

## FIFTH INDIAN ENTOMOLOGIST PHOTO CONTEST: THANKS FOR OVERWHELMING RESPONSE

The Indian entomologist photo contest aims to encourage insect photography among photographers, professionals, amateur entomologist and the layman. The theme of the fifth episode of the photo contest was 'Insects and aspects related to insect life'. With these objective entries were invited during 20<sup>th</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Each participant was to submit one good photograph which met a few prescribed standards along with the filled in application form in which the participant had to furnish his/her details, caption, description, specifications of the photograph and also a declaration on the ingenuity of the photograph. We received a total from 72 entries which were screened first for the prescribed standards and overall quality of the image. Final evaluation was done by a committee of independent members under the oversight of the three editorial board members and also by an invited expert, based on the following criteria: quality (clarity, lighting, depth of field, composition), relevance of the subject matter (theme, rareness of subjects), creativity and originality. To ensure a blind review the details of the photographer was hidden and the evaluators were only presented with the photograph, caption, description and technical specifications.

- The first place was won by **Mr. Nidheesh K B** (Kizhakooodan House, Mapranam P O, Madykonam, Kerala-680712, E-mail: nidheeshkbalan@gmail.com) who captured a lynx (*Oxyopes* sp.) preying on a stick spider (*Miagrammopes* sp.). Stick spiders are well known for its camouflauge behaviour and are often confused with stick insects.
- The second place was won by Dr. Rojeet Thangjam (College of Horticulture, Central Agricultural University (Imphal), Thenzawl, Mizoram, India, E-mail: rojeetthangjam@gmail.com) for his photograph of a White Dragon tail butterfly (*Lamproptera curius* Fab.) puddling to seek out nutrients from the bank of Vanva stream, Mizoram.
- The third place was won by Mr. Abhishek Ashok Govekar (HNO 37/17, Near Shiv Sagar Saw Mill, Khorlim Mapusa, Goa-403507, E-mail: abhishekashokgovekar@gmail.com) for his photograph on ants of the subfamily Ponerinae in the act of transporting its pupa and larva.

### BUG STUDIO ASSOCIATE EDITORS



**Mr. S.S. Anooj**



**Dr. S. Rajna**



**Dr. Archana Anokhe**



**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** ‘Your camouflage trick will not work on me’. Lynx, *Oxyopes* sp. preying on a stick spider, *Miagrammopes* sp. (07.11.2021, Thrissur, Kerala). Photo by **Mr. Nidheesh K B** (Kizhakoodan House, Mapranam PO, Madykonam, Kerala-680712), Canon 7D mark ii with Canon EF 100mm f 2.8 L macro lens, ISO 500, f/11, 1/160s). ID credits: Dr. Mathew M Joseph, Head, P G and Research Department of Zoology, Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Kochi, Kerala).



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** ‘The white dragon tail butterfly’, *Lamproptera curius* Fab. (21.08.2020, Thenzawl, Mizoram) Photo by **Dr. Rojeet Thangjam** (College of Horticulture, Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Mizoram-796186), Nikon D3300 with Nikkor AF-S 18-55 mm lens, ISO 100, f/16, 1/100s, FL 55 mm).



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** ‘The secret life of ants’. Ants of the subfamily Ponerinae in the act of transporting its pupa and larva, (23.09.2021, Khorlim Mapusa, Goa). Photo by **Mr. Abhishek Ashok Govekar** (HNO 37/17, Near Shiv Sagar Saw Mill, Khorlim Mapusa, Goa-403507), Redmi Note 10 Pro, with Prosumer 55mm Macro lens, using external flash, ISO 354, f/1.79, 1/50s, FL 4.74 mm). ID credits: Mr. Ananad Harshana, Ph.D. Scholar, Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi