 1927, MG28, MG29, MG33b.

37. Bayadera indica Selys, 1853, MG23.

Family Lestidae

38. Indolestes cyaneus (Selys, 1862), MG12, MG13, MG24b, MG25.

39. Lestes dorothea Fraser, 1924, MG34.

Family Platystictidae

40. Protosticta sp. Selys, 1885, MG31b.

Family Platycnemididae

41. Calicnemia eximia Selys, 1863, MG13, MG15, MG18a, MG21a & b.

42. Calicnemia miniata (Selys, 1886), MG35.

43. Copera vitatta (Laidlaw, 1914) MG1, MG5x.

New records for Bhutan

Chlorogomphidae: Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni Selys, 1878 (Image 1A–E)

Specimens examined. Two males were collected from Nabji Korphu, locality MG15, (27.195754°N, 90.515107°E, altitude 1,416 m), Trongsa district, 19 May 2021, leg. Mer Man Gurung.

The members of the family Chlorogomphidae resembles those of Cordulegastridae in being large black and yellow dragonflies. The easiest character in the hand to distinguish members Chlorogomphidae from those of Cordulegastridae is the presence of one (Chloropetalia, Watanabeopetalia) or more (Chlorogomphus) cross veins in the median space or both fore and hindwing (none in members of Cordulegastridae). Watanbeopetalia can be distinguished from other species of Chlorogomphidae occurring in the eastern Himalayan region by the presence of two broad yellow stripes, one on mesepimeron and one on metepimeron, on the side of the thorax and by the front of face being light brown without well-defined yellow markings. Four Watanabeopetalia species have been described: W. atkinsoni (Selys, 1878), W. ojisan (Karube, 2013), W. uenoi (Asahina, 1995) and W. usignata (Chao, 1999) (Paulson et al. 2021). From these four species only W.





Image 1. Features of *Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni* (Selys, 1878), two males: A—Habitus, lateral view | B—Abdomen, dorsal view | C—Wings | D—Anal appendages, lateral | E—Anal appendages, dorsal leg. © Mer Man Gurung.

atkinsoni is known to occur in the Indian sub-continent where it has been found in India (west Bengal & Sikkim) and Nepal (Darjeeling & Shiva Puri, north Kathmandu valley) (Karen Conniff pers. comm. 01.x.2021).

The characters and body coloration of the two male specimens of Bhutanese Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni match well with the original description (Karube 2002). As this species is poorly known we provide additional figures of the species in life and details of the abdomen, wings and appendages (Image 1). Karube (2002) mentions that abdomen S1-8 is black with yellow markings and that S9-10 is either completely black or black with narrow yellow rings (Image 1B). This is also true for the Bhutanese specimens as one of the specimens has S9-10 black without yellow rings and other has yellow markings in last two segments (Image 1D-E). Karube (2002) describes the thorax as darkbrown to black marked on front with a bright citronyellow oblique antehumeral stripe and on the side with two broad yellow stripes with in between them a small yellow upper spot. One of the specimens collected from Bhutan also has second yellow spot between the oblique antehumeral stripes (Image 1A).

Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni specimens were collected from a fast-flowing mountain stream on a sunny day. The riparian vegetation consisted of dense grasses with a tall tree canopy and the streambed consisted mostly of cobbles and sand. The water flow was obstructed frequently by rocks forming pools, cascades, and falls at several sites over which males were observed patrolling. Females were not observed. Other species found in this habitat include Anisopleura comes, Caliphaea confusa, Macromia moorei, and Perissogomphus stevensi.

Libellulidae: *Tetrathemis platyptera* Selys, 1878 (Image 2A–C)

Specimens examined. Two males and two females were collected from locality MG1, Tingtibi, Dakpay Chhu (27.152121°N, 90.693088°E, altitude 555 m), Zhemgang district, 25 October 2021, leg. Mer Man Gurung; 1 m#, locality MG26, Jangsa, Jomotshangkha (26.8848°N, 92.0968°E, altitude 280 m), Samdrupjongkhar, 26 September 2020, leg. Ghana S. Bhandari.

This species is distributed throughout wet montane



Image 2. Feature of *Tetrathemis platyptera* (Selys, 1878), two males and two females: A—Habitus, lateral view, male from Zhemgang leg. © Mer Man Gurung | B—Habitus, lateral view, male from Samdrupjongkhar. © Ghana S. Bhandari.

Table 1. Checklist of dragonflies and damselflies of central Bhutan, Trongsa (Tro), Zhemgang (Zhe) and Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park (JSWNP), References (Ref). Of these 43 species were recorded during the present study and 17 species are only known from previous publications.

| | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|--------------------|---|-----|-----|-------|-----|
| Species | | Tro | Zhe | JSWNP | Ref |
| Ord | er Anisoptera | | | | |
| Fam | ily Aeshnidae | | | | |
| 1. | Aeshna petalura (Martin, 1908) | | x | x | |
| 2. | Anax nigrofasciatus (Oguma, 1915) | | x | x | 3 |
| З. | Cephalaeschna sp. Selys, 1883 | x | | x | |
| 4. | Gynacantha sp. Rambur, 1842 | | x | x | |
| 5. | Polycanthagyna erythromelas (McLachlan, 1896) | x | | x | |
| Family Corduliidae | | | | | |
| 6. | Somatochlora daviesi Lieftinck, 1977 | x | | x | 3 |
| Fam | ily Chlorogomphidae | | | | |
| 7. | Chlorogomphus mortoni (Fraser, 1936) | | x | x | 4 |
| 8. | Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni (Selys, 1878) * | x | | x | |
| Fam | ily Cordulegasteridae | | | | |
| 9. | Anotogester nipalensis (Selys, 1854) | | | | |
| Fam | ily Gomphidae | | | | |
| 10. | Anisogomphus sp. (Selys, 1854) | x | | x | 3 |
| 11. | Davidius sp. Selys, 1878 | | x | x | |
| 12. | Davidius boronii Lieftinck, 1977 | x | | x | 1 |
| 13. | Lamelligomphus risi (Fraser, 1922) | | x | x | |
| 14. | Perissogomphus stevensi Laidlaw, 1922 | x | x | x | |
| 15. | Scalmogomphus bistrigatus Hegen, 1854 | | x | x | |
| Fam | ily Libellulidae | | | | |
| 16. | Crocothemis sp. Brauer, 1868 | x | | x | |
| 17. | Diplacodes nebulosa (Fabricius, 1793) | | x | | 4 |
| 18. | Diplacodes trivialis (Rambur, 1842) | x | x | x | |
| 19. | Lyriothemis bivittata (Rambur, 1824) | | x | x | 4 |
| 20. | Orthetrum glaucum (Brauer, 1865) | x | x | x | |
| 21. | Orthetrum internum MacLachlan, 1894 | x | x | x | |
| 22. | Orthetrum luzonicum (Brauer, 1868) | x | x | x | |
| 23. | Orthetrum pruinosum (Burmeister, 1839) | x | x | x | |
| 24. | Orthetrum sabina (Drury, 1773) | x | x | x | |
| 25. | Orthetrum triangulare (Selys, 1878) | x | x | x | |
| 26. | Palpopleura sexmaculata (Fabricius, 1787) | x | x | x | |
| 27. | Pantala flavescens (Fanricius, 1798) | x | x | x | |
| 28. | Sympetrum commixtum (Selys, 1884) | x | | x | |
| 29. | Sympetrum hypomelas (Selys, 1884) | x | x | x | 3 |
| 30. | Tetrathemis platyptera (Selys, 1878) * | | x | x | |
| 31. | Tramea virginia (Rambur, 1842) | | x | x | 5 |
| 32. | Trithemis aurora (Burmeister, 1839) | x | x | x | |
| 33. | Trithemis festiva (Rambur, 1842) | x | x | x | |
| 34. | Trithemis pallidinervis (Kirby, 1889) | | x | x | |
| Fam | ily Macromiidae | | 1 | | |
| 35. | Macromia moorei Selys, 1874 | x | x | x | |

New records of odonates from central Bhutan

| Species | | Tro | Zhe | JSWNP | Ref |
|------------------------|---|-----|-----|-------|-----|
| Orde | er Anisozygoptera | | | | |
| Fam | ily Epiophlebiidae | | | | |
| 36. | Epiophlebia laidlawi Tillyard, 1921 | x | | x | 2 |
| Orde | er Zygoptera | | | | |
| Family Calopterygidae | | | | | |
| 37. | Caliphaea confusa Hagen in Selys, 1859 | x | x | x | |
| 38. | Neurobasis chinensis (Linnaeus, 1758) | x | x | x | |
| Family Chlorocyphidae | | | | | |
| 39. | Aristocypha cuneata (Selys, 1853) | x | x | x | |
| 40. | Aristocypha quadrimaculata (Selys, 1853) | | x | | 4 |
| 41. | Libellago lineata (Burmeister, 1839) | | x | | |
| 42. | Paracypha unimaculata Selys, 1853 | | x | | 4 |
| Fam | ily Coenagrionidae | | | | |
| 43. | Aciagrion pallidum Selys, 1891 | x | | x | 3 |
| 44. | Aciagrion olympicum Laidlawi, 1919 | x | | x | 3 |
| 45. | Agriocnemis pygmaea Rambur, 1842 | | x | x | |
| 46. | Ceriagrion fallax Ris, 1914 | | x | x | |
| 47. | Ischnura rubilio (Selys, 1876) | x | x | x | |
| 48. | Pseudagrion rubriceps (Selys, 1876) | | x | x | |
| Family Euphaeidae | | | | | |
| 49. | Anisopleura comes Hagen, 1880 | x | | x | |
| 50. | Anisopleura subplatystyla (Fraser, 1927) | x | | x | 3 |
| 51. | Bayadera indica Selys, 1853 | x | | x | |
| Family Synlestidae | | | | | |
| 52. | Megalestes major (Selys, 1862) | x | | x | |
| 53. | Megalestes gyalsey (Gyeltshen, Kalkman & Orr, 2017) | x | | x | 5 |
| Fam | ily Lestidae | | | | |
| 54. | Indolestes cyaneus (Selys, 1862) | x | x | x | |
| 55. | Lestes dorothea Fraser, 1924 | | | | |
| Fam | ily Platystictidae | | | | |
| 56. | Protosticta sp. Selys, 1885 | | ļ | | |
| Family Platycnemididae | | | | | |
| 57. | Calicnemia eximia Selys, 1863 | x | x | x | |
| 58. | Calicnemia miniata (Selys, 1886) | | | | |
| 59. | Calicnemia mortoni Laidlawi, 1917 | | x | x | 6 |
| 60. | Copera vitatta (Laidlaw, 1914) | | x | | |

Gurung et al.

1-Lieftinck (1977) | 2-Dorji (2015) | 3-Kalkman & Gyeltshen (2016) | 4-Gyeltshen (2017) | 5-Gyeltshen et al. (2017) | 6-Gurung et al. (2021).

lowlands of tropical southern regions and southeastern Asia occurring as far south as Java. Males were encountered at MG1 patrolling over a small pool with thick riparian vegetation. The bottom consisted mostly of debris with the water being just 50 cm deep. Only few females were spotted ovipositing on the twigs above the pond, but males were quite abundant. *Copera vitatta* (Laidlaw, 1914), *Orthetrum triangulare* (Selys, 1878), *Orthetrum glaucum* (Brauer, 1865), *Trithemis festiva* (Rambur, 1842), and *Trithemis aroura* (Burmeister, 1839) were co-occupying the habitat.



Image 3. Lamelligomphus risi (Fraser, 1922), one male: Habitus, lateral view, male leg. © Mer Man Gurung.

DISCUSSION

With this study the number of species known from Bhutan becomes 125 but it is likely that with the present speed of discovery this number will steadily continue to increase. The Bhutanese odonate fauna is expected to contain at least 150 species. The occurrence of both species found new to Bhutan, Watanabeopetalia atkinsoni and Tetrathemis platyptera, is no surprise as they were known from adjacent areas. Where T. platyptera is mainly found in the lowland, however, W. atkinsoni is confined to mountains occurring from Nepal to the north of Thailand. W. atkinsoni has not been recorded from Burma but undoubtedly occurs there as well. Although the knowledge on the fauna of northeast of the Indian peninsula is clearly increasing there are still many genera which are poorly known and in need of further study and/or revision. These include several genera also found in central Bhutan, such as Cephalaeschna, Davidius, Gynacantha, and Anisogomphus. In many cases more material is needed and comparison with types and/or material from southeastern Asia or China is needed. An increase in number of DNA barcodes available from different regions would make it easier to test if species might be identical or are clearly different.

With 60 species the central part of Bhutan is moderately well explored and more field work is likely to show that the area holds at least 100 species. Especially the lowland areas of Royal Manas National Park (RMNP) are likely to hold many Oriental species not known from Trongsa and Zhemgang districts or even completely new to Bhutan.

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