

Moths as Bioindicator Organisms; A Preliminary Study from Region Pattan, District Baramulla (Jammu and Kashmir. India)

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Abstract—*The present paper confirms the species diversity of moths from Pattan during March 2018 to November 2018. This study determines the diversity and abundance of moth species from the deciduous area of Pattan. A total number of 23 moth specimens from 10 families were collected by using the light trapping method. It was an initial step to discover the moth fauna of this region and very first attempt in this region of Kashmir to illuminate such kind of insect life. Both adult moths and their caterpillars are food for a wide variety of wildlife, insects and birds. Moths also benefit plants by pollinating flowers while feeding on their nectar and so help in seed production. This not only benefits wild plants but also many of our food crops, which depend on moths as well as other insects to ensure a good harvest. Moths play a vital role in regulating the health of our environment. Monitoring their numbers and ranges can give us vital clues to changes in our environment. It was a very first step to high lighten the moth diversity of Pattan region.*