

Neoloboptera Peninsularis - New Cockroach Species

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Why in News?

Scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) have identified a new cockroach species, *Neoloboptera peninsularis*, in Pune, Maharashtra.

- **Discovery Context** - Discovered in the Deccan Peninsular in Nathachiwadi village, Pune district, Maharashtra
- It is found among palm shrubs and dry leaf litter near farmland.
- The species is endemic to India.
- **Scientific Name**- *Neoloboptera peninsularis*.
- **Genus** - *Neoloboptera*.
- **Global Context**- 6 species reported.
 - **In India** - Only 3 species recorded — 1865, 1995, and now *N. peninsularis* (2025 discovery, reported in 2026).
- Highlights overlooked diversity in the Deccan Peninsula.
- **Features - Body** - Glossy, yellowish-brown with fully developed wings.
- **Unique Traits** - Asymmetrical cerci (paired appendages at rear) and whip-like male genital component. Asymmetrical sub-genital plate with lateral margin inflexed on right side (ventral view). Denser setae at apex.
- Superficially like *N. chakrabortyi*, but distinguished by reproductive structures.
- **Significance - Scientific** - First cockroach species in India identified using DNA sequencing.
- **Taxonomic** - Expands genus *Neoloboptera* diversity in India.
- **Conservation** - Suggests multiple potential new species in the region.



Reference

[NDTV | Cockroach](#)



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