

25. FURTHER CONTRIBUTION ON THE DIPTERA (INSECTA) FAUNA OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

An insular forest ecosystem along with tropical climate provides ideal niches for the rich insect fauna of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Schiner (1868) was the first to describe the dipteran fauna from the islands, and since then many workers have made substantial contributions in this field. The present paper is based on the collection of the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, as well as information on record. In this communication, the distributional records of the species have been considered only from Indian limits. The species with a single asterisk represent new records (12 species) from these Islands and with double asterisk denote new locality records (6 species) within the bay Islands.

Order: Diptera

Suborder: Nematocera

A) Family: Tipulidae

*1. *Limonia (Euglochina) saltens* (Doleschall)
Limnobia saltens Doleschall, 1857, *Nat. Tijd. Ned.-Indie*. 14: 390.

Material examined: 1M, Shompen village, Great Nicobar, 10.iv.1966, coll. A. Daniel and H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Nicobar Islands and Kerala.

B) Family: Sciaridae

*2. *Phorodonta exacta* (Brunetti)

Sciara exacta Brunetti, 1912, *Fauna. Brit. India. Dipt. Nematocera* 2: 132.

Material examined: 2F, Havelock, South Andaman, 11.xi.1997, coll. S.K. Mondal & K.L. Bhatta.

Distribution: Andaman Is. and W. Bengal.

Suborder: Brachycera

C) Family: Bombyliidae

**3. *Ligyra flaviventris* (Doleschall)

Anthrax flaviventris Doleschall, 1857, *Nat. Tijd. Ned.-Indie*. 14: 400.

Material examined: 2F, 4 km from Hut Bay, Little Andaman, 17.i.1989; 22.i.1989; 1F, 31.i.1989, coll. A.N.T. Joseph.

Distribution: Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Kerala.

Suborder: Cyclorrhapha

D) Family: Syrphidae

*4. *Dideopsis aegrotus* (Fabricius)

Eristalis aegrotus Fabricius, 1805, *Syst. Antliat.* 243.

Material examined: 1M, Wright Myo, South Andaman, 24.iii.1964, coll. B.S. Lamba.

Distribution: Andaman Islands, Meghalaya, Tripura and West Bengal.

**5. *Ischiodon scutellaris* (Fabricius)

Scaeva scutellaris Fabricius, 1805, *Syst. Antliat.* 252.

Material examined: 1M, Galathea Bay, Great Nicobar, 16.iii.1966, coll. A. Daniel & H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Widely distributed in India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

6. *Eristalinus aeneus* var. *taphicus*
(Wiedemann)

Eristalis taphicus Wiedemann, 1830, *Aussereurop. zweifl. Insekt.* 2: 191.

Material examined: 1M, Casuarina Bay, Great Nicobar, 1966, coll. A. Daniel & H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

*7. *Pseuderistalis fascipennis* Thompson

Eristalis maculipennis de Meijere, 1908, *Tijd. Ent.* 51: 261.

Material examined: 1M, Manarghat, South Andaman, 1.iv.1964, coll. B.S. Lamba.

Distribution: Andaman Islands and Assam.

E) Family: Micropezidae

8. *Mimegralla albitarsis splendens*

(Wiedemann)

Calobata splendens Wiedemann, 1830, *Aussereurop. zweifl. Insekt.* 2: 539.

Material examined: 2F, Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar, 14.iii.1964; 1M, 16.iii.1964, coll. A. Daniel and H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Delhi, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

F) Family: Tephritidae

****9. *Dacus (Zeugodacus) tau*** (Walker)

Dasyneura tau Walker, 1849, *List Dipt. Colln Br. Mus.* 4: 1074.

Material examined: 1F, Great Nicobar, 17.iv.1964, coll. A. Daniel & H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Widely distributed in India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

G) Family: Sepsidae

10. *Australosepsis niveipennis (Becker)

Sepsis niveipennis Becker, 1903, *Mitt. zool. Mus. Berl.* 2(3): 143.

Material examined: 5M, 2F, Nancowrie Bay, Great Nicobar, 13.v.1966, coll. A. Daniel and H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Widely distributed in India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

H) Family: Muscidae

11. *Stomoxys calcitrans (Linnaeus)

Conops calcitrans Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat. Ed.* 10: 604.

Material examined: 1M, Wright Myo, South Andaman, 13.v.1988, coll. B. Mitra.

Distribution: Widely distributed in India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

I) Family: Calliphoridae

12. *Bengalia torosa (Wiedemann)

Musca jejuna Fabricius, 1794, *Ent. Syst.* 4: 312.

Musca torosa Wiedemann, 1819, *Zool.*

Mag. (misidentification)

Material examined: 1M, Rajatgarh, Baratang, S. Andaman, 22.iii.1964, coll. B.S. Lamba.

Distribution: All the states of India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

13. *Bengalia varicolor (Fabricius)

Musca varicolor Fabricius, 1805, *Syst. Antliat.* 296.

Material examined: 2M, Rajatgarh, Baratang, S. Andaman, 22.iii.1964, coll. B.S. Lamba.

Distribution: Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

14. *Chrysomya megacephala (Fabricius)

Musca megacephala Fabricius, 1794, *Syst. Ent.* 4: 317.

Material examined: 1M, Delanipur, Port Blair, 7.vi.1982, coll. V. Arumugam.

Distribution: Common in all the states of India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

15. *Chrysomya rufifacies (Macquart)

Lucilia orientalis Macquart, 1842, *Mem. Soc. Sci. Agric. Lille*, 2: 303 (1843: 146)

Material examined: 1M, Rajatgarh, Baratang, S. Andaman, 22.iii.1964 coll. B.S. Lamba.

Distribution: Common in India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

J) Family: Sarcophagidae

****16. *Boettcherisca (s. str.) peregrina***

(Robineau-Desvoidy)

Myophora peregrina Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830, *Mem. Pres. Acad. Sci. Inst. Fr.* (2): 356.

Material examined: 1M, Campbell Bay, Great Nicobar, 22.iii.1966, coll. A. Daniel and H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Widely distributed in India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

****17. *Parasarcophaga (s. str.) albiceps***
(Meigen)

Sarcophaga albiceps Meigen, 1826, *Syst. Besch. europ. zweifl. Insekt.* 5: 22.

Material examined: 1M, Horticulture Garden, Haddo, Port Blair, Andaman Island, 2.iii.1964, coll. B.S. Lamba; 1M, Netajinagar, Little Andaman, 18.i.1988 coll. A.N.T. Joseph; 1F, Galathea Bay, Great Nicobar, 28.iii.1966, coll. A. Daniel, & H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Common in all parts of India including Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Islands, Assam, Bihar, Kashmir, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

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****18. *Parasarcophaga (Liosarcophaga) dux***
(Thomson)

Sarcophaga dux Thomson, 1868, *K. svenska Fregatten Eugenie's Resa*, Dipt., 2: 534.

Material examined: 1M, Campbell Bay, 3.iii.1966, coll. A. Daniel and H.K. Bhowmick.

Distribution: Andaman and Nicobar

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26. SEASONAL OCCURRENCE OF *MELANITIS LEDA ISMENE* (CRAMER),
SATYRIDAE: LEPIDOPTERA, WITH COMMENTS ON
ITS DRY AND WET SEASON FORMS

(With one text-figure)

Melanitis leda ismene (Cramer) a butterfly of Family Satyridae (Order Lepidoptera) is widespread in West Africa, Southeast Asia and Australia (Bingham 1905, Talbot 1947, Grist and Lever 1969, Eliot 1992). It is the only nocturnal Rhopaloceran and is commonly found near fluorescent lights. The species is reported to be a pest of paddy (Ayyar 1961, Sajjan and Singh 1972) and has been collected from different parts of north India (Rose and Sharma 1998), but there is hardly any report on the biology of this species. Sajjan and Singh (1972) only mentioned the availability of its horned caterpillar on paddy in

September-October, and the life span of the adults as 18-20 days.

This study was intended to observe the occurrence of wet and dry season forms and to examine the possible reasons for their appearance. The incidence of the dry and wet season forms in 1998 was recorded.

The adults of *Melanitis leda ismene* were collected from the bushes and dry leaves under the forest trees, close to paddy fields around Chandigarh, where they hide during the day. A strip of forestland measuring 100 m x 40 m was selected for the collection of butterflies. Night



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