

ON A SMALL COLLECTION OF TERMITES (ISOPTERA, INSECTA) FROM
BANGLADESH, WITH NOTES ON DISTRIBUTION

Akhtar (1975) has reported 55 termite species from Bangla Desh. A small collection of termites from that country, present in the Zoological Survey of India, was studied and eight species determined, as follows :

Family : KALOTERMITIDAE

1. *Cryptotermes havilandi* (Sjöstedt)

This is a widely distributed species in the Indian subcontinent and elsewhere, for details vide Chhotani (1970). From Bangla Desh it was so far reported from Chittagong and Sundarbans. It is reported here from around Dacca.

Family : RHINOTERMITIDAE

2. *Coptotermes heimi* (Wasmann)

This species is very common in the subcontinent and is very destructive. It is reported here from Dacca and Rajoir (about 64 km. south of Faridpur). Akhtar (1975) reports it from a number of other localities in Bangla Desh and Roonwal and Chhotani (1962) have given detailed distribution of the species.

3. *Heterotermes indicola* (Wasmann)

This is also a very destructive termite. It is widely distributed above 20° North

latitude in the subcontinent. From Bangla Desh it was known only from Khulna, and here it is reported from around Dacca.

Family : TERMITIDAE

4. *Odontotermes assmuthi* Holmgren

From Bangla Desh, it was reported from Dinajpur and Rajashahi Districts, and here we report it from Rajoir (Faridpur District). It is also a common species of the subcontinent.

5. *Odontotermes feae* (Wasmann)

It is recorded here from Rajoir, Faridpur District. It is reported from a number of localities by Akhtar (1975) in Bangla Desh. It is also found to occur in other parts of eastern India, Burma, Thailand and Vietnam.

6. *Odontotermes obesus* (Rambur)

This species is the most common species in the Indian subcontinent. From Bangla Desh it was reported from a number of localities (Akhtar, 1975), and here it is reported from Rajoir (Faridpur district).

7. *Odontotermes parvidens* Holmgren &
Holmgren

This is a fairly common species in the

northern parts of the Indian subcontinent. From Bangla Desh also it has been reported from a number of localities (Akhtar, 1975), and here it is reported from Rajoir (Faridpur district).

8. *Odontotermes redemanni* (Wasmann)

It is a common mound-building termite in Sri Lanka and southern and eastern India, and is reported here from around Dacca in Bangla Desh. Akhtar (1975), however, does not report it from Bangla Desh. This species, along with *O. obesus*, poses some problems in respect of determination as they are very close to each other.

REFERENCES

- AKHTAR, S. M. 1975. Taxonomy and zoogeography of the termites (Isoptera) of Bangla Desh. *Bull. Dept. Zool. Univ. Punjab* (N.S.), Art.7 : 1-199.
- CHHOTANI, O. B. 1970. Taxonomy, zoogeography and phylogeny of the genus *Cryptotermes* (Isoptera : Kalotermitidae) from the Oriental Region. *Mem. zool. Surv. India*, 15 (1) : 1-81.
- ROONWAL, M. L. AND CHHOTANI, O. B. 1962. *Indian Species of Termite Genus Coptotermes*. ix+115 pp. Delhi (*Indian Counc. Agric. Res. Entom. Monogr. No.2*). Manager of Publ., Govt. India.

*Zoological Survey of India,
Calcutta-700 012*

G. BOSE
AND
P. N. ROY