

**Short Communication**

***ICHNEUMONOPSIS BURMENSIS* HARDY (TEPHRITIDAE :  
DIPTERA : INSECTA), A NEW RECORD FROM INDIA**

**INTRODUCTION**

The monotypic genus *Ichneumonopsis* (Tephritidae : Diptera : Insecta) was erected by Hardy (1973) based on two specimens (1 ♂, 1 ♀) collected by G. Heinrich in 1938 from Mt. Victoria, Chin Hills, Myanmar (Burma).

The genus is characterised by reduced chaetotaxy in the absence of ocellars, postocellars, inferior fronto-orbitals, humeral, dorsocentral, sternopleural and presutural bristles and also in the pleuroterga being bare. Possessing an elongate body, the species is *Ichneumon* (Hymenoptera) - like in general appearance.

**TAXONOMIC REVIEW**

Hardy (1973) placed the genus in the tribe Adramini of the subfamily Trypetinae because of the reduction of head and thoracic bristles. Hardy (1986) considers Adramini as composing of a somewhat heterogeneous group of genera which borderline the Dacinae and the Trypetinae and prefers to treat adramini in the Trypetinae.

According to Hancock (1986), the Oriental genus *Ichneumonopsis* Hardy appears not to belong to the subfamily Trypetinae as it exhibits relationship to Dacinae on the following considerations. The genus differs from typical members of Adramini in the absence of long hairs on the pleuroterga and in the presence of only two spermathecae, besides the anal cell extension of the wing being narrow. These characters, together with the wing pattern and general reduction of head bristles suggest a relationship to Dacinae. However, *Ichneumonopsis* differs from other Dacinae in the narrower second basal cell, normal positioning of the radial veins, short r-m cross vein, plumose arista, two lateral scutellar bristles and rounded spermathecae.

Hence, Hancock (1986) considered *Ichneumonopsis* the most primitive genus of subfamily Dacinae. He erected the tribe Ichneumonopsidini with *Ichneumonopsis* its type genus.

**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

*Ichneumonopsis burmensis* Hardy, 1 ex. ♀ (Fig. 1) Locality : Umtasor, Nongkhylllem Forest, Khasi Hills, Ri-Bhoi district, Meghalaya, India, 19.v.1982, Coll. C. Radhakrishnan.

The specimen agrees entirely with the description of the genus and species.

### DISCUSSION

This is the first record of *Ichneumonopsis burmensis* Hardy from India and the first time it is being reported after it was originally described from Myanmar in 1973. The occurrence of this species both in Myanmar and India further establishes the fact that the eastern Indian borderlands must be described biogeographically a transitional area representing a 'gateway' through which the older Indian Peninsular and relatively younger Asiatic faunas meet and transgress (Mani, 1974).

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