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WESTERN REGIONAL STATION,
ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
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December 27, 1962.

REFERENCES


13. NOTES ON A COLLECTION OF TICKS WITH A NEW HOST RECORD OF *HYALOMMA AEGYPTIUM FEROZDENI* SHARIF (IXODIDAE)

Recently I had an opportunity to study a small collection of Ixodid ticks received from the Head of the Department of Zoology, Panjab University, Chandigarh. The material includes: (i) *Hyalomma aegyptium ferozdeni* Sharif—2♂♀, Chandigarh, Panjab (off donkey), 15-7-1961; (ii) *Hyalomma aegyptium aegyptium* (Linnaeus)—8♂♀, 4♀♂, Ferozpore, Panjab (off camel) 30-7-1961; (iii) *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* (Latreille)—4♂♂, 2♀♀, Chandigarh, Panjab (off donkey), 15-7-1961.

Four subspecies of *Hyalomma aegyptium* (Linnaeus) are known, viz. *H. aegyptium aegyptium* (Linn.), *H. aegyptium dromedari* Koch, *H. aegyptium isaaci* Sharif, and *H. aegyptium ferozdeni* Sharif. Sharif (1928) reviewed the taxonomy, distribution, and hosts of these subspecies.

*H. aegyptium ferozdeni* Sharif (1928) was described from 3♂♀, and 1♀ specimen, found to be parasitic on cattle from Sasaram, Shahabad District, Bihar. Sharif also recorded it on cow (Chatra, Hazaribagh District, Bihar), on pony (Sasaram, Shahabad District, Bihar), and on buffalo (Porahat, Singhbhum District, Bihar). According to Sen (1938) cattle (*Bos indicus*), buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*), and horse (*Equus cabalus*) only are the hosts of *H. aegyptium ferozdeni*. 
This collection is quite interesting for two reasons. A perusal of
the literature shows that the subspecies *ferozdeni* has not hitherto
been recorded on donkey; secondly, this is the first record of its
occurrence outside Bihar State.

Nagar (1962), while working on the ticks of Delhi State, expressed
the view that both *H. aegyptium ferozdeni* Sharif and *H. aegyptium
isaaci* Sharif belong to *H. detritum* Schulze, *H. aegyptium f. aegyptium
(Linn.) to *H. excavatum* Koch, and *H. aegyptium dromedari* Koch to
*H. dromedari* Koch. In the present paper, Sharif’s (1928) key has
been followed, pending further research on the systematics of these
species. Incidentally, it may be worth mentioning that *H. detritum*
Schulze is also not recorded on donkey.

In the present case *H. aegyptium ferozdeni* has been found
associated with *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*, which is of considerable
economic importance as the vector of malignant jaundice of dogs in
India caused by *Babesia canis* (Piana & Galli-Valerio) and of
Marseilles fever due to *Rickettsia conori* Brumpt in the Mediterranean
region and Kenya colony, and which is a suspected vector of tick
typhus fever in man and *Babesia gibsoni* (Patton) in jackals and dogs
in India (Sharif 1938). It may be interesting to investigate whether
*H. aegyptium ferozdeni* plays a part in the distribution of the diseases
transmitted by *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*.

Zoological Survey of India,
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