New Micro-Moth Species in Assam

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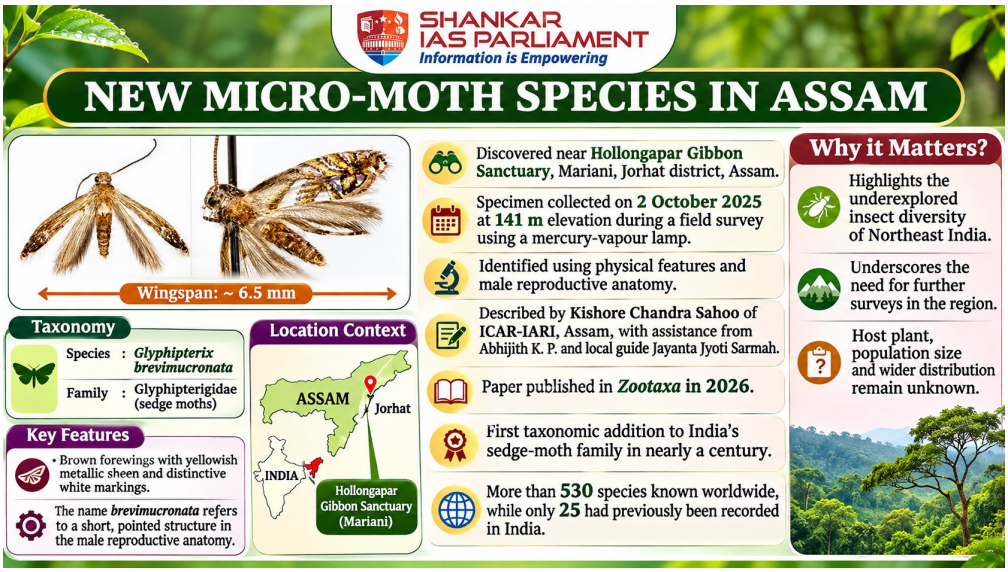
Why in News?

A new micro-moth species, Glyphipterix brevimucronata, has been discovered near the Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary in Assam's Jorhat district, marking the first addition to India's sedge moth family in nearly a century.

- **Species & Family–** *Glyphipterix brevimucronata* belongs to the sedge moth family (**Glyphipterigidae**).
- The last Indian species of this genus to be catalogued was *Glyphipterix compastis* in 1923.
- **Physical Traits–** It has a wingspan of about **6.5 mm**, with brown forewings featuring a yellowish metallic sheen and distinctive white markings.
- The species name *brevimucronata* comes from Latin words meaning "short" and "pointed," referring to a structure in its male reproductive anatomy.
- **Discovery & Researchers–** The holotype was collected near Mariani on October 2, 2025, at an elevation of 141 meters.
- The discovery was reported in the journal *Zootaxa* by Kishore Chandra Sahoo of the ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Assam, with assistance from Dr. Abhijith K. P. and local guide Jayanta Jyoti Sarmah.
- **Conservation Significance–** More than 530 species of Glyphipterigidae are known worldwide, but only 25 had previously been recorded in India, highlighting how under-documented Northeast India's insect diversity remains.



Reference

The Times of India| New Micro-Moth Species in Assam

