MATERIAL AND METHOD

The adult microgastrine 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 National Collection, Pusa, IARI, New Delhi and Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehra Dun, were also studied.

METHODOLOGY

Preparation of card mount

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 via the side of thorax. Body colour, sculpture etc were noted from these carded specimens. Measurements were also taken from the carded specimens.

The material available in 90% alcohol was also card mounted before study.

Preparation of slide mounts

The permanent slides were prepared after dehydration and clearing was done 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 specimen were examined under the binocular microscope. 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 by Sharkey & Wharton (1997) for various body parts and wing venation (Figs. A-D). Eady (1968) has been followed for microsculpture.

ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations are used in the present work:

- FRI: Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, India.
- IARI: Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India.
- USNM: National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, USA.
- ZDAMU: Department of Zoology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India.
- ZSI: Zoological Surveys of India, Calcutta, India.
- OOL: Ocello ocular line (distance from the outer edge of
a lateral ocellus to the compound eye

POL  Posteriors 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)

sp.nov.  New species proposed in this work.
comb. nov.  New combination proposed in this work.
nom. rev.  A revived name used to denote a name (hyper generic) but has been revived in this work.

T  Metasomal tergite
S  Metasomal sternite
F  Flagellomere