

***Cardiastethus exiguus* Poppius 1913 & *Cardiastethus affinis* Poppius, 1909**

Cardiastethus exiguus Poppius (= *C. pygmaeus pauliani*) was initially reported from nests of *Ploceus philippinus* in south India. *C. exiguus* and *Cardiastethus affinis* were reported as potential predators of eggs and neonates of coconut black headed caterpillar *Opisina arenosella* Walker in Kerala and Karnataka. *C. exiguus* was also recorded as a potential mortality factor of cassava mealybug *Phenacoccus manihoti* Matile-Ferrero in People's Republic of Congo. *C. exiguus* has been successfully evaluated against coconut black headed caterpillar. Both *C. exiguus* and *C. affinis* are amenable to rearing.

National Accession No.

C. exiguus: NBAIR-MP-Ant-01

C. affinis: NBAIR-MP-Ant-13

Cardiastethus exiguus *Cardiastethus affinis*



1. Eggs, 2. Nymph, 3. Adult

***Blaptostethus pallelescens* Poppius, 1909**

Blaptostethus pallelescens Poppius was originally described as *Blaptostethus piceus* Fieber var. *pallelescens* Poppius from Celebes. It has been assessed as a potential predator of pests in the maize ecosystem and grain warehouses in Egypt. *B. pallelescens* was recorded from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka. Predation by *B. pallelescens* was recorded as a potential mortality factor of cassava mealybug *Phenacoccus manihoti* Matile-Ferrero in Africa. *B. pallelescens* was evaluated against spider mites and moth pests in storage in different parts of the country under the AICRP on Biocontrol and found to be highly potential. This anthocorid is amenable to rearing.

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***Xylocoris (Arrostelus) flavipes* (Reuter, 1875)**

The predaceous warehouse pirate bug *Xylocoris flavipes* (Reuter) is a promising agent for suppression of lepidopteran pests infesting stored products. Reports from other countries indicate that *X. flavipes* can be released for suppression of moth populations and red flour beetles in small storages of peanuts and saw-toothed grain beetle populations infesting stored corn. A protocol has been developed for continuous rearing of *X. flavipes*. Evaluation trials taken up in different parts of India have indicated that it is a potential bio-control agent for targeting both *Corcyra cephalonica* (rice moth) and *Sitotroga cerealella* (Angoumois grain moth).

National Accession No. NBAIR-MP-Ant-05



Eggs



Nymph

Adult

***Orius (Dimorphella) tantillus* Motschulsky, 1863**

Amongst anthocorid bugs, *Orius* spp. have received considerable attention because they have a great preference for thrips. Anthocorid predators of the genus *Orius* are available commercially and released against various pests in European countries. *O. tantillus* has been identified as a potential predator of different species of thrips and other major pests like *Helicoverpa* spp. and leafhoppers in many Asian countries. In India, there are several reports indicating that natural populations of *O. tantillus* are capable of maintaining thrips populations at low levels on certain vegetable, fruit and ornamental crops. It would be useful to multiply and release *O. tantillus* against thrips infesting polyhouse crops. *O. tantillus* can be successfully reared in the laboratory.

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***Montandoniola indica* Yamada et al., 2011**

Montandoniola indica (earlier reported as *Montandoniola moraguesi*) was first described on the basis of specimens collected in Kerala State, where it was an efficient predator of gall forming thrips *Liothrips karnyi* infesting black pepper leaves. In Karnataka, *M. indica* was recorded from *Ficus retusa* infested by Ficus thrips *Gynaikothrips uzeli*. *M. indica* can be successfully reared.

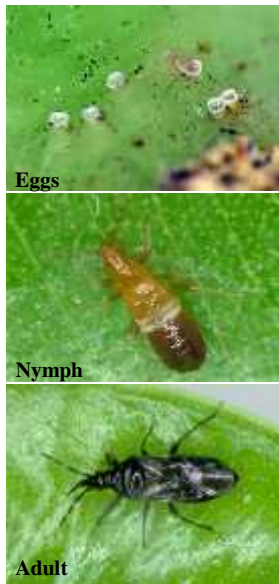
National Accession No. NBAIR-MP-Ant-07

***Anthocoris muraleedharani* Yamada et al., 2010**

Anthocoris muraleedharani was first described from Karnataka State, where it was observed to predate on striped mealybug, *Ferrisia virgata* (Cockerell, 1893) (Coccomorpha: Pseudococcidae) attacking purple orchid tree, *Bauhinia purpurea* Linnaeus. *A. muraleedharani* can also predate on the cotton mealybug *Phenacoccus solenopsis* Tinsley, 1896. This anthocorid is amenable to rearing.

National Accession No. NBAIR-MP-Ant-09

M. indica



A. muraleedharani



**Potential Indian
Anthocorid Predators
at the ICAR-NBAIR Live Insect Repository**



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