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# BIONOTES

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## From Volume 21

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Cover Photo by Peter Smetacek of a *Salassa mizorama* Moth

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**FIRST REPORT OF *PHACOPTERON LENTIGINOSUM*  
BUCKTON, 1896 (INSECTA: PSYLLOIDEA:  
PHACOPTERONIDAE) FROM ODISHA, INDIA**

**ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY**

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*Reviewer: Peter Smetacek*

Psyllids are small phloem feeding sternorrhynchous insects with more than 4000 described species worldwide. Immatures of most of the species are monophagous and oligophagous in which related psyllids species tend to develop on related plant species (Burckhardt *et al.*, 2018).

Psyllids occurs on the tropics and the south temperate regions except Antarctica. There are eight families of psyllids namely Psyllidae, Trioziidae, Aphalaridae, Liviidae, Calophyidae, Carsidaridae, Homotomidae and Phacopteronidae (Ouvrard, 2018).

The family Phacopteronidae consists of two genera (*Phacopteron* and *Pseudophacopteron*) and three species. Among the two genera the *Phacopteron* genus includes *Phacopteron lentiginosum* Buckton, 1896. Earlier, *P. lentiginosum* was reported by different authors from different part of the Indian subcontinent namely, Bihar (Mathur, 1975), Karnataka (Mathur, 1975), Kerala (Mathur, 1975; Hayat *et al.*, 2012), Maharashtra (Buckton, 1896), Sikkim (Mathur, 1975), Tamil Nadu (Kieffer, 1906; Mani, 1948, Kandasamy, 1986; Raman, 1987), West Bengal (Mathur, 1975), Uttarakhand (Mani, 1948; Mathur, 1975; Hayat *et al.*, 2012); Nepal (Hodkinson, 1986); Pakistan (Hodkinson, 1986) on the host plant *Garuga pinnata* (Burseraceae) (Burckhardt *et al.*, 2018). The species has so far not been reported from Odisha.

During a field survey to Khandadhar waterfall, Sundargarh district, Odisha (21.764643 N,

85.108498 E) on 8. xii. 2018, samples were collected from dried, fallen leaves of a *Garuga pinnata* tree. Even after the leaf fall, live adult specimens were found inside the galls. The psyllid immature and adults were collected and stored in 70% ethyl alcohol. The specimen photographs were then sent to Daniel Burckhardt, Natural History Museum, Basel, Department of Biosciences for identification. The specimens were identified as *P. lentiginosum*. This confirms the presence of this psyllid in Odisha and represents an eastward extension to the known distribution of this species on the Indian subcontinent.

#### **Acknowledgement**

I would like to thank Dr. Daniel Burckhardt, Natural History Museum, Basel, Department of Biosciences for identification of the specimens, Dr. Manoj Kumar Tripathy, Professor in Entomology, Department of Natural Resource Management, College of Forestry, OUAT, Odisha for being my mentor in this whole process.

#### **References**

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- Ouvrard, D. 2019. Psyl'list- The World Psylloidea Database. Available from: <https://www.hemiptera-databases.org/psyllist/?db=psylles&lang=en&card=families>.



Fig.1: *Phacopteron lentiginosum*



Fig.2: Galls on *Garuga pinnata*

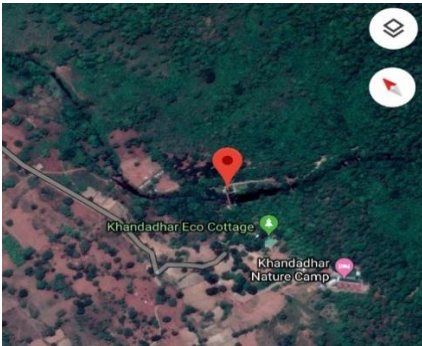


Fig.3: Specimen Collection Map



Fig.4: Immature of *Phacopteron*