



Rec. zool. Surv. India : **109**(Part-3) : 115-116, 2009

Short Communication

FIRST RECORD OF *RHINOCYPHA TRIFASCIATA* SELYS FROM MAHARASHTRA, INDIA (ODONATA : ZYGOPTERA : CHLOROCYPHIDAE)

Among total 18 Indian species/subspecies of Genus *Rhinocypha* Rambur 1842 (Lahiri and Sinha, 1991; Prasad and Varshney, 1995; Mitra, 2002), only one species *i.e.*, *R. bisignata* (Selys) is recorded till date from the Maharashtra State (Prasad, 1996a). While studying the Odonata collection from Maharashtra State we came across the some specimens of *Rhinocypha trifasciata* Selys. Previously, *R. trifasciata* Selys has been reported from Punjab (Kailana-Fraser, 1927; Laidlaw, 1917); Himachal Pradesh (Kangra valley-Fraser, 1934; Solan-Lahiri and Sinha, 1991); Jammu (Lahiri and Sinha, 1991); Uttar Pradesh (Kumar, 1982; Lahiri and Sinha, 1991), Western Himalaya (Asahina, 1955; Kumar and Prasad, 1981), Uttarakhand (Dehra Dun, Mussorie-Bhasin, 1953; Garhwal Hills-Prasad, 1974); Chattisgarh (Bastar-Prasad, 1996b); Nagaland and West Bengal (Mitra, 2002). Distribution of this species has not been reported earlier from Maharashtra. This present communication is intended to report the extended distribution of *R. trifasciata* Selys in the Maharashtra.

Material examined : 2♂♂, 1♀, Burgaon, Nagpur, 26.03.2004, Coll. S.B. Mondal (ZSI Registration No. 4749/H13, 4750/H13, 4751/H13).

Measurements : ♂ : abdomen 24 mm in length; hind-wing 26 mm in length; ♀ : abdomen 22 mm in length; hind-wing 30 mm in length.

Diagnostic characters : *Male* : Head glossy black in front, velvety black above; labium and labrum unmarked. Thorax black marked on sides with a broad broken yellow band; mesothoracic triangle very large, pale blue, extending from alar sinus to anterior border of thorax. A fine yellow line on first lateral suture, broken above, a shorter line on second lateral suture, incomplete below, a small spot below root of fore-wing. Wings partially hyaline from discoidal cell to apex, grayish by transmitted light, palely yellow at base, vitreous area bluish- violaceous or emerald green, according to the angle which it is viewed. Three blackish-brown bands traverse the hind wings from costa to posterior border. An apical band extending inwards to outer end of pterostigma, the iridescent area limited anteriorly by R_{ii} ; a medial band is situated at the junction of outer and middle third of the wing with serrated concave inner border, and slightly sinous convex outer from 4 to 8 cells wide, the iridescent area limited anteriorly by R_{ii} . An inner band with its inner border in line with distal to level of the node, limited costal wards by R_{4+5} , reaching the hind border of the wing, moderately straight on its proximal, but with only one prolongation on its distal border. Abdomen black, marked on each side of segments 1 to 3 with a small apico-lateral yellow spot.

Female : Head similar to male with a medial spot on hind border of occiput and moderately sized bright yellow spot on cheek near the eye. Thorax yellow in its upper half, this colour continued narrowly along both sides of the triangle. The mesothoracic triangle dark ochreous. Wings evenly and palely enfeebled throughout, with a pale greenish tint. Abdomen black, marked with ochreous as follows: A large lateral spot on segment 1, an apical spot and a basal stripe on segments 2 to 4, segment 5 with a small basal spot and segments 2 and 3 have a vestigial ventral stripe.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are grateful to Dr. Ramakrishna, Director, Zoological Survey of India and Dr. Animesh Bal, Scientist-E, Head, Division of Entomology- B, ZSI, Kolkata for providing various facilities and their kind encouragement.

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