MATERIAL AND METHODS

The adult *Parahormius* parasitoids were collected from different areas of India by using sweeping net. The parasitoids were also reared from their hosts *i.e.* lepidopteran larvae. They were collected in collecting bags. A complete record was maintained indicating the locality, date of collection, name of the host plant and host insect etc. The samples were later transferred from collecting bags to rearing jars. The open end of the jars were covered with muslin cloth tightly held with rubber bands. These jars were checked daily and fresh leaves were provided to the caterpillar for feeding. Emerged parasitoids were preserved in 70% ethyl alcohol with few drops of glycerin in each vial for their future identification.

Beside this, the material deposited in the Department of Zoology, University of Calicut (DZUC) and Forest Research Institute (FRI) Dehra Dun. were also studied.

METHODOLOGY

Preparation of card mounts

The freshly collected specimen were usually killed in ethyl acetate fumes and directly mounted on rectangular or triangular cards by using water soluble glue. The specimen is placed obliquely on the card and glued with the
side of thorax. Measurements, body colour, sculpture etc., were noted from these card mounted specimens.

The wet preserved material of in 80% alcohol was also card mounted before study.

**Preparation of slide mounts**

The permanent slides were prepared after dehydration and clearing in clove oil. The specimens were dissected under dissecting binocular microscope with the help of fine needles. The dissected parts viz., antennae, wings, legs and other body parts were placed in Canada balsam on a slide in required position and covered by coverslips. The slides were dried by keeping in thermostat at 35±2°C.

**Illustration and Measurements**

The permanent slides and card mount specimens were examined under the binocular microscope SV 11(Germany). Drawing of taxonomically important body parts were made with the help of Camera Lucida. Measurements were taken with the help of ocular micrometer fitted in one of the two eye piece of the binocular.
TERMINOLOGY

The terminology used in the present work is followed after Sharkey & Wharton (1997) for various body parts and wing venation (Figs. A-B). Eady (1968) has been followed for microsculpture.

ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations are used in the present work:

DZUC
Department of Zoology, University of Calicut, Kerala.

FRI
Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, India.

ZDAMU
Department of Zoology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India.

OOL
Ocello ocular line (distance from the outer edge of a lateral ocellus to the compound eye)

POL
Posterior ocellar line (distance between the inner edges of the two lateral ocelli)

AOL
Anterior ocellar line (distance between the inner edges of anterior and lateral ocellus)

ØOD
Ocellus diameter.