

New Record of two Ectoparasitoids of Castor Hairy Caterpillar, *Euproctis scintillans* Walker (Lepidoptera : Lymantriidae) in Kullu valley (H.P.)

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The castor hairy caterpillar, *Euproctis scintillans* Walker has been reported as a minor pest of apple damaging its leaves and young fruits in Kullu valley (Bhalla and Pawar, 1977). During our field survey for pomegranate pests from June to October, the larvae of this pest were found feeding on the buds and flowers of pomegranate fruits. The damage ranged between 5-10% at Channikbor, Upper-Dhalpur and Seobag. However, maximum intensity of damage was recorded at Seobag. Besides pomegranate, the caterpillars were also recorded feeding upon the tender leaves of rice, maize and apple.

The larvae of *E. scintillans* collected from the field were reared in the laboratory for the emergence of parasitoids. The ectoparasitoids thus obtained and identified by the Dept. of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), London were *Euplectrus* sp. and *Platyplectrus viridiceps* Ferrire (Hymenoptera : Eulophidae). The latter is known to occur from India to Malaysia and Indonesia. Its other recorded hosts include the genera *Dasychira* sp. (Lymantriidae) and

Artora sp. (Zygaenidae) (Subba Rao and Hayat, 1986). *Euplectrus* sp. which is nearer to *E. ceylonensis* is recorded for the first time from India.

KEY WORDS : *Euproctis scintillans*,
ectoparasitoids, *Euplectrus* sp.
Platyplectrus viridiceps

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