

New Species of Fruit Flies

March 8, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Fruit Flies Latest News

Entomologists recently identified two new species of fruit flies named *Acidoxantha paratotoflava* and *Hemilea suneriae* during a research expedition in the Himalayan foothills.

About *Acidoxantha paratotoflava* and *Hemilea suneriae*

- They are two new species of **fruit flies**.
- They were identified from the **Solan region of Himachal Pradesh**.
- ***Acidoxantha paratotoflava*:**
 - It is a **medium-sized, greenish-yellow fly**.
 - It is distinguished from its closest relatives by having **four distinct black stripes on its thorax** and **larger black spots on its abdomen**.
 - It has unique **“hook-like” structures in the male’s anatomy**.
 - Its name, *paratotoflava*, was chosen because of its striking resemblance to another known fly, *A. totoflava*, which the researchers now believe may have been misidentified in India in the past.

- **Hemilea suneriae:**

- It is a **reddish-brown fly** covered in **prominent black dots**.
- It has a **unique wing pattern**, which features a **single clear “window”** (hyaline indentation) **in an otherwise dark area**, whereas its closest relatives usually have two.

Other Findings about Fruit Flies

- The study marked a major milestone by **recording** the **genus Rhagoletis in India for the first time**.
 - This **group of flies** is known worldwide for **affecting fruit crops**, yet it had remained undetected in India until this investigation.
- Additionally, the researchers finally solved a century-old mystery by capturing and describing the male of *Euphranta nigripeda*, a species where only the female had been known to science since 1913.

Source: RM

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/new-species-of-fruit-flies/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.