

and style, and awned with unequal lengths of subule and column and stigma and style.

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September 6, 1935.

¹ *Curr. Sci.*, 1935, 3, 540.

² *Univ. Nebraska Studies*, 1906, 6, 203.

³ *Madras Agric. J.*, 1934, 22, 16.

Diurnal Insects Attracted to Light.

OUR knowledge of the activities at night of diurnal insects is still meagre, but among the butterflies, the Hesperiidæ, Pieridæ and Satyridæ are already known to occur at night. It is, therefore, interesting to record here for the first time the attraction to powerful artificial light of the Lycænid, *Zizeeria otis otis* F., which Dr. Rao recently collected in Aberdeen, Port Blair, South Andamans.

In this case all the seven specimens (4 ♂s and 3 ♀s) were attracted, along with other insects, to the light of an 'Aida' kerosene stormproof lantern in the bungalow between 7 and 8 P.M. on a single night last July. The bungalow is about a furlong from the foreshore of the sea and 60 feet above sea-level. The brilliancy of the light of the lantern is 350 candle power. The vegetation surrounding the bungalow consists of grass and low herbage interspersed with a few trees. The weather was not unusual for the particular time of the year, and there was no strong breeze blowing at the time.

From the literature available it is evident that the Lycænidæ are exclusively diurnal and fond of sunshine.¹ Seitz² comments upon their peculiar habit in tropical countries of disappearing almost at once when the sky becomes overcast with clouds. He also remarks that he has never seen any coming to the light of a lantern at night. This may perhaps have been due to the low intensity of the light. The fondness of *Z. otis otis* F., for bright light, therefore, proves it to be positively heliophilous. *Zizeeria otis otis* F., is a small low-flying butterfly which frequents grass, being found commonly wherever it occurs. The species is recorded from North India, Burma, Andamans, and Car and Central Nicobars.

I am grateful to Dr. H. S. Rao, Assistant Superintendent, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for his notes on the nature of the environment, the weather and time of occurrence.

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September 2, 1935.

¹ Dr. Rao informs me that he has observed on occasions these Lycænidæ hovering over the hedge-plants around the bungalow at mid-day.

² Seitz, A., *The Macro-Lepidoptera of the World (Indo-Australian Rhopalocera)*, Lycænidæ, 1915, 9, 799.

On Two New Halcampactid Actiniaria from Madras Brackish Waters.

THE Actiniaria inhabiting the brackish waters of Madras include two new acontiated Athenaria¹ belonging to the family Halcampactidæ,² showing relationships to *Pelocætes exul* Annand. and *Phytocætes gangeticus* Annand., described by the late Dr. Annandale from the Chilka Lake and the Gangetic delta.^{3,4} In a note, Dr. H. S. Rao⁵ records the occurrence of some brackish water Actinians at Madras; but as no detailed study was made, he did not commit himself to any definite view about systematic position.

The two anemones differ from all the other known Halcampactids and they will be described elsewhere as two new forms. Both the Actinians have long vermiform and fairly differentiated columns, and physal-like bases without basilar muscles. They are burrowing forms found living in the shallow mud flats on the fringes of the Adyar backwater. The distinction of the mesenteries into microcnemes and macrocnemes is perfect in both cases.⁶

The first is a long pink anemone characterised by a curious atypical arrangement of the tentacles and acontia. Here the tentacular arrangement is a deviation from that observed in typical Actiniaria, caused by an interchange of the two final cycles accompanied by an undue development of the tentacles of the fourth cycle, which by their abnormal position assume a false exocœlic appearance. Contrary to what is observed in other Actiniaria, each macrocneme of this anemone bears a very large number of acontia and the latter show very peculiar variations in regard to their