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

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NEW RECORDS OF PSEUDANAPHES SIKKIMIANUS (INSECTA: CHALCIDOIDEA: MYMARIDAE) FROM **MEGHALAYA, INDIA**

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Reviewer: Ankita Gupta

Abstract

Pseudanaphes sikkimianus is reported for the first time in Meghalaya, which is the second north-eastern Indian state from which this species has been recorded.

Keywords: Mymaridae, new record, Meghalaya

Introduction

Pseudanaphes Noves & Valentine, 1989 belongs to the Anaphes Haliday, 1833 group, with a total of five species (Noves & Valentine, 1989) described globally represented by P. hirtus Noyes and Valentine, 1987 described from New Zealand (Noyes & Valentine, 1989), P. zhaoi Lin, 1997 from China (Lin, 1997), two species P. lincolni (Girault, 1913) and P. particoxae (Girault, 1938) from Australia (Lin et al., 2007) and P. sikkimianus Rehmat & Anis, 2011 from India (Rehmat & Anis, 2011). Pseudanaphes resembles some species of Anaphes but is distinguished by the long marginal vein and an evenly rounded forewing apex. From India, just one described species was recorded from Sikkim. In the present study, P. sikkimianus is reported from Meghalava, which is the second state distribution record from India and an extension to the known distribution of the species.

Materials and Methods

The specimens were collected using yellow pan trap and later were preserved in 70% alcohol. Preparation of slides specimens followed a methodology described by Noyes (1982). Taxonomic keys given by Lin et al. (2007), Noyes & Valentine (1989) were used for morphological identification.

Measurements were taken using a compound microscope with graticule from slide-mounted and preserved specimens given in millimeters (mm) viewed under 40X (one division = 0.025mm). All collected specimens (slides and preserved) were deposited in the Entomology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya, India.

Results and Discussion

Pseudoanaphes Noyes & Valentine, 1989

Pseudanaphes Noyes & Valentine, 1989: 47. Type species: Pseudanaphes hirtus Noyes & Valentine, by original designation.

P. sikkimianus Rehmat & Anis, 2011

Material examined: 3 ♀ India, North East, Meghalaya, Ingkyrsa, 1214m, 25°14'30.28"N and 91°27'40.90"E. 20.x.2016, (Yellow Pan Trap). Coll. B. Kharbisnop.

Distribution: Sikkim (Rehmat & Anis, 2011) and Meghalaya (new record).

Description: Body metallic dark-colour approximately measured 0.55 mm in length. Head strongly sculptured with an appropriate length - 0.08 mm, bearing large and globular eyes (0.05 mm). Scape very long (0.13 mm) with globular pedicel (0.03 mm). Female funicle 6-segmented; f1, f5-f6 equally measured with 0.02 mm each, f2 longest measuring 0.04 mm whereas f3-f4 each measures 0.03 mm respectively; clava entire with 0.12 mm in length. Metasoma measures 0.27 mm as long as wide than mesosoma (0.17 mm). Forewing and hindwing narrow as well as elongated, almost equally measured - 0.53 mm and 0.50 mm respectively bearing elongated cilium. Fore-leg and mid-leg almost subequal in length (0.41 mm and 0.49 mm respectively); hind-leg longer compared to the two, roughly 0.60 mm in length. Ovipositor 0.14 mm.

Pseudoanaphes sikkimianus was described in 2011. So far the species was considered to be confined to Sikkim. The present paper extends the known distribution of *P. sikkimianus* to Meghalaya.

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Fig 1 & 2: Pseudanaphes sikkimianus (40X)