

# ON THE COLLECTIONS OF LEPIDOPTERA FROM THE SILENT VALLEY, KERALA

By

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## INTRODUCTION

The Zoological Survey of India conducted several faunistic surveys in the unexplored areas of Silent Valley. Fairly good collections of lepidoptera have been brought to the Z.S.I. so as to give the authors an opportunity for their taxonomical studies. The paper deals with 27 species in 19 genera under 6 families of Rhopalocera and 2 species in 2 genera under a couple of families of Heterocera. All the species are for the first time recorded from the concerned area. Their original and current references, and also geographical distribution have been given.

## SYSTEMATIC ACCOUNT

### Family DANAIIDAE

#### 1. *Idea lynceus* (Drury)

1773. *Papilio lynceus* Drury, *III. Exot. Ins.*, 2 : 12, pl. 7, fig. 1.

1941. *Idea lynceus*, Talbot, *Trans. R. ent. Soc. Lond.*, 91 (4) : 105—117.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala ; Silent Valley, on the left bank of the river Kunti about 5 kms. away from the Dam site, 24. iv. 1980 (R. S. Pillai Coll.).

*Length of forewing* 56 mm.

*Distribution* : India : Sunderbans, Western ghats, Kerala ; Sri-Lanka ; Burma ; Malaya ; Sumatra ; Borneo.

*Remarks* : Wynter-Blyth (1957) has referred to this species, popularly called "the Tree Nymph", under the genus *Hestia* and, erroneously cited Moore & de Niceville as the authors of the species. However, following Talbot (1947), the authors have retained the species under the genus *Idea* Fabricius.

#### 2. *Danaus aglea* (Stoll)

1781. *Papilio aglea* Stoll, In Cramer, *Pap. Exot.*, 4 : pl. 377.

1939. *Danaus aglea*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 37.

*Material examined*: 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, near river bridge, 16. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party coll.) ; 1 ex., Dam site, along Kumatanthodu, 960 m., 19. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing*: 30 mm.

*Distribution*: India: Southern to Western Peninsula, the Himalayas east from Kashmir, Assam, West Bengal, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; South China: Taiwan, Hainan; Vietnam: Tonkin, Annam; Thailand and Malaya.

*Remarks*: The species, popularly known as "The Glassy Tiger", is fairly common in the Indian subregion.

### 3. *Danaus limniace* (Cramer)

1775. *Papilio limniace* Cramer, *Pap. Exot.*, 1: pl. 59.

1947. *Danaus limniace*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India*, Butterflies, 2: 30.

*Material examined*: 2 exs., Kerala, Palghat, 24 kms. N. W. of Mukkali, project site, base camp, 15. i. 1980; 2 exs., 30 kms. N. W. of Mukkali, 25. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya Coll.); 2 exs., Valiyaparathodu, 4 kms. from camp 2, 24. i. 1980—26. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* 38—46 mm.

*Distribution*: South China: Taiwan; India; Sri Lanka; Burma; Malaysia; Sula Islands; Java; the Philippines; Luzon; Sulawesi; Moluccus.

*Remarks*: The species, popularly known as "the Blue Tiger", is found throughout the plains and hills of India and also the Andaman and Nicobar groups of Islands.

### 4. *Euploea core* (Cramer)

1780. *Papilio core* Cramer, *Pap. Exot.*, 3: 133, pl. 267, figs E-F.

1857. *Euploea core*, Horsfield & Moore, *Cat. Lep. Mus. E. I. C.*, 1: 131, pl. 4, figs. 9-9a.

*Material examined* 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Kunthi River vicinity near Hydro-Electric Project-site, 16. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 44 mm.

*Distribution* : India ; Sri Lanka ; Sumatra ; Java and eastwards.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as "the Common India Crow", is very common in India.

Family SATYRIDAE

5. *Melanitis leda* (Linnaeus)

1758. *Papilio ledu* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, 1 (2) : 773.

1927. *Melanitis leda*, Fruhstorfer, In Seitz, *The Macrolepidoptera of the World, the Indo-Australian Rhopalcera*, 9 : 362.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 3 kms. N. W. of Mukkali, 25. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.); 1 ex., Valiyaparathodu camp, 26. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao Coll.); 1 ex., 100 m. beyond Karimalaithodu, 960 m., 29. iv. 1980, 1 ex., Karimalaithodu, 900 m. 29. iv. 1980 (R. S. Pillai Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 28—40 mm.

*Distribution* : Southern China ; Indo-Australia ; Korea ; South Japan and Ethiopian region.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as the "Common Evening Brown", is very common in India.

Family NYMPHALIDAE

6. *Euthalia lepidea* (Butler)

1868. *Adolias lepidea* Butler, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (4) 1 : 71.

1905. *Euthalia lepidea*, Bingham, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 272.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 4 kms. towards Kummattanthodu ; 960 m., 18. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 30 mm.

*Distribution* : India : Kumaon, Assam, Orissa, Kerala ; Burma ; Vietnam : Tonkin ; Malaya Peninsula.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as the "the Gray Count", is not common in south India.

7. *Pantoporia* sp.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 4 kms. N. E. of Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* 30 mm.

*Remarks* : The specimen could not be identified upto species due to the badly damaged condition. However, the genus, popularly known as “the Sergeants”, is confined to Asia only.

### 8. *Neptis hylas* (Linnaeus)

1758. *Papilio hylas* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, Ed. 10 : 486.

1927. *Neptis hylas*, Fruhstorfer, In Seitz, *The Macrolepidoptera of the World, the Indo-Australian Rhopalocera*, 9 : 101.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 5 kms. away from Dam-site, 15. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., 8 kms. away from Silent Valley, 15. i. 1980, 1 ex., Dam-site, 880—980 m, 16. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao Coll.) ; 1 ex., 4 kms. N. E. of Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.) ; Valiyaparakummathanthodu, 870 m., 3. v. 1980 (R. S. Pillai Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 24 mm.

*Distribution* : India ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; Malayan subregion including the Lesser Sunda Islands ; Palaearctic Asia and Europe.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Common Sailor”, is very common in India.

### 9. *Neptis jumbah* Moore

1857. *Neptis jumbah* Moore, *Cat. Lep. E.I.C. Mus.*, 1 : 167.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 8 kms. away from Mukkali, 15. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 28 mm.

*Distribution* : India : Eastern (West Bengal) and Southern peninsula, the Andaman Islands ; Burma (Rangoon).

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Chestnut-streaked Sailor”, is common in India.

### 10. *Hypolimnas misippus* (Linnaeus)

1764. *Papilio misippus* Linnaeus, *Mus. Ulric.*, p. 264.

1905. *Hypolimnas misippus*, Bingham, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 388.

*Material examined* 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 8 kms. west of Valiyaparathodu camp, 26. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 36 mm.

*Distribution* : China ; Pakistan : Baluchistan ; India including the Andaman & Car Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; Malayan Subregion ; Ethiopian and Neotropical regions.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Danaid Eggfly”, is abundant in South India. The female of this species is a very good mimic of “the Plain Tiger”, *Danaus chrysippus* Linn.

### 11. *Precis hierta* (Fabricius)

1798. *Papilio hierta* Fabricius, *Ent. Syst. Suppl.*, p. 424.

1927. *Precis hierta*, Fruhstorfer, in Seitz, *The Macrolepidoptera of the World, the Indo-Australian Rhopalocera*, 9 : 524.

*Material examined* 1 ex., Ca. 8 kms. west of Valiyaparathodu camp, 26. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya Coll.); 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Valiyaparathodu, 1005 m., 25. i. 1980 ; 1 ex. ; Kummathanthodu area, 890 m., 22. iv. 1980 ; 2 exs., about 2 kms. from camp site along the road leading to Mukkali, 1000 m., 4. v. 1980 (R. S. Pillai & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 22—24 mm.

*Distribution* : South China ; Pakistan : Baluchistan ; India including the Andaman Islands ; Sri Lanka ; Burma.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Yellow Pansy”, is very common in India. It is interesting to note that the colour of the underside of both wings resembles dry grass. This resemblance affords protection to the concerned species.

### 12. *Precis lemonias* (Linnaeus)

1758. *Papilio lemonias* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, Ed. 10 : p. 473.

1927. *Precis lemonias*, Fruhstorfer, In Seitz, *The Macrolepidoptera of the World, the Indo-Australian Rhopalocera*, 9 : 520.

*Material examined* : 2 ex., along Valiyaparathodu and Kunti river, 940 m., 22. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.) ; 2 exs., 4 kms. N. E. of Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 14–25 mm.

*Distribution* : South China : Taiwan ; India ; Bhutan ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; the Philippines.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Lemon Pansy”, is common in India.

### 13. *Precis atlites* (Linnaeus)

1764. *Papilio atlites* Linnaeus, *Mus. Ulric.*, p. 273.

1927. *Precis atlites* Fruhstorfer, In Seitz., *The Macrolepidoptera of the World, the Indo-Australian Rhopalocera*, 9 : 519.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Valiyaparathodu camp, 26. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 31 mm.

*Distribution* : South China ; Vietnam ; Annam ; Tonkin ; India including the Andaman and Central Nicobar Islands ; Burma ; Sri-Lanka ; Thailand ; Java ; Kangean ; Lombok ; Sulawesi.

*Remarks* The species, popularly known as “the Grey Pansy”, is locally common.

### 14. *Precis iphita* (Cramer)

1779. *Papilio iphita* Cramer, *Pap. Exot.*, 3 : pl. 209, figs. C-D.

1927. *Precis iphita* Fruhstorfer, In Seitz, *The Macrolepidoptera of the World, the Indo-Australian Rhopalocera*, 9 : 517.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Ptera, 8 kms. West of Valiyaparathodu camp, 26. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya Coll.) ; 2 exs., road to Valiyaparathodu, 920m., 23. iv. 1980 ; 2 exs., Dam site, 890 m., 27. iv. 1980 (R. S. Pillai & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 25 mm.

*Distribution* : Central and South China (Taiwan) ; India ; Sri-Lanka ; Burma.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Chocolate Pansy”, is common in India.

15. *Atella phalantha* (Drury)

1770. *Papilio phalantha*, Drury, *III. Exot. Ins.*, 1 : pl. 21, figs. 1-2.

1905. *Atella phalantha*, Bingham, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 412.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 20. i. 1979. (R. S. Pillai & party Coll.); 1 ex., 4 kms. north of Valiyaparathodu 980 m., 28. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 24—27 mm.

*Distribution* : China ; Pakistan (Baluchistan) ; India including the central Nicobar Island ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; Malayan subregion ; Japan.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Common Leopard”, is widely distributed and common in India.

Family LYCAENIDAE

16. *Zizeeria* sp.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 5 kms. east of the camp, Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 11 mm.

*Remarks* : The species could not be determined due to the paucity and damaged condition of material.

Family PAPILIONIDAE

17. *Troides helena* (Linnaeus)

1758. *Papilio helena* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, Ed. 10 : p. 461.

1939. *Troides helena*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 62.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, 30 kms., N. W. of Mukkali, Palghat, 30. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 79 mm.

*Distribution* : India Sikkim, Assam, Orissa, Kerala, Bombay, the Andaman & South Nicobar Islands ; Sri Lanka ; Burma.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Birdwing” is the largest of all Indian butterflies and not rare in the Indian subregion.

18. **Parides (Atrophoneura) varuna (White)**1842. *Papilio varuna* White, *Entom.*, 1 (17) : 280.1961. *Parides (Atrophoneura) varuna*, Munroe, *Canad. Ent. Suppl.*, 71 : 46.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Dam site, Kummathanthodu, 840 m., 22. iv. 1980 (R. S. Pillai & party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 52 mm.

*Distribution* : Vietnam : Tonkin ; India : Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala ; Burma ; Mergui Archipelago ; Tavoy ; Thailand ; Malaya Peninsula.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as "the Common Batwing," is recorded for the first time from Kerala.

19. **Pachliopta aristolochiae (Fabricius)**1755. *Papilio aristolochiae* Fabricius, *Syst. Ent.*, p. 443.1961. *Pachliopta aristolochiae*, Munroe, *Canad. Ent. Suppl.*, 17 : 46

*Material examined* 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Dam site, 17. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya Coll.); 1 ex., 4 kms. towards north from camp II, Valiyaparathodu, 980 m., 25. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* 47—50 mm.

*Distribution* : West, Central and South China ; India ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; the Philippines ; Sundaland ; the Lesser Sunda Islands.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as "the Common Rose", is very common almost all over the plains of India.

20. **Papilio clytia Linnaeus**1768. *Papilio clytia* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, Ed. 10 : p. 479.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Kerala, Silent Valley, Valiyaparathodu, 900 m., 26. iv. 1980 (R. S. Pillai & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* 42 mm.



*Distribution* : South China ; Vietnam : Tonkin ; India : Kangra to Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Northern (Madhya Pradesh), Southern and Western (Bombay) peninsulas ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; Sunda land ; Timor ; the Philippines.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as the "Common Mime", is a good mimic of *Danaus limniace* (Cramer),

### 21. *Graphium* (*Graphium*) *sarpedon* (Linn.)

1758. *Papilio sarpedon* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, Ed. 10 : p. 461.

1961. *Graphium* (*Graphium*) *sarpedon* Munroe, *Canad. Ent. Suppl.*, 17 : 19.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Valiyaparathoda, 21. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya and party Coll.) ; 1 ex., half way to Valiyaparathoda, 1005 m., 25. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., Kummattanthodu, 870 m., 23. iv. 1980 ; 3 exs., Valiyaparathodu, 910 m., 25-26. iv. 1980, (R. S. Pillai & Party Coll.) ; 1 ex., along Kuntipuzha, 900 m., 17. i. 1980 ; 2 exs., 5 km, east from Camp. II., Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 34—40 mm.

*Distribution* China ; India : Kashmir, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala ; Burma ; Malayan subregion ; the Australian region ; South Japan.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as "the Common Blue-bottle", is common in India proper.

### 22. *Graphium* (*Graphium*) *doson* (C. & R. Felder)

1864. *Papilio doson* C. & R. Felder, *Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien.*, 14 : 305.

1961. *Graphium* (*Graphium*) *doson*, Munroe, *Canad. Ent. Suppl.*, 17 : 19.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., 5 kms. East from camp II., Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 38 mm.

*Distribution* : South China ; India : North-Western and North-Eastern Himalayas, Kerala ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; Sunda Islands ; South Japan.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as "the Common Jay", is common in India proper.

## Family PIERIDAE

23. *Appias indra* (Moore)1857. (a) *Pieris indra* Moore. *Cat. Lep. Mus. E.I.C.*, 1 : 74.1939. *Appias indra*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 390.

*Material examined* : 16 exs., Damsite, Silent Valley, 17. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.) ; 25. exs., along Kuntipuzha, 900m., 17. i. 1980 ; 3 exs., Dam site, Kuntipuzha river, 960 m., 19. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., Valiyaparathodu camp, tributary of Kunti river, 960 m., 21. i. 1980 ; 4 exs., 5 kms., east from camp II, Valiyaparathodu, 23. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 23—27 mm.

*Distribution* South China : Taiwan, Hainan ; Sri Lanka ; Burma ; Malaya ; Borneo ; Palawan.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Plain Puffin”, is rare in South India and Sri Lanka but common in North India.

24. *Appias albina* (Boisduval)1838. *Pieris albina* Boisduval, *Sp. Gen. Lep.*, 1 : 480.1907. *Appias albina*, Bingham, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 2 : 212.

*Material examined* : 18 exs., Dam site, 17. 1. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.) ; 2 exs., along Kuntipuzha, 900 m., 17. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., within 4 kms. from Kumattanthodu, 960 m., 18. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., Dam site, Kuntipuzha river, 960 m., 19. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., 5 kms. east from camp II, Valiyaparathodu, 940 m., 23. i. 1980 ; 3 exs., 1 km. west from the Base Camp, 1040 m., 25. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 26—30 mm.

*Distribution* China ; India ; the Philippines ; Papuan region ; Moluccas ; Australia.

*Remarks* : The species, popularly known as “the Common Albatross”, is common in South India.

25. *Ixias marianne* (Cramer)1779. *Papilio marianne* Cramer, *Pap. Exot.*, 111 : 41, pl. 217, figs. C-D (Female), E (Male).1939. *Ixias marianne*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India, Butterflies*, 1 : 440.

*Material examined*: 1 ex., 3 kms. away from Valiyaparathodu camp, 26. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing*: 23—25 mm.

*Distribution*: India Kumaon, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Saurashtra, Southern Peninsula ; Sri Lanka.

*Remarks*: The species, popularly known as “the White Orange Tip”, is common in India proper.

## 26. *Eurema laeta* (Boisduval)

1836. *Terias laeta* Boisduval, *Sp. Gen. Lep.*, 1 : 674.

1939. *Eurema laeta*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India*, Butterflies, 1 : 517.

*Material examined*: 1 ex., 4 kms. South-West of Valiyaparathodu, 24. i. 1980 ; 1 ex., Kunthi River, near Hydro-electric project site, 16. i. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.) ; 2 exs., near Dam site, Silent Valley, 880--980 m., 16. 1. 1980 ; 2 exs., Karimalaithodu, 29. iv. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.) ; 1 ex., 2 kms., from camp site along the road leading to Mukkali, 1000 m., 4. v. 1980 (R. S. Pillai & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing*: 13—20 mm.

*Distribution*: U.S.S.R. (Amur) ; North & South China ; Vietnam, (Tonkin, Annam) ; India ; Burma ; Java ; Kei Islands ; the Philippines ; Timor ; Japan.

*Remarks*: The species, popularly known as “the Spotless Grass yellow”, is very common throughout the plains and hills of India.

## 27. *Eurema hecabe* (Linnaeus)

1758. *Papilio hecabe* Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.*, Ed., 10 : p. 470.

1939. *Eurema hecabe*, Talbot, *Fauna Brit. India*, Butterflies, 1 : 526.

*Material examined*: 1 ex., Valiyaparathodu, 26. iv. 1980 ; 1 ex., 8 kms. away from Dam site, 15. i. 1980 (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.) ! 1 ex., about 2 kms. away from the camp site along the road leading to Mukkali, 1000 m., 4. v. 1980 (S. K. Bhattacharya & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing*: 19—22 mm.

*Distribution* Ethiopian ; Oriental, Australian and Palaearctic regions as far as upto Korea and Japan.

*Remarks* The species, popularly known as "the Common Grass Yellow", is very common in India proper.

Family ARCTIIDAE

28. *Phissama transiens* (Walker)

1855. *Spilosoma transiens* Walker, *List Lep. Insects Br. Mus.*, 3 : 675.

1894. *Phissama transiens*, Hampson, *Fauna Brit. India, Moths*, 2 : 29-30.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Karimalaithodu, 29. iv. 1980. (K. R. Rao & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 21 mm.

*Distribution* : China ; India ; Burma ; Borneo ; Sulawesi ; the Philippines ; Moluccus.

*Remarks* : The species, is variable in colouration specially of the wings in males and females.

Family SPHINGIDAE

29. *Macroglossum* sp.

*Material examined* : 1 ex., Valiyaparathodu, 910 m , 25. iv. 1980 (R. S. Pillai & Party Coll.).

*Length of forewing* : 22 mm.

*Remarks* : Due to the paucity and damaged condition of the material, it is not possible by the authors to identify the specimen upto the specific level.

SUMMARY

The communication highlights an interesting account on the systematics including the biogeography of the lepidopterous material collected during all the seasons between 1979 and 1980 by the parties from the Zoological Survey of India including one of its Southern Regional Station, Tamil Nadu, from the unexplored forests of Silent Valley, Kerala, whence all the elements constitute new locality records. Presently, 29 species in 21 genera of 8 families under both suborders

**Rhopalo- and Heterocera** of the concerned order have been incorporated. Only two species of the former and one of the latter suborder, which are poorly represented in the available collections on one hand and badly damaged on the other, could not, however, be authentically determined.

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