

Scientific Note

**First record of Spotted Small Flat *Sarangesa purendra* (Moore, 1882)
(Lepidoptera: Hesperiidae) from Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, India**

Primer registro de *Sarangesa purendra* (Moore, 1882) (Lepidoptera: Hesperiidae) en el territorio de la Unión de Jammu y Cachemira, India

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Abstract. The Spotted Small Flat *Sarangesa purendra* (Moore, 1882) is a new addition to the butterfly checklist of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, India. This species is sighted on 02 June 2019, in Dewal area of Billawar while observing the different pollinators by first author. Now on addition of this species Jammu and Kashmir has now total 309 species of butterflies.

Key words: Billawar; checklist; Dewal; Kathua; new addition.

Resumen. *Sarangesa purendra* (Moore, 1882) es incorporada a la lista de mariposas del territorio de la Unión de Jammu y Cachemira, India. Esta especie fue avistada el 2 de junio de 2019 en el área de Dewal de Billawar mientras el primer autor observaba a diferentes polinizadores. Con esta nueva adición, Jammu y Cachemira tiene un total de 309 especies de mariposas.

Palabras clave: Billawar; Dewal; Kathua; lista de especies; nueva incorporación.

In Varshney & Smetacek (2015), *Sarangesa purendra* Moore, 1882 also known as Spotted Small Flat, has four subspecies in India: *Sarangesa purendra purendra* Moore, 1882 (found from Himachal Pradesh to Uttarakhand), *S. purendra pandra* Evans, 1949 (found from Kerala to Rajasthan), *S. purendra sati* de Nicéville, 1891 (found in Gujarat (Kutch)) and *S. purendra hopkinsi* Evans, 1921 (found in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu).

According to Gasse (2018), *S. p. hopkinsi* is rare in Southeast India, in Eastern part of Tamil Nadu and Southeast Karnataka. *S. p. pandra* is not uncommon, mainly in lowlands, in West India from Kerala and West of Tamil Nadu North through Western Karnataka, Goa, and Western and Northern Maharashtra to Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat excluding Kutch and Mt. Abu in South Rajasthan, also recorded from North Orissa. *S. p. sati*: recorded in Kutch area of Gujarat, common in North-eastern part of this state, and also found in Sind (Southeast Pakistan). *S. p. purendra*: fairly common in Western Himalayas, up to 2100 m, from West of Chamba and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh and adjacent Northern part of Haryana East through Uttarakhand to Western part of Nepal.

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Discussion

On 02 June 2019, first author surveyed pollinators of Dewal area (Fig. 1) of Billawar Tehsil in district Kathua of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory where he sighted Spotted Small Flat butterfly (Fig. 2) pollinating *Cosmos* sp. (Asteraceae) flower. He photographed this butterfly and also noted area coordinates ($32^{\circ}36'00.0''$ N, $75^{\circ}34'12.0''$ E) at an altitude of around 360 m. The butterfly (Fig. 2) was identified with the help of available literature *i.e.*, Evans (1932), Wynter-Blyth (1957), Kehimkar (2016) and Smetacek (2018). Also cross checked with previous publications of Jammu and Kashmir Himalaya *i.e.*, Sheikh & Parey (2019a, 2019b), Parey & Sheikh (2021) and Singh & Sheikh (2021). This species was not recorded according to the latest checklist on butterflies of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, India (Sheikh *et. al.* 2021) and hence claiming the new addition of this species to the checklist of butterflies of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is justified.



Figure 1. Recorded location of *Sarangesa purendra* at Dewal area of Billawar in district Kathua of Jammu and Kashmir, India. Source: Google Earth. / Ubicación registrada de *Sarangesa purendra* en el área de Dewal de Billawar en el distrito de Kathua de Jammu y Cachemira, India. Fuente: Google Earth.

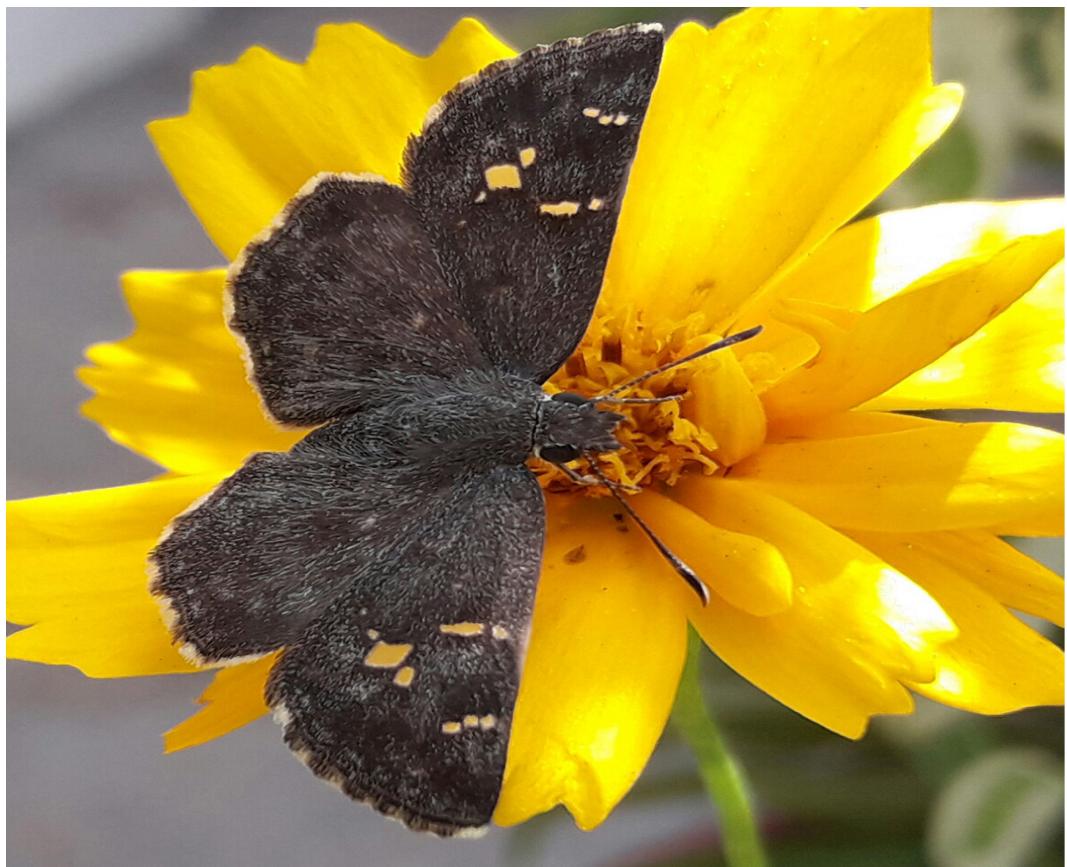


Figure 2. *Sarangesa purendra* (Moore, 1882) (Spotted Small flat) on the flower of *Cosmos* sp. / *Sarangesa purendra* (Moore, 1882) sobre la flor de *Cosmos* sp.

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