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ADDITION OF A BUTTERFLY GENUS AND SPECIES TO THE INDIAN FAUNA

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Reviewer: Zdenek F. Fric

Introduction

The Striped Hairstreak *Yamamotozephyrus kwangtungensis* (Forster, 1942) was described on the basis of a series of specimens collected from Lungtao-shan (682 m) and Linping (700 – 1060 m) in Kwangtung province, Mantsi-shan (1160 m) in Hunan province and Kuantun (1000 – 1350 m) in Fukien province of eastern China. A second population was discovered on the island of Hainan, on Mt. Wuzhi-shan (1867 m) and described as *Ravenna kwangtungensis hainana* Koiwaya, 1993. Originally described in the *Zephyrus* Dalman, 1816 genus, *Z. kwangtungensis* was placed in a newly erected genus, *Yamamotozephyrus* Saigusa, 1993 and is the only member of the genus known so far. A third population was discovered in Kachin state of Myanmar and described as *Y. kwangtungensis mayhkaensis* Watanabe, 2000. The type series comprises a single male from Pannandin village (1000 m) (9.v.1999) and two males north of Putao (8.vi.1994). On the underside, it is easily distinguished from the nomino-typical subspecies and *Y. k. hainana* by the cell end bar on the forewing reaching the costa and the submarginal band of the hindwing, which is relatively narrower, especially in space 7.

Observation

On 10.v.2020, RU photographed a specimen of this species at Vijaynagar (27°19'33" N; 97°00'61") (1240m), Changlang district, Arunachal Pradesh. It was perched on a shrub near the ground. Since subspecies are usually assigned on the basis of specimens examined rather than photographs, yet it is possible to state that the specimen photographed is a male, judging by the tiny bit of forewing visible in the photograph (the female has a wider dark margin to the forewing) and the forewing cell-end bar reaches the costa, unlike *Y. k. kwangtungensis* and *Y. k. hainana*. The species appears to be univoltine throughout its distribution. The individual photographed in Vijaynagar confirms the presence of this distinctive species in India. Further work would clarify whether the Indian population is identical with the Myanmar population.

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- Forster, W. 1942. Neue Lycaeniden- formen aus China. III. *Mitt. Munch. Ent. Ges.* 32: 579-580, pl. 16.
- Watanabe, Y. 2000. A new subspecies of *Yamamotozephyrus kwangtungensis* (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) from Myanmar. *Butterflies* 25: 4- 8.



Fig.1: *Yamamotozephyrus kwangtungensis*