

BAORISA HIEROGLYPHICA (INSECTA: LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE) IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

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Reviewer: Peter Smetacek

Baorisa hieroglyphica Moore, 1882 is an unusual moth known from the Kumaon Himalaya (Smetacek, 2008) eastwards along the Himalaya to N.E. India (Hampson, 1894). Hitherto, the Kumaon Himalaya of Uttarakhand was considered its western limit. On 14.ix.2015, a specimen of this moth entered the author's house at the above address in Solan district, Himachal Pradesh, India (1700m amsl). During the following weeks, that is between 14 September and the first week of October, 2015, around 20 individuals of this species were observed around the house. During subsequent years, no specimens were observed, despite conditions being practically the same as the year in which they were recorded. The possibility that the

specimens recorded in the present study were part of a migration during 2017 cannot be ruled out, since they do not appear regularly as would a breeding local population.

In any event, the current record is of interest in that it extends the known distribution of this species considerably westward, even if this is only the limit of a migratory swarm.

References

- Hampson, G.F. 1894. *The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma*. Moths Vol. 2. Taylor & Francis, London. xxii + 609 pp.
- Smetacek, P. 2008. Moths recorded from different elevations in Nainital District, Kumaon Himalaya, India. *Bionotes*.10(1) 5-15.



Fig: *Baorisa hieroglyphica*