

Vespa germanica F. in India.

By P. Cameron.

In Mr. Rothney's collection of Hymenoptera from the Khasia Hills, Assam, I find a single example of *Vespa germanica* F. The species is very widely distributed, being found all over Europe, in North and Western Asia and in North America; but it has not hitherto been recorded from India, although *Saussure* gives, inter alia, its distribution „en Syrie, aux Indes Orientales“ (cf. *Études sur la Famille des Vespides*, 11, 120 and *André, Species d. Hymén.* 11, 595). The Khasia specimen has the upper spot on the clypeus distinctly defined, the lower two being indistinct; and the frontal spot is united to the yellow on the eye incision. The specimen agrees very closely with a Scotch one in my collection. The yellow marks on the thorax are larger than usual.

The probable „hosts“ of *Ammobates carinatus* Morawitz and *Phiarus melectoides* Smith.

The host of *Ammobates carinatus* Morawitz is said by *Friese* to be unknown (see *Apid. Europ.* 1 p. 120). I found it this year in abundance at Canet near Perpignan (South France) in a strong colony of *Eucera trivittata* Brullé. I took about 20 specimens of the parasite, unluckily all ♂♂, and feel no doubt whatever that their host was the above named *Eucera*.

Friese says also (l. c. p. 138) of the splendid *Phiarus melectoides* Smith: „Wirth unbekannt.“ Its host is, I believe, *Meliturga caudata* Perez. I found a great many males of the latter species on the hills above Barcelona, hanging in the air (like *Syrphidae*) over holes which the less abundant females were provisioning with *Genista* pollen. Close to these holes on six different occasions I caught a specimen of the *Phiarus*, three of each sex in all. I cannot say that I saw a *Phiarus* actually enter any of the holes, but I did not give them a chance, as I caught (or tried to catch) all that I saw directly they alighted. But I am practically certain that they were haunting the burrows of the *Meliturga*, and my friend Señor Antiga of Barcelona tells me that he is of the same opinion, in which I am further confirmed by the statement in *Friese* (p. 136) that the other *Phiarus* — *abdominalis* Eversm. — is parasitic on *Meliturga clavicornis* Ltr.

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