

ADDITIONS TO THE MOTH FAUNA (LEPIDOPTERA) OF DISTRICT JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH

S. SAMBATH and
SHAHABAB AHMAD FAROOQUI

Zoological Survey of India,
Central Zone Regional Centre,
Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur-482002
(Madhya Pradesh).

E-mail: sambath63@gmail.com

District Jabalpur was formerly called Jabulpore. The word Jabalpur is a combination of Arabic word 'Jabal' means "Rock" and Sanskrit word 'Pur' means "City". Though some people propagate that it was anciently named as Jabalipuram after Saint Jabali, there are no historical, mythological or folklore evidence in support of this. It is one of the most famous cities of Madhya Pradesh. According to the Census of India, 2011 it is the third-largest urban agglomeration in Madhya Pradesh, and the country's 30th largest urban agglomeration. The city is large and growing in all sectors, including one of the major centers for the production of arms and ammunition and one of the famous military bases in India. Besides, administrative headquarters like High Court of Madhya Pradesh, West Central Railway, and army headquarters of five Indian States viz., Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

The city is also home to the Gun Carriage Factory (GCF). The city is selected as 7th Smart City under Smart City Mission of India. The city is famous for tourism as it attracts tourists across India, even from abroad. Some of the tourist attraction places are Bhedaghat – it provide unique experience, one can find himself/herself mesmerized boating between huge mountains of marble and a beautiful waterfall upstream, Bargi Dam, Dumna Nature Reserve Park, Kachnar city, Tilwara Ghat, Dhuandhar Fall, Rani Durgawati Museum, etc.

The Jabalpur district enjoys typical monsoon climate with three seasons, summer from March to June, rainy season from June to September and winter from November to February. The period from mid-September to October is the post-monsoon period.

Geographically, Jabalpur lies between N 23°10' Latitude and E 79°57' Longitude in the eastern half of Madhya Pradesh in the central region of India, encompassing geographic area of 5211 sq km. It lies in the catchment area of river Narmada, along with its tributaries viz. Hiran, Gour, Ken and Sone. The city is rich in biodiversity, consists of

933 plant species belonging to 585 genera in 139 families (Oommachan & Shrivastava, 1996) and the fauna of Jabalpur district is quite rich and diverse, comprising of 910 species (378 vertebrates and 532 invertebrates) (Chandra, 2008). Among 532 species of invertebrates, moths are one of the important indicator species which designate the habitat disturbance and fragmentation.

While studying the moth composition, attempts have been made to update the moth species known from the district between years 2010 and 2016. The moths were collected with the help of light trap installed at different localities and operated between sunset and sunrise. Moths collected then were studied with the help of identified specimens available at this regional centre and literature like Hampson (1892-1896), and other published research papers. The classification followed here is based on Nieuwerkerken et al. (2011) and Zahiri et al. (2012).

Moths are nocturnal insects, belong to the order Lepidoptera, the second largest group followed by the Order Coleoptera. The diversity of moth species from Jabalpur district has been studied by Chandra et al. (2008) who recorded 42 species belonging to 38 genera in 6 families. Later, Chandra & Nema (2007) added 7 more species. Chandra et al. (2010) recorded 3 more species from this district totalling 52 species belonging to 47 genera in 8 families. In the present study, 22 species belonging to 20 genera in 7 families have been added (Table 1). Thus, a total of 74 species have been recorded till-date.

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Table 1. List of moths added from district Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.

Species	Family: Subfamily	Collection locality
1. <i>Micronia aculeata</i> Gueene 1857	Uraniidae: Microniinae	Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur
2. <i>Ascotis selenaria</i> Denis & Schifmuller 1775	Geometridae: Ennominae	Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur
3. <i>Trabala vishnou</i> Lefebvre 1827	Lasiocampidae: Lasiocampinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
4. <i>Actias selene</i> Hubner, 1807	Saturniidae: Saturniinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
5. <i>Acherontia lachesis</i> Fabricius 1798	Sphingidae: Sphinginae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
6. <i>Daphnis nerii</i> Linnaeus 1758	Sphingidae: Macroglossinae	Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur
7. <i>Macroglossum belis</i> Linnaeus 1758	Sphingidae: Macroglossinae	Madan Mahal, Jabalpur
8. <i>Nephele hespera</i> Fabricius 1775	Sphingidae: Macroglossinae	Madan Mahal, Jabalpur
9. <i>Polyptychus dentatus</i> Cramer 1777	Sphingidae: Smerinthinae	Z.S.I. Office premises, Jabalpur
10. <i>Arctia ricini</i> Fabricius 1775	Erebidae: Arctiinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
11. <i>Cretonotos gangis</i> Linnaeus 1763	Erebidae: Arctiinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
12. <i>Cyana perigrina</i> Walker 1854	Erebidae: Arctiinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
13. <i>Dasychira mendosa</i> Hubner 1823	Erebidae: Lymantriinae	Near Bargi Dam, Jabalpur
14. <i>Digamma hearseyana</i> Moore 1859	Erebidae: Aganainae	Madan Mahal, Jabalpur
15. <i>Eudocema materna</i> Linnaeus 1767	Erebidae: Erebiniae	Madan Mahal, Jabalpur
16. <i>Euproctis fraterna</i> Moore	Erebidae: Lymantriinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
17. <i>Euproctis lunata</i> Walker 1855	Erebidae: Lymantriinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
18. <i>Euproctis similis</i> Fuessly 1775	Erebidae: Lymantriinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
19. <i>Pandesma anysa</i> Guenee 1852	Erebidae: Erebiniae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
20. <i>Syntomoides imaon</i> Cramer 1779	Erebidae: Arctiinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
21. <i>Agrotis biconica</i> Kollar 1844	Noctuidae: Nötuinae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur
22. <i>Leucania loreyi</i> Duponchel 1827	Noctuidae: Hadeninae	Z.S.I. Residential colony, Jabalpur

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(b.f. from p. 151)

shares highest number of species (5 species & 5 genera) followed by Coleoptera (4 species & 4 genera), Lepidoptera (3 species & 3 genera), Diptera (1 species & 1 genus) and Blattodea (1 species & 1 genus) (Table 1).

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