

RANGE EXTENSION OF A MOTH, *GLOTTULA ORIENTALIS* HAMPSON, FROM MADHYA PRADESH

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The Madhav National Park is situated in the district Shivpuri on the northern fringe of the central highlands of India, and one of the oldest National Parks of Madhya Pradesh. It forms a part of the upper Vindhyan hills, which encompass over an area of about 355 sq.kms. Geographically, it lies between 25°20' 45" to 25°36' 63" N latitude and 77°38' to 77°56' E longitude. Madhav got the status of a National Park in 1958. This park is having two perennial water bodies viz., Sakhya Sagar and Madhav Sagar, which provide shelter, protection and nourish both the flora and fauna. In addition to these water bodies, big nallas like Tunda Bhakra, Bhurakho and Amdar exist. These nallas dry up during the summer but retain water pools at a few places throughout the summer.

The flora of this park is categorised as northern tropical dry deciduous mixed forest. Among the major tree species of this park, *Anogeissus pendula* (kardhai) is dominated in varying proportion followed by *Anogeissus latifolia* (dhaora), *Boswellia serrata* (salai) and *Acacia catechu* (khair). The underneath flora is dominated by *Zizyphus xylocarpa* (ber), *Aegle marmelos* (bel), *Holarrhena antiidysenterica* (kora), *Lantana camara* (lantana) and *Carissa spinarum* (karonda).

The fauna of this national park consists of leopard, wild dog, wolf, jackal and hyena which are major carnivores, and chital, sambar, nilgai, chinkara, chowsingha and rarely the barking deer which are among the herbivores. Jungle cat, palm civet, small Indian civet, otter, fox, porcupine, hare are also reported. The Madhav National Park is acting as a breeding site for large number of migratory birds who visit the area during winter. Over 227 species of birds have been listed from here (Dwivedi, 2003).

While conducting faunistic surveys between 2012 and 2014, light trap was installed inside the park (near Forest Rest House) just after the sunset. The light trap was operated between sunset and sunrise for the collection of nocturnal insects. While collecting nocturnal insects with the help of light trap, single specimen of *Glottula orientalis* Hampson was collected on 11.iii.2013 along with other insects.

The genus *Glottula* Guenee, 1837 (Noctuoidea: Noctuidae: Glottulinae) is widely distributed in Europe, South Africa, Mauritius, throughout India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Genus *Glottula* represents two species viz., *Glottula dominica* Cramer, 1780 and *G. orientalis* Hampson, 1894. *G. dominica* Cramer is reported from continental India, Madhya Pradesh (Indore), Indonesia, Mauritius, South Africa and Sri Lanka (Cotes & Swinhoe, 1886-89; Hampson, 1894).

The perusal of literature reveals that the existence of *Glottula orientalis* Hampson is reported in Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu alone. Hence, the *G. orientalis* Hampson constitutes a new locality record for Madhya Pradesh and has extended its range of distribution. *G. orientalis* Hampson, a rare species of moth has been observed during the course of study. It is likely that with intensive surveys/explorations the species may be reported from other parts of India.

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