

ISSN 0972- 1800



BIONOTES

VOLUME 23, NOS. 2 & 3

QUARTERLY

APRIL--SEPTEMBER, 2021



Date of Publication: 4th October, 2021

BIONOTES

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

Founder

Late 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

Devanshu Gupta, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata,
India
devanshuguptagb4102@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

Cover Photo of founder of BIONOTES *Late* Dr. R.K. Varshney

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OBITUARY: OUR FOUNDER, DR. RAJENDRA KUMAR VARSHNEY by Ashutosh Varshney & Anurag Varshney	35
PORTRAIT OF A GENTLEMAN by Peter Smetacek	37
PUBLICATIONS OF DR. R.K. VARSHNEY by Bandana Subedi	40
CITY IF NOT FOREST: NEW HABITAT RECORD OF <i>MACROMIA CINGULATA</i> RAMBUR, 1842 (ODONATA, MACROMIIDAE) by C. Susanth Kumar & Arya Meher.B. S	48
<i>DIOSCOREA ESCULENTA</i> (LOUR.) BURKILL AS A LARVAL HOST PLANT OF <i>TAGIADES</i> <i>JAPETUS</i> (STOLL, [1781]) (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE) by Smritirekha Bortamuly & Rajib Dey	52
RECORD OF <i>STUENINGERIA NEPALENSIS</i> LEHMANN, 2019 (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: METARBELIDAE) IN BHUTAN by Jatishwor Singh Irungbam	56
FIRST RECORDS FOR NEPAL OF <i>ALBULINA ARCASEIA</i> AND <i>ALBULINA PHARIS</i> (LYCAENIDAE) FROM THE HREBLAY COLLECTION by Piet Van Der Poel & Zsolt Bálint	59
SIGHTING OF PLAIN TIGER (<i>DANAUS CHRYSIPPUS</i> , LINN., 1758) FORM <i>DORIPPUS</i> IN NEW DELHI, INDIA by Rajesh Chaudhary	64
FIRST RECORD OF COMMON CILIATE BLUE BUTTERFLY <i>ANTHENE EMOLUS</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) FROM UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA by Sushmita, Babita Sharma & Ashok Kumar	65
ARECA PALM <i>DYPSIS LUTESCENS</i> (ARECACEAE) AS NEW LARVAL HOST PLANT FOR THE GIANT REDEYE BUTTERFLY <i>GANGARA THYRSIS</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: HESPERIIDAE) by Raju Kasambe	67
REPORT OF A LIVE RECORD OF <i>NEPTIS ASPASIA</i> (SYN: <i>PHAEDYMA ASPASIA</i>), LEECH, 1890, (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE: LIMENITIDINAE: NEPTINI) FROM INDIA AFTER 68 YEARS by Chandrasekharan VK, Balakrishnan Valappil, Vidya Venkatesh, Gauri D Desai & Purnendu Roy	70
AVIAN DIVERSITY IN URBAN AREAS OF LAKE TOWN, KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL by A. Chowdhury	73
FIRST REPORT OF GENUS <i>PADENIA</i> MOORE, 1882 (LEPIDOPTERA: EREBIDAE: ARCTIINAE: LITHOSIINI) FROM ASSAM, INDIA by Monish Kumar Thapa	76

- MURRAYA KOENIGII* (RUTACEAE), A NEW LARVAL HOST PLANT OF *ANTHENE LYCAENINA* (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE)
by Tanmoy Bhowmick 78
- EGG CANNIBALISM BY CATERPILLARS OF THE TAWNY COSTER BUTTERFLY, *ACRAEA TERPSICORE* (LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE) IN INDIA
by Raghavendra Rajadhyaksha & Raju Kasambe 81
- NEW RECORD OF FREAK *CALINAGA* (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: NYMPHALIDAE) FROM EASTERN HIMALAYA, NEPAL
by Sanjaya Raj Tamang & Shristee Panthee 83
- FOUR ADDITIONS TO THE LANTERNFLY (INSECTA: FULGOROIDEA: FULGORIDAE) FAUNA OF NEPAL
by Sajjan K.C. & Bishnu Prasad Neupane 86
- GENERA OF ANTS ASSOCIATED WITH LARVAE OF PLAINS CUPID (*CHILADES PANDAVA*, HORSFIELD, 1829) (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) INFESTING CYCAS, IN DELHI, INDIA, AND AN INSIGHT INTO THE NATURE OF THEIR INTERACTION
by Rajesh Chaudhary & Vinesh Kumar 90
- CHECKLIST OF BUTTERFLIES (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA) FROM FOUR DISTRICTS OF CHHATTISGARH, INDIA WITH THREE ADDITIONS TO THE STATE FAUNA OF BUTTERFLIES OF CHHATTISGARH
by H. N. Tandan, Gulab Chand, Ravi Naidu, Swati Tandan, Gulshan Kumar Sahu, Ramanand Agrawal & Tanuja 98
- OBSERVATION OF *OROLESTES SELYSI* (INSECTA: ODONATA: LESTIDAE) FROM ASSAM, INDIA
by Reji Chandran, Thomson Saburaj, Suresh V Kurup & A. Vivek Chandran 109
- SOME IMPORTANT RECORDS OF BUTTERFLIES FROM DHANKUTA AND SUNSARI, NEPAL
by Sajjan K.C 111
- NEW RECORDS OF *PSEUDANAPHES SIKKIMANUS* (INSECTA: CHALCIDOIDEA: MYMARIDAE) FROM MEGHALAYA, INDIA
by Bankerdonbor Kharbisnop & Sudhanya R. Hajong 117
- EXTENSION OF THE KNOWN FLOWERING PERIOD OF *RHODODENDRON ARBOREUM* TO JUNE IN NAINITAL DISTRICT, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA
by Ambica Agnihotri 119
- A NEW SPECIES OF *LEMAIREIA NÄSSIG & HOLLOWAY* (LEPIDOPTERA: SATURNIIDAE, SATURNIINAE) FROM NORTH-EASTERN INDIA
by Stefan Naumann & Peter Smetacek 122

<i>LYMANTRIA (PORTHETRIA) APICEBRUNNEA</i> (INSECTA: EREBIDAE: LYMANTRIINAE) IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH: AN ADDITION TO THE INDIAN FAUNA by Peter Smetacek & Ambica Agnihotri	127
SYMPATRY OF <i>B. LUDLOWI</i> AND <i>B. LIDDERDALII</i> AND RANGE EXTENSION OF <i>BHUTANITIS LUDLOWI</i> IN BHUTAN by Sonam Dorji & Kuenga Tshomo Dorji	129
THE SMALLEST KNOWN INDIAN CABBAGE WHITE <i>PIERIS CANIDIA</i> (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: PIERIDAE) by Shristee Panthee & Ambica Agnihotri	132
FEEDING ECOLOGY OF THE INDIAN EAGLE OWL <i>BUBO BENGALENSIS</i> (AVES: STRIGIDAE) IN LUCKNOW DISTRICT, UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA by Daya Shanker Sharma, Ankit Sinha, Adesh Kumar & Amita Kanaujia	134
INDIVIDUAL VARIATION IN <i>NYCTEMERA ADVERSATA</i> (INSECTA: LEIPDOPTERA: EREBIDAE) IN THE INDIAN HIMALAYA by Peter Smetacek & Ambica Agnihotri	145

OBITUARY: OUR FOUNDER, DR. RAJENDRA KUMAR VARSHNEY

ASHUTOSH VARSHNEY AND ANURAG VARSHNEY

Raj Bhawan, Manik Chowk, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Rajendra Kumar Varshney was born in Aligarh on 10th October 1939 into an established business family. His father, Shri Jyoti Prasad, was a prominent businessman and social worker who was instrumental in building Dharamshalas in Aligarh. His mother, Chameli Devi, was a very religious woman.

Dr. Varshney did his early education in Aligarh in various colleges like Hiralal Barahsaini Inter College, DAV Inter College and Arya Samaj Inter College. He did his B Sc. and M Sc. in Zoology from Aligarh Muslim University in 1960. While working at the Zoological Survey of India, he did his PhD in 1972 and was awarded a D. Sc. by Patna University in 1996. He learnt German from Max Mueller Bhawan, Kolkata. Apart from that, he was also well versed in Bengali and Urdu. He was an avid philatelist and had a lot of rare stamps in his collection.

Socially, Dr. Varshney was always active in the Varshney community. From 1952, he was involved in various Varshney publications (Barahsaini, Varshney Patrika, Jhankaar etc.) as an editor. He also held various posts in the community groups. His poetry collection "Phool Ek Sau Pankhuria" was published in 1957. Many of his short stories were broadcasted from Aakashvani All India Radio from 1962 to 1964 and then from 1984 to 1995.

He was employed in the Indian Lac Research Institute at Ranchi and then joined Zoological Survey of India, with stints at its Kolkata, Patna, Shillong and Jodhpur offices. He retired from ZSI in 1997 while serving as Additional Director.

Dr. Varshney was a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society of London,

Entomological Society of India, Academy of Zoology, and Indian Association of Systematic Zoologists; and a member/office bearer of the National Geographic Society, Washington; Academy of Entomology, Chennai; Indian Society of Salinity Research Scientists, Jodhpur; the International Symposia on the Scale Insect Studies; etc.

Dr. Varshney had published over 150 research papers, including more than 30 on Lepidopteran insects. His works on Indian butterflies have been cited by several workers in India and abroad. He wrote the first Hindi book on Indian butterflies and was senior editor for the first catalogue of Indian butterflies, which established that there were 1318 species known from India at the time.

He has served on the Editorial boards of Oriental Insects, USA; Zoos' Print Journal, Coimbatore, Indian Journal of Biodiversity, Bangalore, Prani Jagat, Kolkata, Biosystematica, Kozhikode; etc. He was the founder-editor of Bionotes, a quarterly periodical on Life Sciences.

Other entomologists have named the following taxa in his honour: Genus *Varshneyia* (Thysanoptera), Genus *Varshneococcus* (Homoptera), *Microstylum varshneyi* (Diptera), *Hemiptarsenus varshneyi* (Hymenoptera) and *Neptis miah varshneyi* (Lepidoptera).

He was also an interviewer for M Phil and PhD courses for Aligarh Muslim University.

Dr. Varshney got married in 1963 to Mithilesh Kumari Varshney in Aligarh. He was a doting father to 3 children, Nidhi Krishna, a doctor based in Patna, Ashutosh Varshney and Anurag Varshney who are working in the

management layer in multinationals in NCR area.

Dr. Varshney left us all for his heavenly abode on 28th April 2021. His memories remain with

all of us in the form of his work for his community, his scientific work and his writings – prose and poetry which will always remain with us.