

A NEW SPECIES OF *MICROPHANURUS* KIEFFER

BY E. S. NARAYANAN, F.A.Sc. AND R. B. KAUR

(Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi)

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Microphanurus indicus sp. nov.

Female

Length.—1·1 mm. approx.

Colour.—Black. Legs, except coxae and terminal tarsal segments, antenna except radicle and club bright honey-yellow; radicle and the last four antennal segments dark brown, almost black.

Head.—About one and one-third times wider than long, clearly wider than thorax. Frons slightly convex, central part smooth and shiny with transverse striations above the antennal insertions which are not contiguous; there being a mid-vertical ridge extending upto the anterior ocellus; this striated area not extending right up to the anterior ocellus. Vertex between the posterior ocelli roundly angled, without a trace of any ridge, with thimble-like punctures extending down to the sides of frons bordering the eyes and become feeble further down. Interocular space slightly less than one and a half times the interocellar space; the latter slightly over one and a half times the front ocellar and about five times the ocellocular space. Mandibles brown, large and tridentate. Antennæ slightly pubescent; relative length of the antennal segments from radicle onwards as below: 8, 38, 12, 10, 6, 5, 4, 5, 6, 7, 7, 10. Antennal sockets of their own diameter apart.

Thorax.—Raised high above the level of abdomen but does not appear unusually large as in *M. painei* Ferrière. Mesonotum with a minute whitish hair projecting out of each such puncture. Scutum without any trace of parapsidal furrows, broader than long and twice the length of scutellum. Mesopleura sharply margined below in front; with a row of pits lining its margin and more so in the upper half leaving a small smooth shiny surface in the lower half. Metapleura also with such pits in its greater part; on its mid-upper half there is a small flat shining space.

Abdomen.—Scarcely longer than wide, 9:8. Tergite 2 in its greatest mid-part striated longitudinally almost to apex; striae somewhat weak distally; sides smooth and shiny.

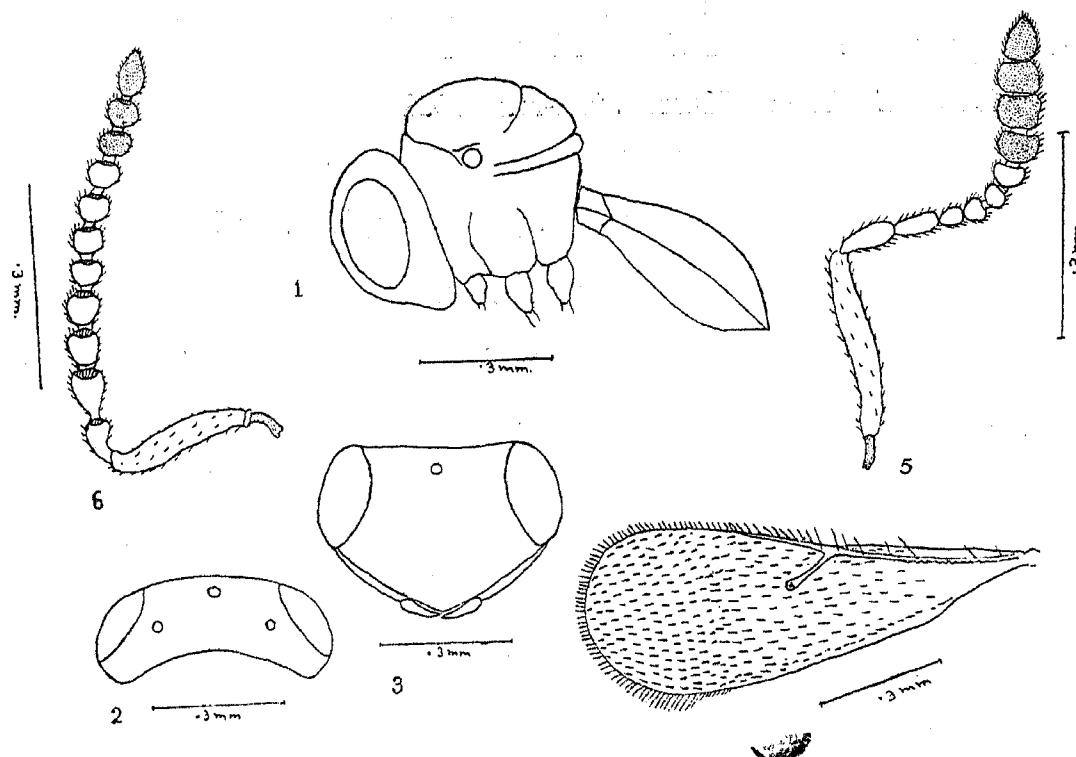


FIG. 1. 1. *Microphanurus indicus* Sp. nov. ♀ side view. 2. Vertex. 3. Head viewed from in front. 4. Forewing. 5. Antenna (female). 6. Antenna (male).

Wings.—Forewings thrice longer than broad; a little longer than the hind wing. Venation faint brown; stigmal about twice the marginal; hair of sub-marginal projecting well beyond the edge of the wing; marginal fringe short.

Legs.—Hind tibia a little longer than its femur and about one and a half times the length of foretibia; first tarsal segment less than the combined length of the rest.

Male

Similar to female except that of antennæ. Radicle dark brown, last three segments brown, rest honey-yellow. Radicle one fourth the length of scape. Pedicel one-thirds the length of scape and a little smaller than the first flagellar segment. Segment 6-11 are all transverse and almost equal. *Microphanurus indicus* sp. nov. runs close to *M. painei* Ferrière but differs from it chiefly in the ratio of antennal segments, sculpturing of mesopleura and striations of the abdomen.

Described from 6 females and 1 male.

Holo and Allotypes deposited in National Pusa Collection, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

Collected.—R. B. Kaur, 7th April 1958.

Type locality.—New Delhi.

Host.—Eggs of a pentatomid bug *Plautia fimbriata* Fabr.

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