Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies) are one of the finest known and gorgeous aquatic insects distributed all over the world except Antarctica (Trueman 2007) and predominantly inhabit the tropical and subtropical regions (Dumont 1991). Odonates are amphibiotic insects where the adult stages are terrestrial and the immature stages are aquatic, highly depended on all kind of freshwater ecosystems like rivers, streams, marshes, lakes and even small pools and rice fields (Corbet 1999). These insects are considered as good indicators for monitoring the health of freshwater ecosystems because they are species-specific to a certain type of habitat (Tiple et al. 2013). The genus *Ischnura* (Charpentier 1840) is a widely distributed genus (Westfall and May 1996). About 70 species of this genus have been described so far (Dijkstra and Kalkman 2012), including 11 species in the Indian subcontinent in which 3 species (*e.g.*, *I. rubilio, I. rufostigma* and *I. senegalensis*) distributed in Bangladesh (Kalkman et al. 2020, Shah and Khan 2020).

During a regular Odonata survey at Harirampur Upazila of Manikganj district in 05 July 2020 at 07:30 h (GMT+6), a male *Ischnura nursei* (Fig.1) was observed and photographed as basing on a flower cluster of *Leptochloa chinensis* (L.) in a flooded crop field (23°45’50.976”N, 89°56’20.328”E). Photographs were taken with a mobile phone from different angle for further identification. On the basis of taxonomic identification, the existence of this species is confirmed in Bangladesh. The habitat is mostly used for cultivation of seasonal crops (*e.g.*, rice, jute, wheat, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, spices, and potato). *I. nursei* is distributed (Fig.2) in India and Pakistan (Nair 2011, Zia et al. 2011); Iran (Domunt et al. 2011); United Arab Emirates (Fulner and Judas 2013); Oman (Kunz 2015) and Nepal (Aryal 2019).

The species *I. nursei* (Fig. 1) was identified through prominent tricoloured abdomen (S1-S5 red, S6-S7 yellow and S8-S10 black) from the dorsum and lateral sides (Morton 1907, Fisher 1920, Fresher 1933, Laidlaw 1916 and 1919, Nair 2011 and Subramanian 2009); the pterostigma on the forewing was larger than on the hind wing and reddish in color. The anal appendages
(superior and inferior) indicated the specimen as male. Morton (1907) described this species as *I. nursei*, due to confusion of generic placement. After Laidlaw (1919), introduced this species to the genus *Rhodischnura* Laidlaw, 1919.

Until published a survey report of insects and mites by Alam (1967) from Bangladesh (then East Pakistan) this species was known only from India (Kalkman *et al.* 2020) and Pakistan (Kanth 1985). After that this species was recorded from Iran (Dumunt *et al.* 2011), further Dumont (2013) reintroduced this species under *Ischnura* genus. Subsequently, that species was recorded as *I. nursei* from United Arab Emirates (Feulner and Judas 2013); Oman (Kunz 2015) and Nepal (Aryal 2019). This species was also recorded as *R. nursei* from two locations of southwest Bangladesh (Bashar *et al.* 2014). However, this was excluded from recent Bangladeshi checklist because of the lack of taxonomic clarity and also probably because of the misidentification of the genus (Kalkman *et al.* 2020, Shah and Khan 2020).

**Fig. 1.** Distribution of *Ischnura nursei* throughout the world and Bangladesh

**Fig. 2.** *Ischnura nursei* (Morton, 1907) A. Dorsal view of male; B. Flower cluster of *Leptochloa chinensis* (L.) Nees.
We reported the authentic confirmation of *I. nursei* in Bangladesh with proper taxonomic identification and photographic documentation. The nearest sighted locations of that species are in India about 342 km northeast, 597 km southwest and in Nepal 798 km northwest from the present sighted location. Considering the distance, it is most likely that this species is resident species in Bangladesh and possibly could be found another region of Bangladesh. To enrich knowledge on Odonates of Bangladesh a baseline comprehensive survey is needed throughout the country.

**Acknowledgements:** The authors are thankful to Sujan Kumar Datta (Department of Zoology, University of Dhaka, 1000) and Kawsar Khan (Department of Biological Sciences Macquarie University, NSW-2109, Australia) for reviewing the manuscript.

**LITERATURE CITED**


Confirmatory report of *ischnura nursei*


*(Manuscript received on 10 March; 2023 revised on 28 April; 2023)*