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NOTES ON BRACONID PARASITES OF NARANGA AENESCENS MOORE OCCURRING IN JAPAN
(HYMENOPTERA : BRACONIDAE)

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As far as the writer can learn three braconid species, Apanteles ruficrus, Meteorus narangae and Rogas narangae, have been recorded to be parasitic on the rice green caterpillar, Naranga aenescens Moore, from Japan*. Recently, the writer has had the opportunity to examine the material having been reared from the caterpillar by Dr. T. Hidaka. In the course of the present examination the writer has found that two other braconid species should be included in the parasite list of Naranga aenescens. Thus, the following five braconid parasites of the caterpillar have been known to occur in Japan.

On this occasion the writer wishes to express his sincere thanks to Dr. Terunobu Hidaka of the Tohoku Agricultural Experiment Station, Omagari, Akita-ken for his kindness in offering valuable material.

1. Meteorus narangae Sonan


Prior to 1943 this species had been many times reported by Japanese authors as a parasite of Naranga aenescens under the Japanese name “mugitawarabachi” without giving any scientific names.

Distribution: Taiwan; Japan; Korea.

2. Apanteles ruficrus (Haliday)


Specimens examined: A lot of specimens having been reared from N. aenescens in Japan from Hokkaido to Kyushu.


[Insecta Matsumurana, Vol. 28, No. 2, March, 1966]
This species is the most principal parasite of *Naranga aenescens* in Japan. It is widely distributed in the Old World having been known as a parasite of certain noctuid and pyralid larvae. Judging from Nakayama's paper** the *Apanteles* species stated by him as a parasite of the caterpillar under the name "*Apanteles glomeratus*" in Korea might be, in reality, identified with *A. ruficrus*.

**Distribution:** Cosmopolitan of the Old World.

3. *Apanteles kariyai* Watanabe


This species has been known to be parasitic on *Pseudaletia unipunctata* (Howarth). In this paper *Naranga aenescens* is included in the host list of this parasite for the first time.

**Distribution:** North China; Japan.

4. *Rhogas narangae* Rohwer


In 1954 Minamikawa gave Japan as a locality of this species without examining any specimens actually collected in Japan. The specimens examined agree well enough with the description of the male of *R. narangae* given by Rohwer (1934) and that of the female by Sonan (1943). In these specimens, however, the body is much darker in colour than in the descriptions.

**Distribution:** Taiwan; Japan.

5. *Bracon onukii* Watanabe


Specimens examined: 3♀♀, 28–v–64, Shonai, Yamagata-ken (T. Hidaka), reared from *N. aenescens*.

This species has been recorded as a parasite of *Chilo suppressalis* and *Sesamia inferens*. On the basis of the specimens examined it is included in the parasite list of *N. aenescens* for the first time. In the state of the present knowledge it is impossible to know whether *N. aenescens* is an ordinary host or an accidental host of this parasite.

**Distribution:** Japan; Korea.