ABSTRACT

In this study scorpion fauna of District Dera Ghazi Khan, Rajanpur, Layyah and Muzaffargarh was recorded. UV light search method, pitfall method, visual searching and stone turning method were used for scorpion collection. A total of 430 scorpions representing 11 species and six genera were reported. These species were collected from 40 different localities of four Districts. The morphometric measurements were done by advance Vernier calliper. Furthermore, diagnostic characters were observed under digital microscope with multimedia. All species belong to family Buthidae. Three types of scorpion habitats were identified in the study area i.e Rocky area with vegetation, Sandy area with vegetation and Muddy area. *Hottentotta tamulus* (Fabricius, 1798), *Odontobuthus odonturus* (Pocock, 1897) and *Androctonus fenitimus* (Pocock, 1897) were represented by highest number of individuals. These three species contributed 68.46% to the total catch. *Orthochirus scrobiculosus* (Grube, 1873), *Orthochirus fuscipes* (Pocock, 1900), *Compsobuthus atrostriatus* (Pocock, 1897), *Hottentotta navidpouri* and *Mesobuthus eupeus* (C. L. Koch,1839) were captured from Rocky areas of Birota, Hamzawali, Kohar Janobi, Mari wala, Dalan and Lakha. The species which were sampled from sandy areas of Tibbi Qaisrani, Kot Qaisrani, Basti Buzdar, Kotla, Dera Ghazi Khan Airport, Tractor Factory, Khairewala, Basti Jindani, Tibbi solengi and Rohi Wala Saifan were *Androctonus fenitimus* (Pocock, 1897), *Androctonus australis* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Androctonus robustus* (Pocock, 1897) and *Compsobuthus rugosulus*. *Hottentotta tamulus* (Fabricius, 1798) species was collected from muddy areas of Dari Dholey Wali, Layyah and Karor Lal Khan. The highest percentage of scorpions was recorded from Dera Ghazi Khan (50%), followed by Rajanpur (30%) and Muzaffargarh (10%) and Layyah (10%). Minor variations were observed within members of same species i.e. pectine teeth and morphometric structure.

Keywords; Scorpion, Buthidae, Systematic, Taxonomy, Dera Ghazi Khan