

ISSN 0972- 1800



VOLUME 22, NO. 4

QUARTERLY

OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 2020



Date of Publication: 19th February, 2021

BIONOTES

**A Quarterly Newsletter for Research Notes and News
On Any Aspect Related with Life Forms**

BIONOTES articles are abstracted/indexed/available in the Indian Science Abstracts, INSDOC; Zoological Record; **Thomson Reuters (U.S.A); CAB International (U.K.); The Natural History Museum Library & Archives, London: Library Naturkundemuseum, Erfurt (Germany)** etc. and online databases.

Founder Editor

Dr. R. K. Varshney, Aligarh, India

Board of Editors

Peter Smetacek, Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal, India

petersmetacek@gmail.com

V.V. Ramamurthy, New Delhi, India

vvrento@gmail.com

Zdenek F. Fric, Biology Centre, Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of Entomology, Branisovska 31, CZ-37005 Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic.

fric@entu.cas.cz.

Stefan Naumann, Berlin, Germany

sn@saturniidae.com

R.C. Kendrick, Hong Kong SAR

hkmoths@gmail.com

Publication Policy

Information, statements or findings published are the views of its author/ source only.

Manuscripts

Please E-mail to petersmetacek@gmail.com.

Guidelines for Authors

BIONOTES publishes short notes on any aspect of biology. Usually submissions are reviewed by one or two reviewers.

Kindly submit a manuscript after studying the format used in this journal (<http://www.entosocindia.org/>). Editor

reserves the right to reject articles that do not adhere to our format. Please provide a contact telephone number. Authors will be provided with a pdf file of their publication.

Address for Correspondence

Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal, Uttarakhand 263 136, India. Phone: +91 8938896403.

Email: butterflyresearchcentre@gmail.com

From Volume 21

Published by the Entomological Society of India (ESI), New Delhi (Nodal Officer: V.V. Ramamurthy, ESI, New Delhi)

And

Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal

Executive Editor: Peter Smetacek

Assistant Editor: Shristee Panthee

Butterfly Research Trust, Bhimtal

Published by Dr. R.K. Varshney, A Biologists Confrerie, Raj Bhawan, Manik Chowk, Aligarh (up to volume 20 (2018)) R.N.I. Registration No. 71669/99.

Cover Photo by Rajib Dey of *Cupitha pureea*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REDISCOVERY OF SMALL SILVERFORK, <i>LETHE JALAUROIDA</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE) FROM GARHWAL, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA by Harish Bhatt, Shankar Kumar & Paramjit Singh	198
<i>AEGLE MARMELOS</i> (RUTACEAE): A NEW LARVAL HOST PLANT FOR THE BLUE MORMON BUTTERFLY <i>PAPILIO POLYMNESTOR</i> by Raju Kasambe & Dilip Giri	201
CONFIRMATORY RECORD OF WAX DART <i>CUPITHA PURREEA</i> MOORE, 1881 (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE) FROM JHARKHAND, INDIA by Rajib Dey, Soumyajit Mondal, Supratim Deb, Subhajit Roy & Sourabh Biswas	205
NEW RECORD OF TAWNY RAJAH <i>CHARAXES BERNARDUS</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE) FROM KUMAON, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA by Shankar Kumar, Paramjit Singh, Sagar Balmiki & Kasim Bilal	207
<i>BURMEIA LEESI</i> MINET, 2013 (LEPIDOPTERA: EPICOPEIIDAE): A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES FOR INDIA by Peter Smetacek	209
REPORT ON ADULT BEETLE <i>CELOSTERNA SCABRATOR</i> (FABRICIUS, 1781) (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE: LAMIINAE) FEEDING ON VEGETABLE PIGEONPEA by Harshita A. P., Gopali, J. B., Ramanagouda S. H. Mudassar & Sangamesh, R. H.	211
FIRST RECORD OF <i>PRIONOMMA BIGIBBOSUM</i> (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE) FROM NEPAL by Sajjan K.C., Rajkumar K.C. & Bhanubhakta Adhikari	214
REDISCOVERY OF TIGER HOPPER <i>OCHUS SUBVITTATUS</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE) FROM UTTARAKHAND, INDIA by Shankar Kumar, Paramjit Singh & Sundar Kumar	216
NEW HESPERIIDAE (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA) LARVAL HOST PLANT ASSOCIATIONS FROM WEST BENGAL, INDIA by Rajib Dey	218
SOME NEW DISTRIBUTION RECORDS OF LYCAENID BUTTERFLIES IN NEPAL by Sajjan K.C. & Anisha Sapkota	226
<i>ERANTHEMUM ROSEUM</i> (ACANTHACEAE) AS NEW LARVAL HOST PLANT FOR THE BENGAL SPOTTED FLAT <i>CELAENORRHINUS PUTRA</i> (MOORE, [1866]) by Raju Kasambe & Dilip Giri	230
FIRST RECORDS FOR NEPAL OF TWO HESPERIIDAE: <i>GEROSIS SINICA</i> AND <i>CEPHRENES ACALLE</i> by Piet van der Poel	233
CONFIRMATION OF <i>RAGADIA CRISILDA</i> (HEWITSON 1862) (LEPIDOPTERA: SATYRINAE) AND <i>MATAPA CRESTA</i> (EVANS 1949) (LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE) IN WEST BENGAL, INDIA	

by Sourabh Biswas, Sandip Das, Rahul Biswas, Amartya Bagchi, Ram Chandra Sha & Lakhu Mahato	236
<i>PSILOGRAMMA VATES</i> (LEPIDOPTERA: SPHINGIDAE) IN GUJARAT by Peter Smetacek, Rajashree Bhuyan & Pratiksha Patel	238
AN ADDITION TO THE KNOWN AGANAINAE FAUNA (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: EREBIDAE) OF INDIA by B. Lalnghahpuii & Peter Smetacek	240
A NEW RECORD OF <i>FLOS CHINENSIS</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) FROM WESTERN HIMALAYA, INDIA by Shankar Kumar, Param Jit Singh, Sundar Kumar & Niharika Bisht	242
LIFE CYCLE OF <i>OLIGONYCHUS ORYZAE</i> (HIRST, 1926), AN IMPORTANT PEST OF PADDY ON 3 DIFFERENT <i>KHARIF</i> CULTIVARS AND <i>BORO</i> CULTIVAR UNDER LABORATORY CONDITIONS by Sugandha Mukhopadhyay & Salil Kumar Gupta	244
A NEW ALTITUDINAL RECORD FOR <i>PORITIA HEWITSONI</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) FROM UTTARAKHAND, INDIA by Akash Gulalia	249
EXTENSION OF THE KNOWN DISTRIBUTION OF THE CLUB SILVERLINE BUTTERFLY, <i>SPINDASIS SYAMA</i> (HORSEFIELD, 1829) (LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) TO SATPURA TIGER RESERVE, MADHYA PRADESH by Anupam Sisodia & Himanshu Yadav	251
EDITORIAL: REGARDING A CASE OF PLAGIARISM by Peter Smetacek	253

FIRST RECORDS FOR NEPAL OF TWO SKIPPER BUTTERFLIES: *GEROSIS SINICA* AND *CEPHRENES ACALLE*

PIET VAN DER POEL

Noordwijkerhout, The Netherland

pipoel@yahoo.com

Reviewer: Peter Smetacek

Abstract

This article presents two species which have, apparently erroneously, been reported from Nepal before in Smith (2010) and in Thapa (1998), and are reported here with photographic evidence.

Introduction

Gerosis sinica (C. & R. Felder, 1862) *narada* (Moore, 1884) White Yellow-breast Flat

Gerosis sinica was described by C. & R. Felder as *Pterygospidea sinica* from Sylhet in N.E. Bangladesh. Evans (1932 & 1949) listed it as *Daimio sinica narada* from Sikkim. *Gerosis bhagava* and *G. phisara* were listed for Nepal by Colin Smith (1994, 2010). *G. sinica* was listed for Nepal with “no data available” by Thapa (1998), not indicating a source. Smith (2010) did not list it and referred to it under “Redundant Names” specifying “Mistake – phisara (female)”. It is not clear on which information this conclusion was based. In his unpublished Butterfly Updates of 2017, Colin Smith reported a picture taken by Vandana Subedi in May 2017 in Pokhara (Figure 1), which first appeared to him to be *G. sinica*. He noted that after much searching he concluded that it was a female *G. bhagava*. Evans (1949) indicated that *G. bhagava* differs from *G. sinica* by the upper forewing cell spot being larger than the spot in space 3. Thus, this identification of Fig.1 is questionable. Peter Smetacek (personal communication) judged it to be a female of *G. phisara*, much like the picture of its female in Kehimkhar (2016).

According to Evans (1949), *G. sinica* differs from *G. phisara* by having a white band in the center of the upper side of the abdomen with the abdomen ends being brown, and having the upper hindwing area unsullied, while *G.*

phisara only has thin white stripes on the abdomen. The individual in Fig.1 appears to be somewhat in between and it could be argued that it may be a somewhat worn *G. sinica*. It is assumed more likely that it is *G. phisara*.

In November and December 2016, I photographed two *Gerosis* butterflies near Pokhara (Fig. 2 & 3). Initially, I listed them as *G. bhagava*, since *G. sinica* was not listed for Nepal and the differences specified in Evans (1932) appeared to indicate that it could well be *G. bhagava*. When checking information for the new catalogue of butterfly species of Nepal, I had access to Evans (1949) and determined that both were actually *G. sinica*, as was confirmed by Peter Smetacek. The two individuals photographed near Pokhara were seen near forest edges on the SE and NE side of Phewa Lake at 800-820m elevation. Both were visiting flowers, of *Lantana camara* and another flowering plant.

Van Gasse (2018-unpublished MS) lists *Gerosis sinica* from Sikkim to NE India. The records reported here extend the known distribution area of *G. sinica* westward from Sikkim to Central Nepal.

Cephenes acalle (Hopffer, 1874)

Cephenes acalle was described as *Hesperia acalle* by Hopffer. Evans (1949) and Smith (2010) listed it as *C. chrysozona*. Subspecies *oceanica* (Mabille, 1904) was described as *Telicota oceanica* and reported from “Océanie

sans localit  precise”, which Evans (1949) somehow interprets as “Oceania (probably Assam)”. However, Funet lists “Papua” as type locality. *C. acalle* is reported from large parts of India, including lower elevations in the Himalayas from Sikkim to Arunachal Pradesh (Van Gasse, 2017 and Varshney & Smetacek, 2015).

C. acalle was listed in Smith (2010) based on a list of species provided to him by Wolfgang Dierl in 1974. This list, supposedly, included all the butterfly species collected during four German zoological expeditions to Nepal between 1962 and 1973. Apparently, no detailed account of these four expedition was ever published. Dierl’s list also included three other species that have not been recorded for Nepal by anybody else. These four species are listed without pictures in the Illustrated Checklist of Butterflies of Nepal (Smith, 2011). In 2016, Colin Smith indicated that he doubted the reliability of the records of these four and some other species. Dierl’s list contained only names and no dates, locations or elevations (of butterfly species collected). In 2020, after repeated requests, the German Zoologische Staatssammlung M nchen (ZSM) reported that it only had specimens from Nepal in its collection of one of these four species, *Ionolyce helicon* (Pointed Lineblue). The collection contained no specimens from Nepal of Dierl’s *Arhopala bazaloides* (Tamil Oakblue), *Colias berylla* (Everest Clouded Yellow) and *C. acalle* (Plain Palm Dart). Consequently, these three species were to be removed from the species list of butterflies of Nepal.

On 3 August 2019, I photographed 6 or 7 individuals of *C. acalle* at the Annapurna Eco-village in Astam at 1490m elevation, not far from Pokhara (Fig. 4 - 6). Most of them stayed together visiting one bunch of zinnia (*Zinnia elegans*) flowers for some 7 hours and hardly moved. On my next visit, nine days later, one female *C. acalle* was observed on the same

bunch of zinnia’s for a brief period of time around 10 a.m. in the morning.

One may assume that some other species which were presented on Dierl’s 1974 list were also misidentified. Although this may be the case, it has little or no impact on the information in Colin Smith’s database, since Dierl’s list provided no additional information on the reported species.

Thus, my observation in Astam now becomes the first published record of *C. acalle* for Nepal. It represents an extension of the known distribution area of *C. acalle* from Sikkim westward to Central Nepal. The total number of butterfly species in Nepal is now about 665 (Van der Poel and Smetacek, in preparation). Although a fairly large number of new species have been reported for Nepal since 2015, the number is only slightly higher than the 660 reported in Smith 2010, since a fair number of species, such as three of the species reported by Dierl, were removed.

References

- Evans, W.H. 1932. *The identification of Indian butterflies*, 2nd ed. Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay. x + 464 pp., 32 pl.
- Evans, W.H. 1949. A catalogue of the Hesperiidae of Europe, Asia and Australia in the British Museum. *Entomology*. 5(3). xix + 502 pp., 53 pl.
- Gasse, P. van. 2018-unpublished MS. *Butterflies of the Indian Subcontinent – Annotated Checklist*. Pdf-file. pp. 207. http://www.biodiversityofindia.org/index.php?title=Butterflies_of_the_Indian_subcontinent
- Kehimkhar, I. 2016. *Butterflies of India: BNHS Field Guide*. Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay. xii + 528 pp.
- Smith, C. P. 1994. *Butterflies of Nepal - A colour field guide*. revised edition. Craftsman Press, Bangkok, Thailand. 368 pp.

Smith, C. 2010. *Lepidoptera of Nepal*. Himalayan Nature / Sigma General Offset Press, Kathmandu, Nepal. iv + 184 pp.

Thapa, V. K. 1998. *An inventory of Nepal's insects*. Volume II [Lepidoptera], IUCN, Nepal. pp. xii + 248.

Smith, C. 2011. *Illustrated Checklist of Nepal's Butterflies*. 3rd ed. Lashkar, Kathmandu. (1st ed. 1993, 2nd ed. 2006). ii + 129 pp.



Fig.1: *Gerosis phisara* female



Fig.2: *Gerosis sinica*, upperside



Fig.3: *Gerosis sinica*, underside



Fig.4: *Cephrenes acalle*, female upper side



Fig.5: *Cephrenes acalle*, female, underside



Fig.6: *Cephrenes acalle*, male