On some Encyrtidae (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea) from Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh, India

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Abstract

One new genus and six new species of Encyrtidae are described from the material collected from the Namdapha Tiger Reserve (Arunachal Pradesh). These are: Sharqencyrtus hulbi gen. et sp. nov., Ixodiphagus sureshani sp. nov., Parencytomyia zedesi sp. nov., Rhytidothorax horticola sp. nov., R. namdapha sp. nov., and R. ramakrishnai sp. nov. A key to world species of Rhytidothorax is also given. Parencytomyia Girault is newly recorded from India, and Rhytidothorax nigrum Singh & Agarwal, Parablatticida brevicornis (Dalman) and Agarwalencyrtus dispar Hayat are new species records from Arunachal Pradesh.

Key words. Agarwalencyrtus, Ixodiphagus, Parablatticida, Parencytomyia, Rhytidothorax, Sharqencyrtus, Encyrtidae

Introduction

This paper deals with some encyrtids recently collected from the Namdapha Tiger Reserve (Arunachal Pradesh, India), by the Zoological Survey of India.

Hymenoptera are rarely collected from Arunachal Pradesh and especially from the Namdapha Tiger Reserve, and thus the chalcidoid fauna of the State is very poorly represented. In recent years the Zoological Survey of India concentrated on survey and collection of microhymenoptera, among other insects, in the Namdapha Tiger Reserve. This survey has yielded several interesting chalcidoid species.

The encyrtid fauna of Arunachal Pradesh, compared to the fauna of other Indian States, is very poorly known. So far only seven species in six genera are recorded or described from this State, none among them from the Namdapha Tiger Reserve. These are: Anagyrus diversicornis (Howard), Charitopus panchgania (Mani & Saraswat), Cladiscodes orientalis Singh & Agarwal, Eugahania indicus Singh & Agarwal, Protyndarichoides indicus Singh & Agarwal, Tassonia amaura Hayat, and T. gloriae Girault (see Singh & Agarwal 1993a; Hayat 2006; Hayat & Khan 2009).

In this paper we record three known species for the first time from Arunachal Pradesh, and describe one new genus and six new species. We further provide a key to world species of Rhytidothorax Ashmead (1900).

Methods

The terminology given by Hayat (2006) is followed except the term ‘mesosoma’ is used to refer to the thorax + propodeum. The following abbreviations are used:

AOL = Minimum distance between a posterior ocellus and the anterior ocellus.
F1, F2, etc. = Funicle segments 1, 2, etc.
OCL = Minimum distance between a posterior ocellus and occipital margin.
OOL = Minimum distance between a posterior ocellus and the corresponding eye margin.
POL = Minimum distance between posterior ocelli.
TI, TII, etc. = Gasteral tergites 1, 2, etc.