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Note on a newly discovered insect producing white froth

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The authors are pleased to report the discovery of a new insect producing white froth on the leaves of the plant *... ..*. The insect is not only a pest of the plant but also causes damage to the plant by its feeding. The insect is a new species of the genus *...* and is named *...* in honour of the late *...* who was a pioneer in the study of the insect fauna of India.

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Note on a newly discovered lac insect producing white lac

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The presence of colour in lac is a serious drawback, necessitating bleaching,

particularly for its use in surface coating. The bleaching process is not only costly but also destroys some of the desirable properties of lac. Breeding and genetical research on lac insects was hence taken up

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primarily to evolve a strain producing colourless lac to meet this long-felt need of the lac-consuming industries.

A few insects of both sexes produced white lac in a large F_4 generation derived from a cross of 2 quite distinct races of the lac insect, *Kerria lacca* (Kerr), originating from widely separated regions, viz. Madurai (Tamil Nadu) and Ludhiana (Punjab). This is the first record of a lac insect producing white lac, and it has so far appeared normal in other respects. The discovery is of great applied significance and may serve as a major break-

through for the lac industry.

Work is now in progress to study the breeding behaviour and the economic and biological performance of this variant in an attempt to evolve a strain of lac insect producing the much-needed white lac.

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