

EDESSENA GENTIUSALIS (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: EREBIDAE: HERMININAE): A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA

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Introduction

The erebid genus *Edessena* Walker, [1859] is known from China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Thailand. Currently two species are placed in the genus, the type species *E. gentiusalis* Walker, [1859] which is known from China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan and Thailand (Kononenko & Pinratana, 2005) and *E. hamada* (Felder & Rogenhofer, 1874) from Russia, Japan, Korea and China (Leley, 2016; Owada, 1987). The record from Thailand was not confirmed as *E. gentiusalis* by Huttacharern & Tuhtim (1995) although Kononenko & Pinratana (2005) illustrated their specimens and confirmed the identity as *E. gentiusalis*. Three specimens of *E. gentiusalis* were recorded in India. They were collected at a mercury vapour lamp reflected off a white sheet, to which moths are known to be attracted (Barlow, 1982).

Material Examined

3 exs.: forewing length: 25-27 mm. 1 male 8.v.2019; 1 male and 1 female 5.vii.2019. Km 17 Hunli – Anini road in the Mishmi hills of Lower Dibang Valley district, Arunachal Pradesh, India (600 m elevation) *Leg. et. Coll.* Peter Smetacek, Butterfly Research Centre, Bhimtal, Uttarakhand. The present records constitute an eastward extension to known distribution of this genus and species. The fascies of the material examined matches the illustration of both specimens in Kononenko and Pinratana (2005). It is not common, with

one or two specimens attending the screen during their flying period. The current records suggest that there are at least two annual generations. Females possess much shorter palpi than males.

References

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Fig.1: *E. genustusalis*,
India. Top & bottom male.



Fig.2: *E. genustusalis*, male palpi



Fig.3: *E. genustusalis*, male ventral view



Fig.4: *E. genustusalis*, male dorsal view