

SUBFAMILY BANCHINAE

GENUS SYZEUCTUS FOERSTER (1868)

Syzeuctus Foerster is a large genus of Worldwide distribution. It belongs to the tribe Lissonotini and subfamily Banchinae. Townes, Townes and Gupta (1961) included seven species under this genus from Indo-Australian region, of which five are from India. Later Momoi (1971) added two species from the Philippines. Chandra and Gupta (1977) recognised eight species and added two species with key from Oriental region. They divided Syzeuctus into three groups, viz. The Villosus Group., the Zanthorius Group and the Claripennis Group. Nikam and Kanhekar (1987) added two species from India. Large number of species of this genus are seen in Western Maharashtra. To increase the characters of taxonomic importance S. zanthorius is redescribed here.

Syzeuctus zanthorius (Cameron), (Fig.12)

Lissonota xanthoria Cameron, 1902a, J. Bombay. nat. Hist. soc. 14:425.

Syzeuctus zanthorius (!) Morley, 1914, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 14:408.

Syzeuctus zanthorius Morley, 1913b, Fauna of British India.... Hymenoptera 3(1) : 238; Beeson and Chatterjee, 1935, Indian Forest Rec. (n.s.Ent.) 1:167; Townes, Townes and Gupta, 1961, Mem. Am. Ent. Inst. 1: 207; Chandra and Gupta, 1977 Ichneumonologia Orientalis no.7:142-145; Nikam and Kanhekar, 1987, Entomon, 12 (4) : 349 - 356

♀ : 12 mm. long, Head 0.76 times as long as broad, in profile 1.88 times as long as high; vertex finely, closely punctate; ocellar triangle moderately, closely punctate; lateral ocellus separated from eye by its diameter; frons 0.55 times as long as broad, moderately, sparsely punctate, polished at the base of antenna; antenna 2 + 38 segmented; scape 1.31 times as long as broad; pedicel 2.50 times as long as broad; first flagellar segment 1.40 times the length of scape and pedicel combined; terminal flagellar segment 2.17 times as long as broad; face moderately convex, bulged, 0.67 times as long as broad, densely punctate, finely sparsely punctate near antennal socket; clypeus separated from face by a groove, sparsely punctate; cheek as long as basal width of mandible, finely sparsely granulose; mandible 1.43 times as long as broad, finely sparsely punctate, upper tooth longer than lower; temple moderately sparsely punctate; occipital carina reaching the base of mandible.

Thorax 1.90 times as long as broad; collar shiny with sparse fine punctures; pronotum shiny, densely punctate dorsally, sparsely finely punctate anterioventrally, striate posteroventrally; epomia strong; mesoscutum moderately densely punctate; notaulus

FIGURE 12. Syzeuctus zanthorius (Cameron), ♀
Lateral view, entire.

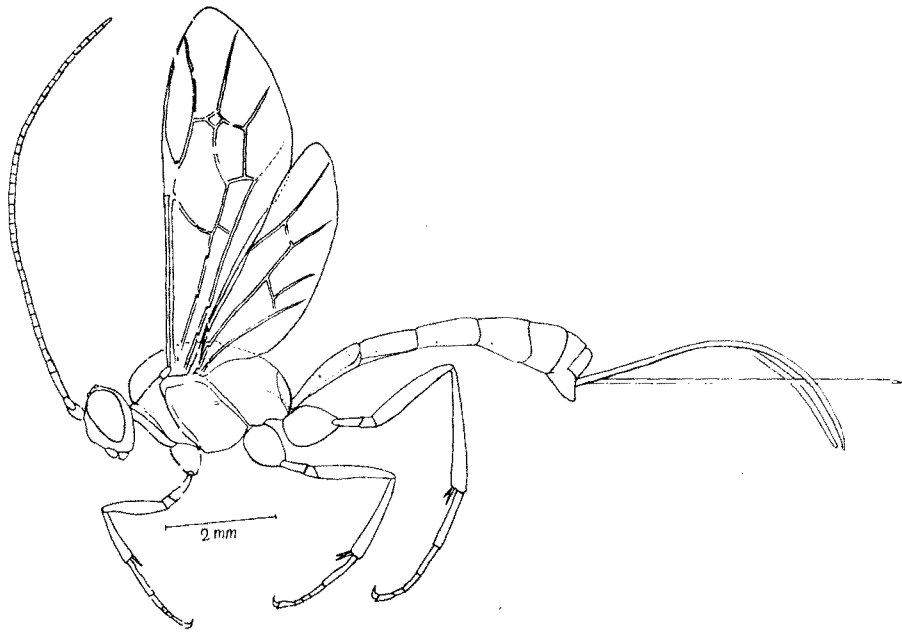


Fig.12



absent; scutellum shiny, densely punctate; postscutellum shiny; propodeum without carinae, moderately, densely punctate; propodeal spiracle 3 times as long as broad; propleurum very finely, sparsely punctate; mesopleurum densely punctate; speculum very finely, sparsely punctate; mesopleural fovea in the form of deep pit; sternaulus absent; prepectal carina strong, reaching above midheight, away from front margin of mesopleurum; prepectus moderately densely punctate; postpectal carina complete; submetapleural carina reaching lower hind corner of metapleurum; mesepimeron narrow, striate; lower division of metapleurum moderately punctate; legs moderate; first hind trochanter 1.18 times as long as second; hind tarsal claw 4 times as long as broad, weakly curved; hind basal tarsal segment 14 times as long as broad; tegula shiny, sparsely, finely punctate. Forewing 6.74 mm long, 2.41 mm broad; stigma 4 times as long as broad; apical abscissa of radius 1.75 times the length of its basal abscissa; areolet subtriangular with long petiole; second intercubitus fenestrate at lower end; second recurrent fenestrate, 0.52 times the length of basal abscissa of subdiscoideus; basal abscissa of subdiscoideus 1.07 times as long as its apical abscissa; nervulus fenestrate at lower end, slightly distad of basal vein, 0.60 times the length of postnervulus;

second discoidal cell 1.88 times as long as broad; discocubital cell 2.15 times as long as broad; hind wing 5 mm long, 1.30 mm broad with 1+9 hamuli; basal abscissa of radiella 0.40 times the length of its apical abscissa; basal abscissa of cubitella 1.07 times the length of its apical abscissa; superior and inferior nervellar abscissae in the ratio of 2:1.

Abdomen 1.47 times the length of head and thorax combined; first tergite 2 times as long as its apical width, finely, sparsely punctate laterally; its ventrolateral and median dorsal carina absent; spiracle rounded, at apical 0.70; second tergite densely punctate, 1.20 times as long as its apical width; rest tergites densely punctate; ovipositor sheath hairy, 2.70 times as long as hind tibia, ovipositor very long, pointed.

Black with variously shaped yellow markings on mesoscutum, propodeum, mesopleurum, pronotum, all tergites apically; legs, first trochanter and hind coxae basally, ovipositor brown.

♂ : Essentially similar to ♀ , except smaller body size.

Specimen Examined : 1 ♀, 1 ♂, INDIA: Maharashtra :
Sangli, 23 XI 1986, on wing,

K.S.Heble coll. Antenna and wings mounted on slides and labelled as above.

HOST

Dichocrocis leptalis Hamp.(Lepidoptera:Pyralidae)