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Cover Photo of founder of BIONOTES *Late* Dr. R.K. Varshney

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FIRST REPORT OF GENUS *PADENIA* MOORE, 1882 (LEPIDOPTERA: EREBIDAE: ARCTIINAE: LITHOSIINI) FROM ASSAM, INDIA

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Abstract: The present study reports genus *Padenia* Moore, 1882 and *P. acutifascia* de Joannis, 1928 from Assam, for the first time.

Keywords: Moth, *Padenia*, new distribution, Assam

Introduction

The moths of genus *Padenia* are mainly characterised by a dull fore wing with dark transverse bands. This genus is distributed from the Indian mainland to the Bismarck Islands in the East (Kirti & Singh, 2015). Worldwide, the genus is known to have 11 species, out of which four species are reported from India. Hampson (1894) reported *P. transversa* (Walker, 1854) from Odisha (Ganjam), Tamil Nadu (Nilgiris) and the Andaman Islands. Kirti & Singh (2015) reported *P. duplicana* (Walker, 1863) from Arunachal Pradesh. Kirti *et al.* (2020) provided the world checklist of *Padenia*, and added two more species from India, *P. acutifascia* de Joannis, 1928 from Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram & Meghalaya, and *P. obliquifascia* Rothschild, 1920 from North Andaman Islands. They also included new distributional records for *P. duplicana* from Meghalaya and *P. transversa* from Karnataka, Kerala & Andhra Pradesh. The present study forms the first record for genus *Padenia* from Assam and constitutes a range extension for *P. acutifascia*.

Result

The present study was carried out at Gauhati University campus, Assam (25°53' N, 91°28' E). A single individual was observed on 11.ii.2021 at 13:26 hours. It was identified as *Padenia* referring Hampson (1894) and further identified to species level as *P. acutifascia* on the basis of features mentioned in Kirti *et al.* (2020).

Discussion

The present study forms the first record for genus *Padenia* from Assam. *P. acutifascia* was earlier reported from Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Mizoram and the present record confirms its presence in Assam.

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Fig.1. *Padenia acutifascia* in Guwahati, Assam