



E-ISSN: 2320-7078

P-ISSN: 2349-6800

JEZS 2018; 6(2): 2372-2373

© 2018 JEZS

Received: 04-01-2018

Accepted: 26-02-2018

**Bontha Rajasekar**

Ph. D Scholar, Department of  
Entomology, College of  
Agriculture, PJTSAU  
Hyderabad, Telangana, India

**G Sridevi**

Professor, Department of  
Entomology, College of  
Agriculture, PJTSAU  
Hyderabad, Telangana, India

## First record of a nemopterid (Neuroptera: Nemopteridae) from Telangana state

**Bontha Rajasekar and G Sridevi**

**Abstract**

During the course of faunistic survey of Students Farm, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, Telangana State in March 2018, encountered specimen of *Croce filipennis* Westwood, a member of family Nemopteridae of order Neuroptera. It is commonly known as Threadwinged or Spoon-winged Lacewings. Adults look like large mosquitoes; with normal front wings and typical neuropteran structure; hindwings very narrow, thread-like and longer than body. The head is prolonged into a rostrum. Antennae are moderately long, not clubbed or thickened at the end. The collections of Nemopterid reveal the probability of distribution of this species in Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, Telangana State.

**Keywords:** *Croce filipennis* Westwood, thread winged or spoon-winged lacewings nemopterid, distribution, Telangana

**1. Introduction**

The family Nemopteridae includes very unusual and highly specialised insects. They are commonly known as Threadwinged or Spoon-winged Lacewings. Adults look like large mosquitoes; with normal front wings and typical neuropteran structure; hind wings very narrow, thread-like and longer than body. The head is prolonged into a rostrum. Antennae are moderately long, not clubbed or thickened at the end. Neuroptera is an important order of predaceous insects, which includes many structurally and biologically heterogenous and remarkable members. The neuropterans are rarely abundant in numbers and most are weak in flight. They feed on soft-bodied insects including pests in their larval and adult stages. *Croce filipennis* is a striking and graceful insect. It flies with a weak and curious up and down motion with the long hindwings streaming in the air much in the manner of ephemerids. It normally haunts houses and flies at dusk. The larvae are found among dust and refuse on floors, feeding on small insects like psocids. The life history is completed in a year (Imms, 1911) [3].

**2. Materials and Methods**

We used sweeping nets to collect the insect and did the random method of collection in the Students Farm, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, Telangana State in March 2018, at evening from 5:00 to 6:30 PM and morning from 6:30 to 7:30 AM by doing random method of sweeping net for the collection of specimen.

**3. Results and Discussion**

During the course of faunistic survey of Students Farm, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, Telangana State in March 2018, we encountered altogether two specimens of *Croce filipennis* Westwood (Figure 1), a member of family Nemopteridae of order Neuroptera. The collections of Nemopterid reveal the probability of distribution of *Croce filipennis* Westwood in Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, Telangana State. Incidentally, a perusal of the literature revealed no record of nemopterids from Telangana State. This is, thus the first record of nemopterids in the Telangana State in general and *Croce filipennis* Westwood in particular. The collected specimens measured 6 to 8mm in length. The thread-like hind wings are three to five times as long as the body. Globally, the family Nemopteridae is represented by 12 genera and about 50 species (Essig, 1982) [1]; only four genera and six species are reported from India (Ghosh, 1998, Sharma *et al.*, 2001) [2, 4].

**Correspondence****Bontha Rajasekar**

Ph. D Scholar, Department of  
Entomology, College of  
Agriculture, PJTSAU  
Hyderabad, Telangana, India

#### 4. Conclusion

Survey in the Students Farm, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Hyderabad, Telangana State in March 2018 recorded that the occurrence and distribution of nemopterid *Croce filipennis* Westwood. This is the first record of nemopterids in the Telangana State in general.

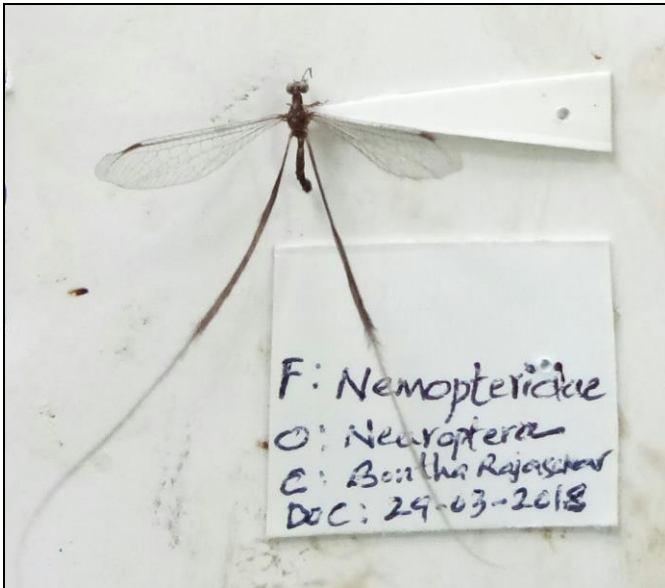


Fig 1: *Croce filipennis* Westwood

#### References

1. Essig EO. College Entomology (Indian Print). Satish Book Enterprise, Agra, 1982.
2. Ghosh SK. Neuroptera. In: Alfred, JRB, *et al.* Faunal Diversity of India, ENVIS Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, 1998, 252-257.
3. Imms AD. On the life history of *Croce filipennis* Westwood. Transcripts of the Linnaean Society of London. 1911; 2(1):151-160.
4. Sharma RM, Talmale SS, Kulkarni PP, First record of a nemopterid (Neuroptera: Nemopteridae) from Maharashtra. Zoos' Print Journal, 2001; 16(5):493.