

Mortonagrion santha

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Mortonagrion santha Latest News

Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India and the University of Madras recently discovered a new species of damselfly, named Mortonagrion santha, among the tropical vegetation of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

About Mortonagrion santha

- It is a new species of **damselfly**.
- It was **discovered** around a small farm pond surrounded by a coconut plantation in Dasarathpur, Rangat tehsil, in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.
- It belongs to a genus of **insects known for their incredible secrecy**, often **blending perfectly into the shaded coastal vegetation**.
- The Mortonagrion santha's physical **distinct features separate it** from its **closest known relative, Mortonagrion arthuri**, a species **found further east in Southeast Asia**.
 - The new damselfly has **unique pale-blue, crescent-shaped postocular spots** located just **behind its eyes**.

- It also has a **distinctive bright-blue splash of colour on its ninth abdominal segment.**
- Under a microscope, *M. santha* also shows a uniquely shaped, three-lobed collar area (the prothorax) and different proportions in its tail-like mating appendages, where the upper parts are only about half the length of the lower parts.

News: RM

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