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ADDITION OF CHESTNUT ANGLE *ODONTOPTILUM* *ANGULATUM* (C. FELDER, 1862) TO THE BUTTERFLY FAUNA OF UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, INDIA

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ABSTRACT:

Odontoptilum angulatum (C. Felder, 1862) Chestnut Angle a new addition to the butterfly checklist of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, India. This butterfly species is sighted on 01, September, 2021 in Sunjwan area of Jammu district. On the observation of this butterfly in Jammu district, now Jammu and Kashmir has now total 310 species of butterflies.

KEYWORDS: *Hesperiidae*; *Lantana camara*; *Hesperiidae*;

New addition; *Skipper*.

INTRODUCTION:

In Varshney & Smetacek, 2015, *Odontoptilum angulatum* (C. & R. Felder, 1862) Chestnut Angle of Hepriidae family (Skipper Family) has one subspecies in India i.e., *Odontoptilum angulatum angulatum* (C. & R. Felder, 1862) is found from Maharashtra to Kerala; Himachal Pradesh to N.E. India. According to Gasse (2018), O.A.Angulatum: Fairly common in Western Ghats, up to 1200m, from Kerala and W Tamilnadu north through W Karnataka, Goa, and W Maharashtra to SE Gujarat, and rare in Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh, SE Chhattisgarh (Bastar), and NE Orissa (Similipal NP). Fairly common in Himalayas, mainly at lower levels but locally up to 2400m, from NE NWFP (Hazara) and NW Punjab (Margalla Hills) in Pakistan east (doubtless

also in Kashmir) through Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Nepal, Sikkim, N West Bengal, and Bhutan to Arunachal Pradesh and the rest of NE India (not recorded Mizoram), and C, NE, and SE Bangladesh.

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

On 01 September 2021, author surveyed Butterflies of Sunjwan area (Fig. 1) in district Jammu of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory where she sighted *Odontoptilum angulatum* butterfly (Fig. 2) resting on *Saccharum bengalense*. She photographed this butterfly with the help of Canon D1300 DSLR. and also noted area coordinates (32°42'03.5'' N, 74°55'05.3'' E) at an altitude of around 330 m.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

The vegetation around the area where butterfly was sighted were *Urena lobata* L. (Malvaceae), *Lantana camara* L. (Verbenaceae), *Tephrosia purpurea* L. (Fabaceae), *Saccharum bengalense* Retz. (Poaceae), *Butea monosperma* Lam. (Fabaceae), *Acacia* sp. Mill. (Fabaceae), *Ziziphus* sp. Mill. (Rhamnaceae) etc. The butterfly (Fig. 2) was identified with the help of available literature i.e., Evans (1932), Wynter-Blyth (1957), Kehimkar (2016) and Smetacek (2018) also cross checked with previous publications of Jammu and Kashmir Himalaya i.e., Sheikh & Parey 2019a, 2019b; Parey & Sheikh, 2021, Singh & Sheikh, 2021 and Gupta & Sheikh, 2021. This species was not recorded according to the latest checklist on Butterflies of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, India but was already predicted to be found in future because of its existence in adjoining states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand etc. (Sheikh *et. al.* 2021) and hence claiming the new addition of this butterfly to the checklist of Butterflies of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is justified.

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Figure 1. Map showing Sunjwan area in district Jammu, J&K



Figure 2. Showing image of *Odontoptilum angulatum* (C. Felder)