

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Bull. zool. Surv. India, 2 (2 & 3) : 225, 1980

OCCURRENCE OF *ILYOCRYPTUS SPINIFER* HERRICK 1884 (CRUSTACEA ; CLADOCERA ; MACROTHRICIDAE) IN BIHAR

Sewell (1935) and Biswas (1971) recorded *Ilyocryptus spinifer* Herrick 1884 (= *halyi* Brady 1886) from Bengal and Rajasthan. There is no record of its occurrence in Bihar. Here *I. spinifer* is reported for the first time from Bihar.

Material : 4 ex. from well at Rishikund, Dist. Monghyr, 26.xi.76. (Reg. No. A 791, Z.S.I., G.P.R.S., Patna)

Measurement : Length 0.5—0.55 mm.

Remarks : The water in the well from which these specimens were collected, had temperature 25.5°C and pH 6.4. The height of the water column was approximately 2 metres at the depth of 1 metre from ground level. Collections from a nearby well with temperature 28.5°C and pH 6.4 did not have any Cladocera.

In both the wells the water was acidic

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with pH 6.4, but the one with higher temperature did not have any Cladocera. Probably the higher temperature acts here as a limiting factor for this species. It is observed that the Cladocera are found in abundance in alkaline waters with pH upto 7.6 but in all such cases the temperature of the water was 25—27°C.

The known distribution of *Ilyocryptus spinifer* indicates that it may also be occurring in other parts of India.

The author is thankful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, and Dr. P. D. Gupta, Deputy Director, Gangetic Plains Regional Station, Patna, for encouragement and facilities.

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