

CONFIRMATION OF THE PRESENCE OF THE DINGY LINEBLUE BUTTERFLY *PETRELAEA DANA* (DE NICEVILLE, [1884]) (LEPIDOPTERA: LYCAENIDAE) IN BASTAR, CHHATTISGARH

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Reviewer: Peter Smetacek

Keywords: Bastar, Kanger Valley National Park

Introduction

Petrelaea dana (de Niceville, [1884]) is a Lycaenid butterfly which is known from Uttarakhand to North East India; Maharashtra to Kerala; Jharkhand and Andaman Islands in India (Varshney & Smetacek, 2015). Kehimkar (2016) reports it as a forest species of low elevations which flies between March to November. Members of this group are not known to be migratory.

Material and Methods

Opportunistic surveys were undertaken on 24 and 25 July, 2018 in Kurandi Range of Kanger Valley National Park, Bastar, and Chhattisgarh. The paths followed on foot were randomly chosen and the main criterion for choosing suitable paths was the likelihood of encountering butterflies along the way.

Kurandi range is a dense forest which has sal and bamboo as major vegetation along with thick undergrowth. During the survey, in between regular thunderstorms, a group of mud puddling Lycaenids comprising of Common Hedge Blues (*Acytolepis puspa* (Horsfield, [1828])), Lineblues (*Prosotas* Druce, 1891) and Plains Cupids (*Luthrodes pandava* (Horsfield, [1829])) was photographed on a forest track at 2.20 pm.

While examining the photographs it appeared that one of the members of the mud puddling congregation was a Dingy Lineblue. This was confirmed by Peter Smetacek.

Discussion

Chandra *et al.* (2014) reported *Petrelaea dana* from GGNP, Koriya district on 17th August 2011 and in Lalpur Range of Kawardha Forest Division on 23rd September 2012. But the only evidence they provided is a misidentified photograph of *Prosotas dubiosa* (Semper, [1879]). It therefore seemed that the species might not occur in Chhattisgarh or along the Eastern Ghats.

A single subspecies of the butterfly occurs in India. The known distribution of this species is disjunct with no known connecting links between the Peninsular Indian and Himalayan populations. The confirmation of the Chhattisgarh population suggests that the peninsular Indian and Himalayan population of the species might be linked via the Eastern Ghats.

Acknowledgement

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LABORATORY EVALUATION OF EFFICACY OF SOME GREEN PESTICIDES AGAINST *OLIGONYCHUS ORYZAE* (HIRST) (ACARI: TETRANYCHIDAE) INFESTING PADDY

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Keywords: *Oligonychus oryzae*, paddy, West Bengal, green pesticides, bioassay

Abstract

This paper presents the result of a study on bioefficacy of green pesticides viz *Azadirachta indica* (Neem Seed Kernel Extract), *Anona squamosa* (Custard Apple), *Pongamia glabra* (Karanja), *Vitex negundo* (Nishinda) against paddy leaf mite, *Oligonychus oryzae* (Hirst), all at two concentrations viz 3% and 5%. The leaf extract of custard apple at both concentrations was found to be most effective while NSKE was the poorest.

Introduction

Oligonychus oryzae is an important pest of paddy in southern and eastern India and often does considerable damage to the paddy crop.

Since no study has so far been conducted to control this mite by using green pesticides, this study was undertaken under laboratory conditions to assess bioefficacies of some green pesticides against this mite.

Materials and Methods

The pest mite was collected from South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal state, India around Canning area. The plants which were selected to prepare extracts for assessing their efficacies were *Azadirachta indica* (Neem Seed Kernel Extract), *Anona squamosa* (Custard Apple), *Pongamia glabra* (Karanja) and *Vitex negundo* (Nishinda). In each case, two concentrations, viz 3% and 5% were used. The technique for bioefficacy study was as per