

A NEW SPECIES OF *XERIS* (HYMENOPTERA-SIRICIDAE) FROM
THE HIMALAYAS.

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Table of Palaearctic species of *Xeris*.

- Vertex above ocelli smooth and polished, with only a few punctures along median line and in a sparse band above each eye; shoulders with a white stripe. Europe *spectrum*.
- Vertex above ocelli densely punctate; the smooth polished area reduced to a spot on each side at summit; shoulders with only a white spot *himalayensis*, sp. nov.

Xeris himalayensis, sp. nov.

♀ Head and antennae entirely black, except for small occipital spots. Thorax and abdomen entirely black, except for a yellow spot on cephalic aspect, extending slightly on to dorsal aspect of each shoulder and a pale area at base of sheaths of ovipositor. Wings hyaline, slightly stained yellowish, apical margins weakly clouded, costal cell dark brown. Front coxae black, the others brownish, rest of legs testaceous, the trochanters, knee-joints and hind femora somewhat paler.

Head densely granulate-punctate, smooth areas at summit of vertex; clypeus more coarsely sculptured than in *spectrum*, ridge on temples as in *spectrum*, but a row of punctures in front of it, another behind eyes, these connected below by transversely elongated punctures, all of which are absent in *spectrum*, temples behind ridge much more densely punctate than in *spectrum*. In other respects the structure not noticeably dissimilar from *spectrum*.

♂ Head black except for large occipital spots; thorax black except for lateral pronotal stripe not reaching to base of wings; abdomen reddish black, wings hyaline, with a trace of clouding at margins, and costal cell brown.

Head sculptured as in the female, the area on the temples in front of the ridge with more punctures.

Holotype, Female: Deoban, Chakrata Div., United Provinces, India; altitude 9,000 ft.; 17-18 June 1923, Dr. C. F. C. Beeson (United States National Museum, Catalogue No. 49312).

Allotype, Male: Deoban, June 6, 1923, Dr. S. K. Pillai (United States National Museum, Catalogue No. 49312).