

In England this species is abundant in winter; but I failed to find it in England during the summer months. However I did find it in small numbers in Denmark during the summer. These records would suggest that it was a cold-water form. Thus its occurrence in Singapore becomes somewhat surprising. A possible explanation is that, like many other epibiotcs of Cladocera, *Amoebidium parasiticum* can only establish itself in any numbers in populations of weakened individuals living under bad conditions. Such conditions are most usual during the winter months in England; but since temperature is only one of many factors involved, favourable conditions for *Amoebidium parasiticum* may occur even in warm climates in colonies of cladocerans weakened by bad conditions. ——— D. S. JOHNSON, *Department of Zoology, University of Singapore*, 20th December, 1961.

Records of aquatic insects caught at light in Kahang, Johore. ——— In a previous paper (Fernando, 1961, *Bull. Singapore Nat. Mus.*, 30: 19–31), I recorded 15 species of aquatic Hemiptera and 29 species of aquatic Coleoptera from various parts of Malaya. All except one of these collections came from Northern Malaya and this single locality was Gemas, Johore. In the present note a number of species are recorded from Kahang (near Kluang), Johore from two light trap catches.

The first catch was made on 29th April, 1961 using a kerosine pressure lamp hung over a tray containing liquid paraffin in a rice-field. The following species were taken: COLEOPTERA ——— *Helochares abnormalis* Sharp, *Paracymus evanescens* Sharp, *Enochrus rubrocinctus* Reg. and *Enochrus* sp. (Hydrophilidae); *Guignotus inconstans* (Walk.), *Copelatus tenebrosus* Reg. and *Uvarus genitalis* Sharp (Dytiscidae); *Hydrocoptus bosschae* Sharp and *Canthydrus ritsemæ* Reg. (Noteridae); *Scirtes holosericeus* Ch., *Scirtes* 2 spp. and *Cyphon* sp. (Helodidae); HEMIPTERA ——— *Micronecta quadristrigata* Breddin and *M. punctata* Fieb. (Corixidae).

The second catch was made by Mr. J. R. Pippet on 26th November, 1961 from 7.30–9.30 p.m. and on the following day from 5.00–6.00 a.m. An Ultraviolet light trap of the Robinson-type was used in Sungei Kahang Estate. The following species were taken: COLEOPTERA ——— *Sternolophus rufipes* F., *Helochares abnormalis*, *H. taprobanicus* Sharp, *H. pallens* MacL., *Enochrus rubrocinctus*, *Paracymus evanescens*, *Amphiops pedestris* Sharp, *A. pisiformis* Sharp and *Psalitrus* sp. (Hydrophilidae); *Hydraticus vittatus* F., *Hydrovatus bonvolouri* Sharp, *H. tinctus* Sharp, *H. confertus* Sharp, *H. acutus* Sharp, *Uvarus genitalis* Sharp, *Guignotus inconstans*, *Laccophilus chinensis* Walk. *Copelatus tenebrosus* and *Copelatus* sp. (Dytiscidae); *Hydrocanthus indicus* Wehn, *Canthydrus ritsemæ* and *Hydrocoptus bosschae* (Noteridae); *Scirtes holosericeus* and *Scirtes* 2 spp. (Helodidae); *Bhyrrinus subregularis* Pic (Bhyrridae); HEMIPTERA ——— *Sphaerodema molestum* (Duf.) (Belostomatidae); *Limnogonus parvulus* Stal (Gerridae); *Anisops nivea* (F.) and *Nychia* sp. (Notonectidae); *Plea liturata* Kirk. (Pleidae); *Micronecta quadristrigata*, *M. punctata*, *M. scutellaris* Stal, *M. albifrons* Motsch., *M. ludibunda* Breddin *M. issa* Distant and *M. thyesta* Distant (Corixidae).

Most of the species recorded here have been already recorded by me (1961, *op. cit.*). The additional records include the helodids *Scirtes holosericeus*, *Scirtes* 2 spp. and *Cyphon* sp. The Helodidae have not so far been recorded at light in Malaya. The other new records are *Amphiops pisiformis*, *Hydrocanthus indicus*, *Canthydrus ritsemæ*, *Guignotus inconstans*, *Uvarus genitalis*, *Copelatus tenebrosus*, *Bhyrrinus subregularis*,

Anisops nivea, *Micronecta punctata*, *M. albifrons*, *M. ludibunda*, *M. issa* and *M. thyesta*. All these species of *Micronecta* are also new records for Malaya. A single badly damaged specimen of *Nychia* sp. is interesting because it is the first record of this genus at light.

The Dytiscidae and Noteridae on the one hand and the Hydrophilidae on the other are represented by about equal numbers as regards species. In total number of individuals however, the former greatly exceed the latter. This is unusual for light trap catches but probably reflects the faunal composition of southern Malaya.

Of the aquatic Hemiptera, only the Corixidae were taken in numbers. Of these *Micronecta quadristrigata* was by far the commonest. This species is the most frequently recorded species of *Micronecta* at light besides being the most widely distributed in South East Asia. ——— C. H. FERNANDO, *Department of Zoology, University of Singapore*, 3rd January, 1962.

The occurrence of *Simocephalus latirostris* Stingelin (Crustacea: Cladocera) in South-East Asia. ——— On 27th March, 1962, I collected several small specimens of a *Simocephalus* from an unpolluted, weedy ditch at mile 17, Jurong Road, Singapore. On examination these proved to be the rare species *Simocephalus latirostris* Stingelin. First described from Paraguay by Stingelin (1906, *Ann. Biol. Lacustre*, **1**: 181-192), this species was for long believed to be confined to South America. It thus formed one of the comparatively few apparent exceptions to the generalization that tropical Cladocera tend to be pan-tropical in distribution, rather than confined to definite geographical regions. Recently Fryer (1957, *Arch. Hydrobiol. Plankt.*, **53**: 223-239), reported it from three localities in Nyasaland. In this report Fryer adds some details to our knowledge of its structure. The present occurrence in Singapore thus indicates that it is a truly pan-tropical species.

The Singapore specimens agree very well with Fryer's re-description and agree with this description in the points on which it departs from Stingelin's original account. In particular it may be noticed that, although the carapace markings are best described as reticulate, the reticulation has clearly been developed on the basis of the more usual sculpture of oblique parallel lines found in this genus. In *S. latirostris* these lines are further apart than is usual and moreover are somewhat wavy, especially near the ventral carapace margin. The occasional cross-bars are more numerous as are also anastomoses between the oblique lines. The result is that in some regions the oblique sculpturing is almost completely obscured, whilst everywhere there are pronounced reticulate tendencies. In my specimens the ocellus has the same general form as in the specimens figured by Fryer, rather than the lozenge shape shown by Stingelin. However, my specimens have the ocellus longer than in Fryer's figures, approaching the conditions shown in *Simocephalus vetulus* (O. F. Muller). Most of my specimens are young so that the carapace is more nearly rectangular than in previously figured specimens. The so-called 'spine' is thus situated more dorsally. These are the sort of changes in form with age which are well-known in females of the family Daphniidae.

The problem remains as to why this species has been so rarely reported. Undoubtedly it could be confused with *S. vetulus*. For instance, Brehm (1933, *Arch. Hydrobiol. Plankt.*, *suppl.*, **11**: 631-771), suggested that it was a merely a monstrous form of that species, though he changed this opinion in later works. Nonetheless it is