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**Autor:** Sen Gupta, T.  
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## Ergebnisse der Bhutan-Expedition 1972 des Naturhistorischen Museums in Basel

### Coleoptera: Fam. Elacatidae (= Othniidae)

by T. Sen Gupta

**Abstract:** A new species of Elacatidae is described from Bhutan.

Recently, a new species, *Elacatis benglensis*, of the family Elacatidae, was described from Rongpo, Darjeeling District, West Bengal. (SEN GUPTA, 1977). This was the first representative of this family to be found in India. Another new species *Elacatis bhutanensis*, from Bhutan is described. Their aedeagi are quite different (Figs 2, 3) and unlike *E. bengalensis*, the prothorax of *E. bhutanensis* is broadest at its middle and the pubescence is short and uniformly arranged. The genus *Elacatis* Pascoe can be easily recognised by its shape being typically tiger-beetle-like (Fig. 1), front coxae projecting, closely situated and cavities externally closed behind, middle coxal cavities closed outwardly by sterna, prothorax somewhat quadrate, tarsal formula 5-5-4 in both sexes and elytra entire but with abdomen exposed.

#### *Elacatis bhutanensis* n. sp.

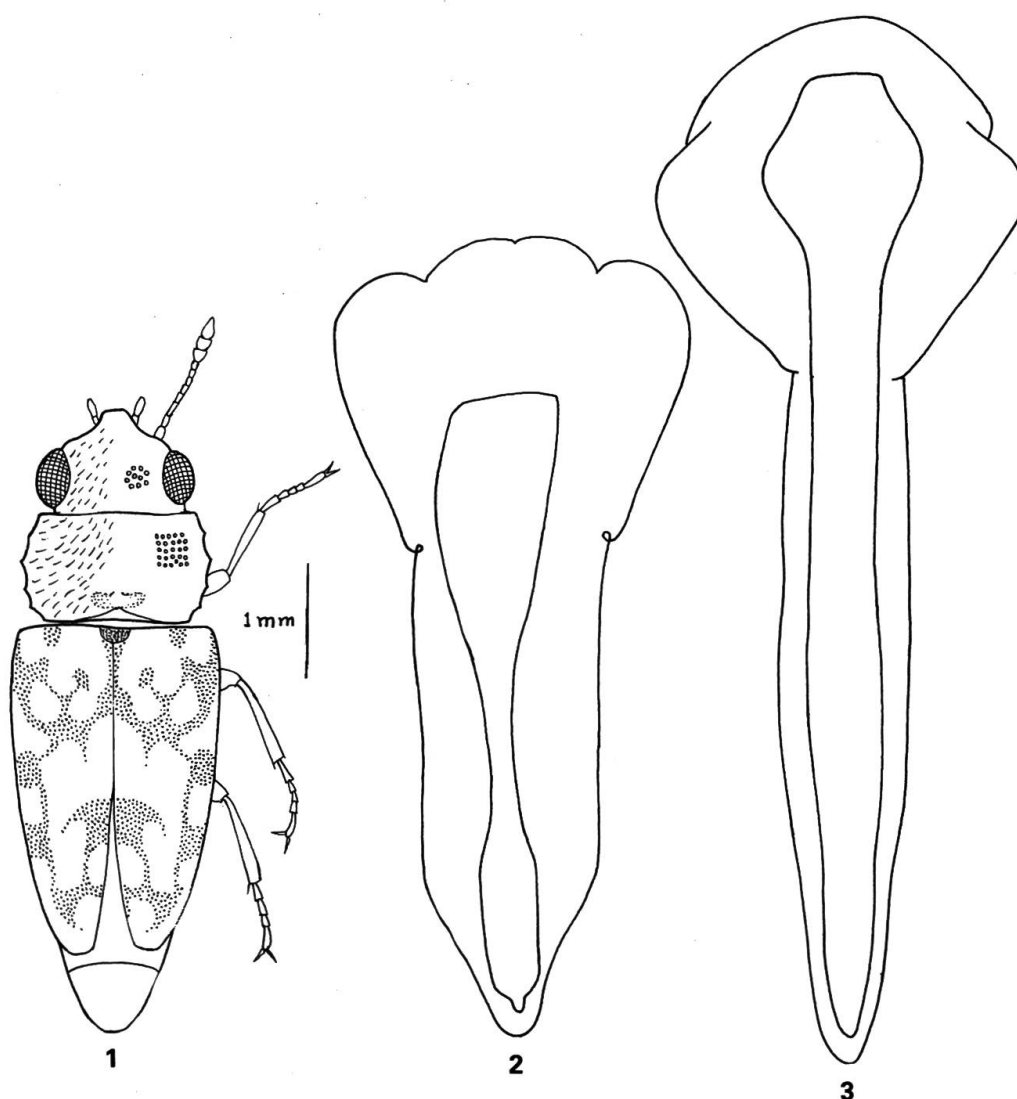
General appearance (Fig. 1) elongate, narrowed posteriorly, dorsal surface distinctly punctured and more or less uniformly pubescent. Males are slightly shorter than female.

Head transversely triangular, dorsal surface dark blackish brown, shining, moderately coarsely and uniformly punctured, pubescence rather short, whitish, recumbent, uniformly arranged and directed forwards and somewhat towards middle line. Eyes markedly large, black and finely faceted. Antennal insertions completely hidden under projection of frons. Antenna short and slender, blackish with scape and pedicel yellowish, scape moderately large, elongate and narrowed at apex, pedicel short, segment 3 narrow, strongly elongate and as long as segments 4 and 5 together, segments 4 and 5 equal and elongate, segments 6-8 shorter than segment 5 and somewhat globular, club narrow and elongate, segments 9 and 10 equal and slightly elongate, segment 11 pointed at apex. Mandible reddish brown and maxillary palpi blackish brown. Prothorax slightly transverse, broadest at middle, lateral teeth four and not very distinct, front and hind angles not prominent. Pronotum blackish brown, uniformly punctured with pubescence directed towards middle line, median basal margin slightly grooved (Fig. 1), paler. Scutellum slightly transverse, semicircular and dark. Elytra broadest in front and narrowed posteriorly, straw coloured with blackish

patches (Fig. 1), pubescence rather short, uniform and directed backwards and slightly outwards, puncturation not very distinct and uniform. Legs yellowish brown with (in some examples) darker faint patches in median part of femora and tibiae. Aedeagus as figured (Fig. 2).

Measurement of holotype: Total length without exposed part of abdomen: 3.90 mm, width of head across eyes: 1.25 mm, length of antenna: 0.80 mm, width of prothorax across middle: 1.20 mm, length of elytra: 3.37 mm, and width across front margin: 1.20 mm.

Holotype ♂ and 4 paratypes, Bhutan, Samchi, 300 m, 7.-11.V.1972, W. Wittmer. Holotype and 2 paratypes deposited in



Figs 1-3: 1, *Elacatis bhutanensis* n. sp. 2, Aedeagus of *Elacatis bhutanensis*. 3, Aedeagus of *Elacatis bengalensis* Sen Gupta.

Natural History Museum, Basle and 2 paratypes in Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

Remark: This species can be easily separated from *Elacatis bengalensis* Sen Gupta (Rangpo: Darjeeling District, West Bengal) by the uniform short pubescence, the shape of the prothorax the different elytral colouration and the different aedeagus (Figs 2, 3). Unfortunately, the aedeagus was slightly damaged during preparation of the drawing.

### Acknowledgement

The work was carried out at the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta and the author is grateful to the Director for laboratory facilities and Dr. W. Wittmer of the Natural History Museum, Basle, for the material.

### Literature

SEN GUPTA, T. 1977. *Discovery of the family Elacatidae (= Othniidae), Coleoptera from India with description of a new species of Elacatis*. Or. Ins. 11: 537–539.

Author's address:  
Dr Tapan Sen Gupta  
Zoological Survey of India  
34, Chittaranjan Avenue  
Calcutta-700012, India