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New records of Noctuid moths (Lepidoptera, Noctuidae) from India, Bhutan and China

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Abstract

The five species, *Harutaeographa brumosa* Yoshimoto, 1994, *Nyctycia asymmetrica* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998, *Hemiglaea costigera* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998, *Owadaglaea barna* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998, and *O. triangulifera* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998 are reported for the first time from the Himalayan region of India, Bhutan and China. For two species, *N. asymmetrica* and *H. costigera*, the females are described for the first time. Male and female genitalia of all species are illustrated and new distributional data is provided.

Key words: Biodiversity, Distribution, Himalaya, New record

Introduction

Knowledge of the Noctuidae fauna of the Himalaya and adjacent territories has considerably increased from the early 1900s (Benedek *et al.* 2005). Most of the Xylenini and Orthosiini fauna of the wider Himalayan region were explored and the findings published by Hreblay & Ronkay (1998), Owada (1993), Ronkay & Ronkay (2001), Benedek *et al.* (2005), Ronkay *et al.*, (2010), Benedek *et al.* (2012), Benedek *et al.* (2012a), Benedek *et al.* (2013), Saldaitis *et al.* (2014), and Benedek & Saldaitis (2014). However, apart from the inclusion of few described species in major taxonomic revisions, the noctuids of the Indian part of the Himalaya is rather poorly explored. Present study, an ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institutes in-house project, reports recent explorations undertaken in parts of Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh. We have also studied specimens from Nepal, Bhutan and China housed in the private collections of the second author and Mr. Alessandro Floriani. *Harutaeographa brumosa* Yoshimoto, 1994 typical of the tribe Orthosiini, is new to the fauna of China; *Hemiglaea costigera* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998 is new to Bhutan. Both of these, as well as *Nyctycia asymmetrica* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998, *Owadaglaea barna* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998 and *O. triangulifera* Hreblay & Ronkay, 1998 are new to the fauna of India. The species diagnosis and genitalia characteristics of the all the species wherever required are presented, along with distributional information. The female genitalia of *N. asymmetrica* and *H. costigera* are illustrated for the first time.

Material and method

The specimens included in the present study were collected from parts of Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh, India using ultraviolet light traps. We have also examined specimens collected by the second author from Nepal and further specimens from Bhutan and China. Voucher material of Indian specimens has been deposited at the National Pusa Collection, Division of Entomology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI), New Delhi, India (NPC). Male and female genitalia studies were carried out as described by Ronkay & Ronkay (2000) and Ronkay