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**DNA barcoding and description of new species of *Paradorydium* Kirkaldy
(Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae: Eupelicini) from India**

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Abstract:

A new species of leafhopper *Paradorydium kirkaldyi* sp. nov. (from Himachal Pradesh: Kinnaur: Powri) from India, is described. Detailed photographic illustration, annotated checklist and modified key to the species of India is also provided. This species closely resembles *P. khasianum* Viraktamath but differs in male genitalia characters and molecular analysis using *COI* gene confirmed the difference and also the taxonomic position of species in the tribe is established with Histone *H3* gene.

Key words: Leafhoppers, *Paradorydium*, morphology, molecular, taxonomy.

Introduction

The tribe Eupelicini is considerably small with two subtribes Eupelicina and Paradorydiina. This group exclusively feeds on grasses having wide distribution around Palearctic, Afrotropical, Oriental and Australian regions with 7 genera and 64 valid species (Zahniser & Dietrich 2013). The tribe is easily diagnosed by the strongly produced or spatulate

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