

## THE MOTHS OF BARKUDA ISLAND.

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The fact that the majority of the moths taken on Barkuda are widely distributed and easily recognised species has made it possible for me without any special knowledge to identify them with certainty. In the annotated list that follows I have thought it convenient to adopt the arrangement given in Hampson's volumes on moths in the "Fauna of British India" series, as, to have followed the system at present in vogue among Lepidopterists would have led to unavoidable complications, chiefly because the extensive moth collections of the Indian Museum have not as yet been brought up to date.

The moths have received sufficient in the way of introduction in Dr. Annandale's general introduction to the fauna of the island; and it seems only necessary to recapitulate here that they are fairly well represented, when one considers the peculiar features of Barkuda and the disadvantages to moth-life that they offer.

We have to thank Mr. T. Bainbrigge-Fletcher, R.N., F.L.S., F.E.S., F.Z.S., Imperial Entomologist, for the identification of the Micros and assistance in naming other specimens.

### ANNOTATED LIST.

- Gunda lugubris* Drury. 1 ex., 25-x-19 (*Annandale*).
- Cephanodes hylas* Linn. 1 ex., 15-22-vii-16 (*Annandale and Gravely*). The only Sphingid occasionally seen on Barkuda.
- Syntomis passalis* Fabr. 4 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravely*); ix-19 (*Dover*); 16-viii-20 (*Dover*). Not a rare moth on the island.
- Thyrassia subcordata* Wlk. 3 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravely*); 17-viii-20 (*Dover*). The species was occasionally seen in September, 1919 and in August, 1920.
- Euproctis* sp. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravely*).
- Perina nuda* Fabr. 2 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravely*). Not a common species on Barkuda.
- Hypsa alciphron* Cram. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravely*).
- Alphaea vittata* Moore. 1 ex., 9-x-20 (*Annandale*). Rare.
- Deiopeia pulchella* Linn. 4 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravely*); 9-vii-19 (*Annandale*); 14-viii-20 (*Dover*). One of the commonest moths on the island.
- Duomitus mineus* Cram. This species has been seen by Dr. Annandale who remarks on its resemblance to a large Buprestid beetle in his introduction to these reports.
- Thosea cana* Wlk. 3 ex., 18-ix-19 (*Brunetti*). Two of the three

specimens were taken *in copula* on the doorstep of the bungalow in the dark.

*Parasa hilaris* West. 2 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*); 14-viii-20 (*Dover*). A common Indian species not rare on Barkuda.

*Narosa* sp. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*).

*Lymantria rhodina* Wlk. 4 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*), 15-viii-20 (*Dover*). Hampson in the "Fauna" records this species from Sikkim and the Khasi Hills. On the island it is generally found on the trunks of fig-trees, and in this situation is almost invisible.

*Prodenia litura* Fabr. 2 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*). A widely distributed species rather rare on the island.

*Hyblaea puera* Cram. 10 ex. 15-22-vii-16 (*Annandale and Gravelly*); 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*); viii-20 (*Annandale*); 14-viii-20 (*Dover and Ribeiro*); 1-6-ix-19 (*Annandale*). This is one of the commonest moths on the island, being found especially on fig-trees and on the shrub *Glycosmis pentaphylla*. Two full-fed caterpillars were taken by Dr. Annandale on 19-viii-20. They started pupating on the next day and hatched out on the 28th of the same month. The pupae, which are brownish in colour, are generally found along the midrib of a leaf, the edges of which it draws together so as to conceal it almost entirely. The larvae have been proved pests of teak and rice.

*Odontodes aleuca* Guen. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*). Rare.

*Nyctipao macrops* Linn. 1 ex., 1-6-ix-19 (*Annandale*).

*Sphingomorpha chlorea* Cram. 1 ex., 25-vii-4-viii-17 (*Annandale*).

*Ophiusa mezentia* Cram. 3 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*); 29-iv-20 (*Dover*). Not an uncommon moth during the rains.

*Ophiusa dotata* Fabr. 1 ex., 25-vii-4-viii-17 (*Annandale*). Not seen of late years on Barkuda.

*Ophiusa coronata* Fabr. 3 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*); 17-ix-19 (*Annandale*); 13-viii-20 (*Dover and Ribeiro*). This species was sometimes abundant in the rains. Dr. Annandale has made the interesting observation that certain individuals developed the curious habit of coming to drink out of the glasses at dinner. They were by no means teetotal in their taste, and could imbibe quite an appreciable amount of whisky without being inebriated.

*Micronia aculeata* Guen. 3 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*); 1-6-iv-19 (*Annandale*). This species is not uncommon on Barkuda on the trunks of trees. One of the specimens has a bit torn out of the left hindwing as if by a lizard.

*Botyodes asialis* Guen. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*). A rare species.

*Glyphodes negatalis* Wlk. A common species on the island, being found in abundance on the walls of the bungalow at all seasons.

*Leucinodes apicalis* Hampson. 2 ex., 14-viii-20 (*Dover*). A common moth in August and September on Barkuda.

The following species have been identified by Mr. Fletcher:—

*Asura conferta* Wlk. 2 ex., ix-19 (*Dover*); viii-20 (*Annandale*).  
Dr. Annandale's example was caught in the pupal stage on 16-viii-20 and it hatched out on 24-viii-20.

*Asura rubricosa* Moore. 3 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*); 15-viii-20 (*Dover*); iv-20 (*Annandale and Dover*).

*Amsacta lineola* Fabr. 2 ex., 14-viii-20 (*Dover*).

*Spodoptera mauritia* Boisd. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*).

*Schoenobius bipunctifer* Wlk. 1 ex., 19-ix-19 (*Brunetti*).

*Cydia pseudonictis* Meyr. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*).

*Phycodes minor* Moore. 1 ex., 3-19-viii-19 (*Gravelly*). With the wings closed this insect bears a general resemblance to a small beetle.