

Bull. zool. Surv. India, 6 (1-3) : 337, 1984

A CASE OF HYALOMMA TICK INFESTATION IN MAN

Hyalomma ticks chiefly parasitise domestic animals and immature stages usually attack the same host as adults. The present note on the occurrence of a nymph of *Hyalomma anatolicum anatolicum* Koch, 1844-as far as the authors are aware is the first account of its incidence in man in India.

A nymph was encountered from a resident of Goghat, in the Hooghly district of West Bengal, who happens to attend cattle almost regularly. The nymph was found attached at the margin of the upper eye-lid amongst eye-lashes. The margin as well as the adjoining portion of the eye-lid was swollen and the man suffered pain and itching in addition to uneasy sensation.

The nymph, in general, agreed well with the description of *Hyalomma a. anatolicum* given by Singh and Dhanda (1965).

Hyalommas are known to be unusually efficient vectors of a variety of disease causing organisms including viruses and rickettsiae and may even cause paralysis in man and

animals (Hoogstraal, 1956, Kaiser and Hoogstraal, 1964). In view of these, the occurrence of *Hyalomma a. anatolicum* in man, appears to be a bio-medically significant host-parasite relationship.

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*Zoological Survey of India,
Sundarban Field Research Station, Canning town,
24 Parganas, West Bengal, India

N. C. NANDI*
AND
S. K. DE

Zoological Survey of India,
Calcutta.