

NEW RECORDS AND NEW HOST RECORDS OF SOME  
*BRACHYMERIA* SPECIES (Hymenoptera : Chalcididae)

T. C. NARENDRAN and K. J. JOSEPH

Department of Zoology, University of Calicut, Kerala

Studies by Joseph, Narendran and Joy (1973) have shown that the genus *Brachymeria* Westwood is widely distributed and is the most common genus of chalcid parasites of many pests of agricultural importance. Nevertheless information about the hosts and the distribution of many species of *Brachymeria* are still lacking and incomplete. The object of present note is to add new information on the distribution and on the hosts of some species of *Brachymeria*.

1. *Brachymeria* (*Neobrachymeria*) *nosatoi* Habu

We record this species for the first time from New Guinea (Australian realm) and for first time from the host the Pink Boll Worm of cotton (*Pectinophora gossypiella* S : Gelechiidae). We refer to this species several specimens collected by J. N. L. Stibick from Papua, N. Guinea, on 14-5-1971 and on 7-6-1973.

Past host records: *Dioryctria splendidella* H. (Pyralidae) *Evetria cristata* W. (Olethreutidae)

Past records of distribution: Japan, Laos, Philippines and India,

2. *Brachymeria* (*Brachymeria*) *gigantica* Joseph *et al.*

We record this species for the first time from Papua, New Guinea, and for the first time from the host *Melanitis lida* (Nymphalidae), a pest of paddy. We refer to this species six specimens collected by J. J. Sent-Ivany and A. Catley from Iriti village, Gulf district, Papu, N. Guinea, on 8-5-1959.

Past host records: Nil

Past records of distribution: Java only.

3. *Brachymeria* (*Brachymeria*) *megaspila* (Cameron)

We record this species for the first time from N. Guinea and for the first time from the host *Delias isis* (Pieridae) from mistletoe which grows on trees. We refer to this species two specimens collected by J. H. Ardley on 10-9-1958 and on 1-11-1959 from Bubia Lae, N. Guinea,

Past host records: *Eurema hecabe* L. (Pieridae), *Eurema blanda silhelana* (Pieridae),

Past records of distribution: India, Vietnam & Java,

4. *Brachymeria* (*Brachymeria*) *albotibialis* (Ashmead)

We record this species the first time from N. Guinea. We refer to this species two specimens collected by B. A. O' Connor (on 27-5-1959) and J. H. Ardley (on 1-11-1945) from Bubia Lae, N. Guinea.

Past host record: *Erinota thrax* L. (Hesperiidae), *Parnara mathias* F. (Hesperiidae) and *Pericyma crugeri* B. (Noctuidae).

Past records of distribution: Philippines & India.

5. *Brachymeria* (*Brachymeria*) *excarinata* Gahan.

We record this species for the first time from N. Guinea. We refer to this species a single specimen collected by J. N. L. Stibick from Papua, N. Guinea on 14-9-1972. We also record this species for the first time from the host *Parnara mathias* F. (Hesperiidae) collected from Shillong, Assam (India) (collector unknown) on II-1963.

Past host records: *Cnaphalocrocis medinalis* G (Pyralidae), *Plutella maculipennis* C. (Yponomeutidae) *Grapholitha mjlesta* B (Eucosmidae), *Compolechia metagramma* M (Gelechiidae), and *Homona* sp (Tortricidae).

Past records of distribution: India, Thailand, Singapore, B. N. Borneo, Phillipines, China Vietnam, Taiwan, Laos, Formosa, Japan & Egypt.

6. *Brachymeria* (*Brachymeria*) *amphissa* (Walker)

We record this species for the first time from the host *Anaphaeis aurota aurota* (Pieridae). We refer to this species a single specimen collected by J. C. Basu Cheudhuri from Coimbatore (S. India) on 29-10-1971.

Past host record: *Earias* sp.

Past record of distribution: India.

## Summary

Five species of *Brachymeria* viz. *B.* (*Neobrachymeria*) *nosatoi* H, *B.* (*B.*) *gigantica* J. et al., *B.* (*B.*) *megaspila* (C.), *B.* (*B.*) *albotibialis* (A.) and *B.* (*B.*) *excarinata* G. are reported for the first time from New Guinea (Austaralian realm) and from five different new hosts. Another species viz. *B.* (*B.*) *amphissa* (W.) is reported for the first time from the host *Anaphaeis aurota aurota* (Pieridae) from India.

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### സംഗ്രഹം

സൂഗിനിയായിൽ നിന്നും 'ബ്രാക്കിമീറിയയുടെ' അഞ്ചു പുതിയ സ്ത്രീബീസുകളെ കണ്ടു പിടിക്കുകയും അവ അഞ്ചു പുതിയ ഹോസ്റ്റുകളിൽ കാണപ്പെടുകയും ചെയ്തു. ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ ഒരു സ്ത്രീബീസും ഒരു പുതിയ ഹോസ്റ്റിൽ നിന്നും റിപ്പോർട്ട് ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്.

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