

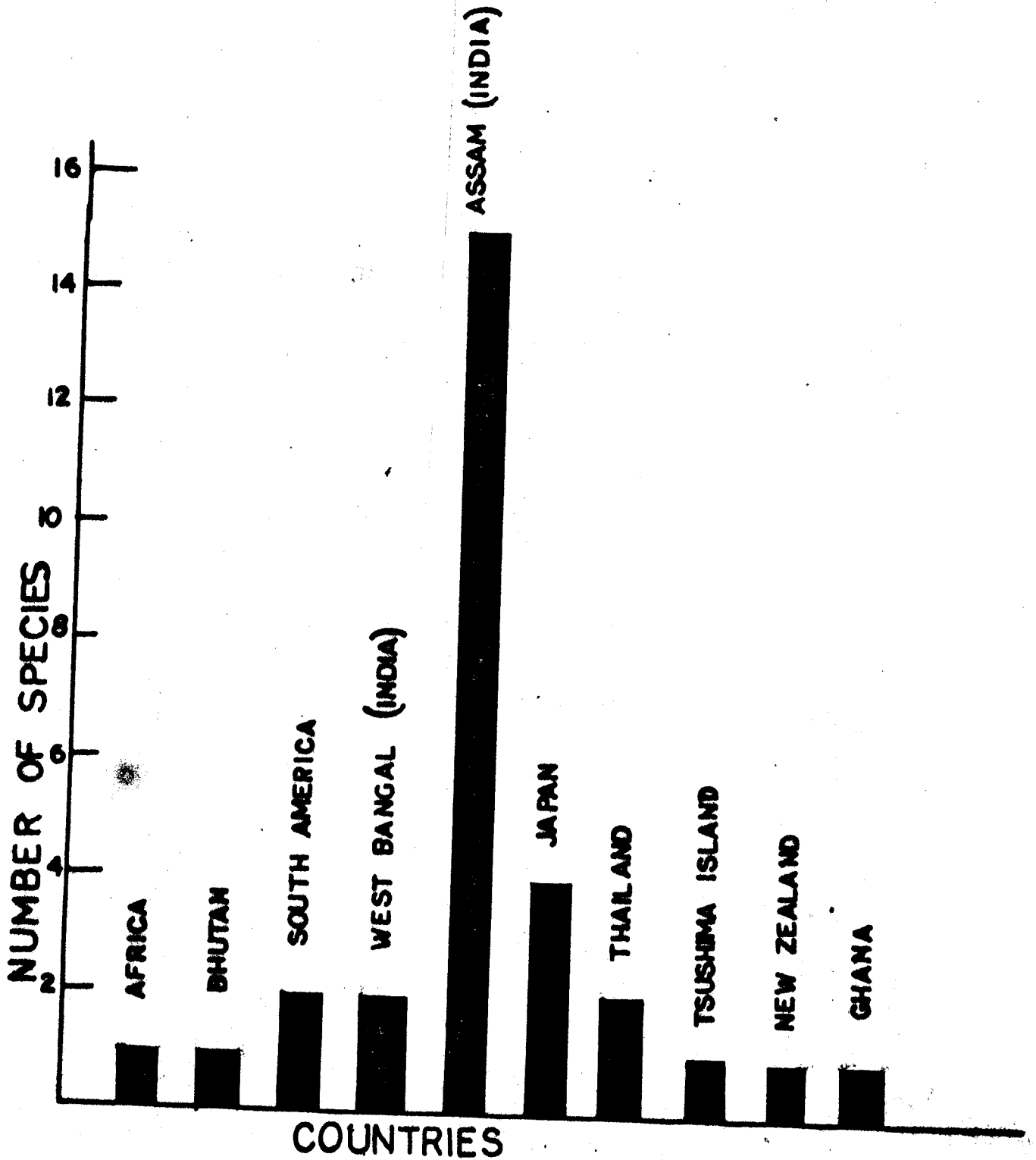
**SUMMARY**

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The thesis deals with a total of 53 species distributed over 41 genera under 24 families. A new genus, Indobasilobelba with Indobasilobelba barbata as the type has been proposed under the family Basilobelbidae. 15 species viz., Microtritia longiastonus, Malacoangelia assamica, Cosmocthonius assamensis, Mixacarus simpliastonus, Malasonothrus rekhai, Microtegeus palmatus, Eremulus signifer, Leobodes aoki, Megalotocepheus pissitactus, Oppiella breviseta, Brachiorpella assamica, Hydrosetes brevicurva, Incabates minor, Lemellobates similis and Paralemellobates peniculatus are considered as new to science.

It may be noted here that out of 24 families 2, viz., Microtegeidae and Hippobodidae, of 41 genera 15, viz., Steganacarus Ewing, 1917; Microtritia Märkel, 1964; Paulinacarus Balogh, 1960; Mixacarus Balogh, 1958; Microtegeus Berlese, 1917; Indobasilobelba gen nov., Leobodes Aoki, 1965; Megalotocepheus Aoki, 1965; Oppiella Jacot, 1937; Ramusella Hammer, 1962; Incabates Hammer, 1961; Rhabdoribates Aoki, 1967; Xylobates Jacot, 1929; Vilhenobates Balogh, 1963 and Porosates Hammer, 1962 are recorded for the first time from Indian territory.

Key to the 24 families and their subordinate genera and species have been provided.



NEW SPECIES FROM ASSAM IN RELATION TO THE SPECIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES

Collection data i.e., number of specimens collected, type locality and type of soil has been mentioned. Suitable remarks have been incorporated and all possible variations observed have been mentioned.

Zoogeographical distribution of Oribatid species recorded from Assam has been provided in a tabular form. New species described from Assam are shown in bar diagram in relation to the species of West Bengal and other countries. It has been noted that out of 15 new species studied maximum are related to the species from Japan.

In naming the new species diagnostic features and type localities have been given priority. One new species have been named after Dr. Junichi Aoki, the renowned Oribatidologist, and the other after the name of my mother who left us forever.

The thesis also embodies the critical evaluation of the localities surveyed, phytogeographical account, materiological data, habit, habitat, economic importance of the Oribatid mites and historical survey of this group with special reference to Indian subcontinent.