

## A NOTE ON INDIAN WATER-MITES.

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The earliest record of Indian water-mites seems to be a paper by E. von Daday, who described some species from Ceylon<sup>1</sup>. Descriptions of new species of Hydracarina from India will shortly be published in the *Zoologische Jahrbücher, Abt. Systematik*, and in this note only a list of the species is given.

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. B. N. Chopra, who kindly submitted for examination and identification some collections from the Zoological Survey of India, Indian Museum, Calcutta.

The localities where the mites were found are Bengal, Burma, United Provinces, Siam and the Andamans. In all 15 species have been identified, and of these 8 are either new species or new varieties. The specimens in the two genera *Hydrachna* and *Arrhenurus*, having been obtained only in immature stages, have had to be left without specific identification. The remaining 5 species are :—

*Diplodontus despiciens* (O. F. M.), known as common from Europe, Asia, America and Africa.

*Hygrobates falcipalpis* Koen., known from Java.<sup>2</sup>

*Encentridophorus chelatus* Walter ?, known from Aru-Isles.<sup>3</sup>

*Arrhenurus pseudoaffinis* Piers., known from Sumatra.<sup>4</sup>

*Arrhenurus congener* Daday, known from Ceylon.<sup>1</sup>

Besides these I found, among the collections of the Indian Museum, larval stages of Hydracarina attached to several aquatic insects.

The distribution of the 15 species is as follows :—

### I. Bengal :—

*Eylais degenerata asiatica* Viets.

*Hydrachna trilobata* Viets.

*Hydrachna* sp.

*Diplodontus despiciens* (O. F. M.).

*Hygrobates falcipalpis* Koenike.

*Unionicola diversipes* Viets.

*Unionicola scutigera* Viets.

*Arrhenurus pseudoaffinis* Piersig.

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<sup>1</sup> E. v. Daday. Mikroskopische Süßwasserthiere aus Ceylon. *Természetrázi Füzetek* XXI, Anhangsheft (1898).

<sup>2</sup> F. Koenike. Hydrachniden aus Java. 2. *Beiheft Jahrb. Hamburg Wissensch. Anstalten* XXIII (1906).

<sup>3</sup> Ch. Walter. Hydracarina von den Aru-Inseln. *Abh. Senckenberg. Nat. Ges.* XXXIV (1911).

<sup>4</sup> R. Piersig. Ueber Süßwasser-Acarinen von Hinterindien, Sumatra, Java und den Sandwich-Inseln. *Zoolog. Jahrb., Abt. Syst.* XXIII (1906).

[The author seems to have overlooked a paper by E. von Daday, published in *Rec. Ind. Mus.* II, pp. 339, 340 (1908), in which a new species is described under the name of *Eulais tibetana*. Ed.]

## II. Burma :—

*Unionicola diversipes* Viets.

*Arrhenurus hamiger* Viets.

## III. United Provinces :—

*Eylais degenerata asiatica* Viets.

*Eylais rimosoides* Viets.

*Limnesia gentilis indica* Viets.

*Neumania volzi indica* Viets.

*Encentridophorus chelatus* Walter ?

*Arrhenurus congener* Daday.

## IV. Siam :—

*Hygrobates falcipalpis* Koenike.

*Arrhenurus* sp.

## V. Andamans :—

*Arrhenurus pseudoaffinis* Piersig.

The species dealt with in this note are preserved in the collections of the Zoological Survey of India and are registered under numbers 2905/19 : 8611/42 to 8634/42.