9TH INDIAN ENTOMOLOGIST PHOTO CONTEST

The Indian Entomologist Photo Contest aims to promote insect photography among photographers, professionals, amateur entomologists, and laymen. The theme for the ninth edition of the photo contest was "Insects and aspects related to insect life." The contest was open from the 9th of November until December 8th, 2023. Each participant was asked to submit one good photograph that meet a few specified formats, as well as a filled-in application form in which he or she must include his or her details, caption, description, photograph specifications, and a declaration of the ingenuity of the photograph. We received an overhelming response from 144 participants, who submitted a total of 189 images. The photos were initially screened by BigStudio associate editors for the prescribed standards and overall image quality and further sent to three independent and anonymous external reviewers to judge the best three photos. Based on the reviewer results, the final evaluation was done by a committee of independent members under the oversight of the three editorial board members. During the complete review process, the entries were assessed based on the following criteria: quality (clarity, lighting, depth of field, composition), relevance of the subject matter (theme, rarenessof subjects), creativity and originality. Toensure ablind review, the details of the photographer were hidden, and the evaluators were only presented with the photograph, caption, description and technical specifications.

The following are the winner for 9th Indian Entomologist photo contest

- The first place was won by Hemant Kumar (B105, The Ledge, Jakkur Yelahanka Road, Nehru Nagar, Yelahanka 560064), who captured incredible photo of nymphs of Jumping plant lice excreting honey dew.
- The second place was won by Ajeesh Ajayakhosh (Ajayabhavanam, Neeravil Perinad PO Kollam, Kerala 691601) for his incredible photo indicating Tri trophic food chain hanging from spider thread wherein a Lynx spider predating on damselfly while damselfly predating on mosquito.
- The third place was won by Muralidhar Talla (MIG-152/1/G1, Sri Vigneshwara Enclave, Kukatpally, Telangana) for capturing A tiny explorer ant attempts to engulf a drop of water stuck to the coiled tendril of a plant.

Congratulations to the winners, and we acknowledge all the participants who took an interest in 9th Indian Entomologist photo contest and sent their entries!!



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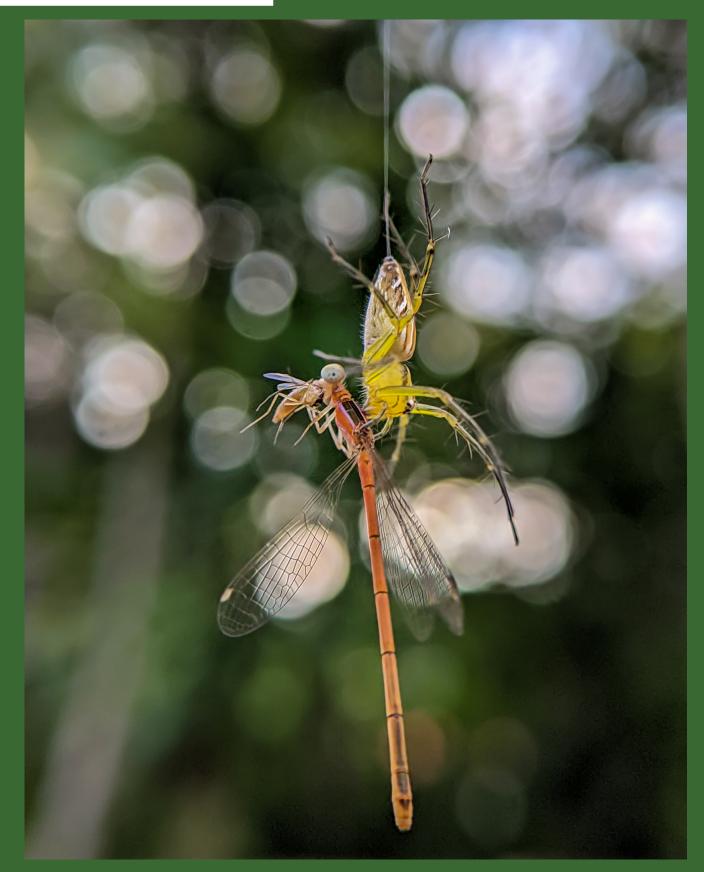
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First place: Nymphs of jumping plant lice

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Second place: A tri trophic food chain hanging from spider thread. Lynx spider predating on damselfly while damselfly predating on mosquito

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Third place: A tiny explorer ant attempts to engulf a drop of water stuck to the coiled tendril of a plant