

10. Family : Pezomachidae

The representatives of this family are known as short-winged mold beetles and generally found in the various types of mold which may occur in the logs, leaf litter and vegetable garbage and also in dung. These small beetles are compact, robust and heavily chitinised in appearance. They are closely resemble to the family Staphylinidae in appearance. The broad abdomen, narrower prothorax and still more narrow head as contrasted to the nearly parallel sided Staphylinidae. This is a very diverse and little studied group from Indian region.

In the present study only 17 examples of this family were trapped which comprise a single species under the genus Cyathiger King.

Genus Cyathiger King, 1865

King, 1865, Trans. Ent. Soc. N.S. Wales, 1 : 174

78. Cyathiger sp.

ECOLOGY :

Cyathiger sp. was caught only in tea garden during this study. A total number of 12 examples (mean per fortnight : 0.7) were trapped. The seasonal incidence of this species was found only in January and February during this study. Its maximum incidence was observed in the month of February when maximum and minimum temperatures

were recorded 25'77'C and 11'33'C respectively. This species was totally caught in dung baited traps.

REMARKS :

It was observed that Cyathiger sp. was the only species of the family Pselaphidae trapped in Dozers are during this study. This species was similar in trap preference with Atomaria sp. of the family Cryptophagidae. Both the species were attracted to dung baited traps and trapped in tea garden only.

11. Family : Chrysomelidae

Chrysomelidae is one of the largest families of Coleoptera. Jacoby (1908), Maulik (1919, 1926, 1936) recorded 1900 species from India. Both adults and larvae are phytophagus, usually feed on roots, stem and leaves of herbaecous plants. It comprises small to medium sized, ranging to 20 mm. long, usually elongated cylindrical to flat and oval and generally brightly coloured. Some species are pests of agricultural crops and some act as defoliator to forest plants.

In the present study, only 16 examples of this family have been caught which comprise 4 species under 3 genera, Lema Fabricius, Chaetocnema Stephens and Longitarsus Latreille.