



New Katydid Species in J&K

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Background & Context

Researchers from Aligarh Muslim University identified three new species of "musical" meadow katydids in **Jammu and Kashmir**: *Conocephalus usmanii*, *C. nagariensis*, and *C. ganderbali*.

Significance

- **Scientific Method:** Scientists used **Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)** to count the microscopic "teeth" on the insect's wings, which they rub together to produce sound (stridulation).
- **Biodiversity Indicator:** The discovery of three distinct species in Ganderbal and Budgam suggests that the **Pir Panjal Range** and Western Himalayas have a much higher level of endemism (species found nowhere else) than previously thought.