

SOME NEW HOSTS OF A JUVENILE MERMITHID OF THE GENUS *HEXAMERMIS*
(STEINER)

The juveniles of *Hexameris* sp., parasitic during their larval period on generally terrestrial insects were collected from the following lepidopterous and hemipterous larvae at Damoh, Madhya Pradesh. All the mermithid specimens forced their way out through the body wall of the host larvae and were parasitic IVth stage juveniles. The host larva lead a lingering existence for a day after the emergence of the parasitic worms. Out of the eleven hosts recorded here, nine are new hosts and the rest two had been recorded earlier.

S. No.	Host insect	Host plant	Remarks
ORDER LEPIDOPTERA			
Family Noctuidae			
1.	<i>Fodina stola</i> Guen.	<i>Holarrhena antidysenterica</i> Wall.	20 cm long worm collected on 28.7.1964.
2.	<i>Hypena iconicalis</i> Wlk.	<i>Moghania macrophylla</i> (Willd) O. Ktze.	11 cm long worm emerged on 18.7.1965.
3.	<i>Phytometra</i> sp.	<i>Ventilago calyculata</i> Tul.	As many as 10 worms of 7.5 to 16.0 cm length emerged on 4.7.1966 from a single host larva.
4.	<i>Hypocala rostrata</i> Fabr.	<i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> Roxb.	3 cm long worm emerged on 10.7.1966.
5.	<i>Achaea janata</i> Lin.	<i>Zizyphus xylopyra</i> Willd.	13 cm long worm emerged on 15.7.1966. Katiyar (1964) also recorded this host insect on <i>Gossypium herbaceum</i> Linn. at Amraoti (Maharashtra).
6.	<i>Episparis</i> sp.	<i>Stephegyne parvifolia</i> Korth.	5 cm long worm emerged on 1.8.1966.
7.	Unidentified	<i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> Wall.	8 cm long worm emerged on 14.8.1966. The host insect was collected in a moribund state from the earthen compartment erected by <i>Eumenes pyriformis</i> Fabr. (Hymenoptera : Vespidae).
Family Hyblacidae			
8.	<i>Hyblaea puera</i> Cram.	<i>Tectona grandis</i> Linn.	As many as 7 worms of 2.5 to 8.5 cm length emerged on 2.7.1966 from a single host larva. Chatterjee and Singh (1965) recorded this host insect from Dehra Dun (Uttar Pradesh).
Family Sphingidae			
9.	<i>Cephonodes</i> sp.	<i>S. parvifolia</i>	As many as 3 worms of 10.0 to 15.5 cm size emerged on 26.7. 1966 from a single host larva.
Family Pieridae			
10.	<i>Terias blanda silhetana</i> Wall.	<i>Cassia tora</i> Linn.	A worm of 18.0 cm length emerged on 22.8.1967.
ORDER HEMIPTERA			
Family Pentatomidae			
11.	<i>Platynopus</i> sp.	---	14.0 cm long worm emerged on 22.8.1966 from the last but one instar of the bug.

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