

## AN INDEXED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE FIRST PUBLISHED RECORDS OF BRITISH AND IRISH MILLIPEDES (DIPLOPODA)

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### INTRODUCTION

In the course of compiling information for a chapter on millipede recording in the *Atlas* (Harding in Lee, 2006), I traced the first published record of each millipede species in Britain and Ireland. This work drew on Gordon Blower's baseline review of the distribution of British and Irish millipedes (Blower, 1972), which included a section on "The growth of the British list". Some of the information in Blower (1972) had already been updated (Blower, 1985; Doogue, *et al.*, 1993), but all these sources are incomplete and include some minor errors. This paper attempts to provide a complete bibliography of the papers and other published sources, to the end of 2006, that include the first record of each species, separately for Britain and for Ireland.

### SOURCES

Wherever possible I have gone back to original sources, checking each publication and searching for possible alternatives where it is not obvious when a species was added to the respective national list. I have drawn on the existing bibliographies compiled by Gordon Blower (1972, 1985). Presumably to save space in the published version, Blower (1972) did not include the titles of journal articles; this has made it difficult to trace several papers for which the bibliographic details are apparently incomplete or incorrect. I have tried to use published sources, rather than ephemeral ones such as newsletters, even when mention in the latter may predate formal publication. A formal publication is one with an international series or book number (ISSN or ISBN) and which, therefore, is held by designated copyright libraries. However, in the case of three species (*Paraspirobolus lucifugus* and *Cylindrodesmus hirsutus* in Britain and *Cylindroiulus truncorum* in Ireland) the only available sources are the BMIG Newsletter.

### INTERPRETATION

Early authors frequently published few details with records and, in the case of William Leach (1780-1836) and George Newport (1803-1854), the same information was published more than once. The following conventions have been adopted here.

- Leach (1814) is cited as the first collated source of British records. Although the published version of his paper, read at the Linnean Society in spring 1814, did not appear until 1815, Leach appears to have partially pre-empted this publication with a much shorter article in *Brewster's Edinburgh Encyclopaedia* (Leach, 1814).
- Newport described *Ophiulus pilosus* in a paper read at the Entomological Society on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1842, which was published in the (apparently undated) proceedings of the meeting (Newport, 1842). The proceedings of this meeting and the description of *Ophiulus pilosus* were subsequently published again, verbatim, in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (Newport, 1843). I have cited only the original 1842 description.

It is perhaps worth noting that the original list for Ireland (Templeton, 1836) was compiled by Robert Templeton (d. 1894) from the unpublished manuscripts of his eminent, but enigmatic father, John Templeton (1766-1825), after the latter's death.

## CHECK LISTS

Until 1939 there was no collated check list of British and Irish millipedes, so that earlier authors were sometimes uncertain whether or not a record was the first for Britain or Ireland. Brade-Birks (1939) published a full checklist, including six species names that were subsequently omitted by Blower (1958). Since 1939 the check list has been updated several times, in publications by Blower (1958, 1972, 1985), for Ireland by Doogue, *et al.* (1993), and most recently on the BMIG website and by Lee (2006). The species listed in the Index (Table 1), and the nomenclature, follow the check list in Lee (2006). This includes the rejection of *Eumastigonodesmus boncii* (Brolemann, 1908) as a British species. Bagnall (1922) recorded *E. boncii* once from County Durham, but the single female specimen found by Bagnall does not seem to have survived, and the species has not been recorded since.

## NON-NATIVE SPECIES

The status of reproducing populations of non-native species recorded only from artificial environments, such as heated glasshouses, and which do not occur in open-air locations, remains anomalous. Pocock (1906a) listed several species from heated glasshouses at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Some of these species from Kew were included by Brade-Birks (1939) in his check list, only to be ejected from the list by Blower (1958). Despite this, Blower (1985) included *Prosopodesmus panporus*, recently described from heated glasshouses at Kew, in the check list without comment. For the purposes of this paper, I have taken the check list compiled by Blower (1985) as the baseline and subsequent additions that have been published, whether obviously non-native or not, have been included in the Index (Table 1). Casual introductions, such as *Ommatoiulus rutilans* in Shetland, in a consignment of imported mushrooms (BMIG Newsletter, 8, Spring 2004, p1), and probably some of the species listed from Kew by Pocock (1906a), should not be included in a national check list.

**Table 1: Index to the first published records of millipede species from Britain and Ireland**

Species	First published record from Britain	First published record from Ireland
Family Polyxenidae		
<i>Polyxenus lagurus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Leach (1814)	Pocock (1893)
Family Glomeridae		
<i>Glomeris marginata</i> (Villers, 1789)	Leach (1814)	Templeton (1836)
<i>Geoglomeris subterranea</i> Verhoeff, 1908	Blower (1957)	Doogue <i>et al.</i> (1993)
Family Doderiidae		
<i>Adenomeris gibbosa</i> Mauriès, 1960	Harper & Richards (2006)	Blower (1985)
<i>Trachysphaera lobata</i> (Ribaut, 1954)	Jones & Keay (1986)	
Family Polyzoniidae		
<i>Polyzonium germanicum</i> Brandt, 1837	Brade-Birks (1920a)	
Family Craspedosomatidae		
<i>Craspedosoma rawlinsii</i> Leach, 1814	Leach (1814)	Selbie (1912)
<i>Nanogona polydesmoides</i> Leach, 1814	Leach (1814)	Pocock (1893)

Family Anthogonidae		
<i>Anthogona britannica</i> Gregory, Jones & Mauriès, 1993	Gregory, Jones & Mauriès (1993)	
Family Chordeumatidae		
<i>Chordeuma proximum</i> Ribaut, 1913	Nelson (1964)	Jones (1992)
<i>Chordeuma sylvestre</i> C.L.Koch, 1847	Blower (1972)	
<i>Melogona gallica</i> (Latzel, 1884)	Eason (1957) <sup>i</sup>	Blower (1985)
<i>Melogona scutellaris</i> (Ribaut, 1913)	Brade & Birks (1916)	Blower (1985)
<i>Melogona voigti</i> (Verhoeff, 1899)	Corbet (1996)	
Family Anthroleucosomatidae		
<i>Anamastigona pulchella</i> Silvestri, 1898		Anderson (1996)
Family Brachychaeteumatidae		
<i>Brachychaeteuma bagnalli</i> Verhoeff, 1911	Verhoeff (1911)	Blower (1985)
<i>Brachychaeteuma bradeae</i> (Brolemann & Brade-Birks, 1917)	Brade-Birks & Brade-Birks (1917)	
<i>Brachychaeteuma melanops</i> Brade-Birks & Brade-Birks, 1918	Brade-Birks & Brade-Birks (1918a)	Jones (1992)
Family Paradoxosomatidae		
<i>Oxidus gracilis</i> (C.L.Koch, 1847)	Pocock (1902) <sup>ii</sup>	Foster (1919)
<i>Stosatea italica</i> (Latzel, 1886)	Brade-Birks (1922)	British Myriapod Group (1988)
Family Polydesmidae		
<i>Brachydesmus superus</i> Latzel, 1884	Pocock (1901)	Pocock (1893)
<i>Polydesmus angustus</i> Latzel, 1884	Leach (1814)	Templeton (1836)
<i>Polydesmus barberii</i> Latzel, 1889	Bolton & Jones (1996)	
<i>Polydesmus inconstans</i> Latzel, 1884	Pocock (1906b)	Jackson (1913)
<i>Polydesmus coriaceus</i> Porat, 1871	Carr (1916) <sup>iii</sup>	Pocock (1893)
<i>Polydesmus denticulatus</i> C.L.Koch, 1847	Pocock (1901)	Selbie (1913)
<i>Propolydesmus testaceus</i> (C.L.Koch, 1847)	Pocock (1903)	
Family Haplodesmidae		
<i>Cylindrodesmus hirsutus</i> Pocock, 1889	Lee (2006)	
<i>Prosopodesmus panporus</i> Blower & Rundle, 1980	Blower & Rundle (1980)	
Family Pyrgodesmidae		
<i>Poratia digitata</i> Porat, 1889	Blower & Rundle (1986)	
Family Macrosternodesmidae		
<i>Macrosternodesmus palicola</i> Brolemann, 1908	Bagnall (1912a)	British Myriapod Group (1988)
<i>Ophiodesmus albonanus</i> (Latzel, 1895)	Bagnall (1918)	British Myriapod Group (1988)
Family Spirobolellidae		
<i>Paraspirobolus lucifugus</i> (Gervais, 1836)	Lee (2006)	
Family Blaniulidae		
<i>Choneiulus palmatus</i> (Němec, 1895)	Bagnall (1912b)	Blower (1985)
<i>Nopoiulus kochii</i> (Gervais, 1847)	Hopkin & Blower (1987)	Anderson (1999)
<i>Proteroiulus fuscus</i> (Am Stein, 1857)	Evans (1901)	Pocock (1893)
<i>Blaniulus guttulatus</i> (Fabricius, 1798)	Leach (1814)	Pocock (1893)
<i>Archiboreoiulus pallidus</i> (Brade-Birks, 1920)	Brade-Birks (1920)	Blower (1985)
<i>Boreoiulus tenuis</i> (Bigler, 1913)	Bagnall (1918)	English (1976)
Family Nemasomatidae		
<i>Nemasoma varicorne</i> C.L.Koch, 1847	Bagnall (1912b)	Foster (1919)
<i>Thalassisobates littoralis</i> (Silvestri, 1903)	Bagnall (1916)	Cawley (1997)

Family Julidae		
<i>Julus scandinavicus</i> Latzel, 1884	Leach (1814)	Selbie (1912)
<i>Haplopodoiulus spathifer</i> (Brölemann, 1897)	Corbet & Jones (1996)	
<i>Ophiulus pilosus</i> (Newport, 1842)	Newport (1842)	Pocock (1893)
<i>Leptoiulus belgicus</i> (Latzel, 1844)	Bagnall (1922)	Irwin (1992)
<i>Leptoiulus kervillei</i> (Brölemann, 1896)	Blower & Rolfe (1956)	
<i>Metaiulus pratensis</i> Blower & Rolfe, 1956	Blower & Rolfe (1956)	
<i>Allajulus nitidus</i> (Verhoeff, 1891)	Brade & Birks (1917)	
<i>Cylindroiulus britannicus</i> (Verhoeff, 1891)	Evans (1906) <sup>iv</sup>	Brolemann (1896)
<i>Cylindroiulus caeruleocinctus</i> (Wood, 1864)	Pocock (1900)	British Myriapod Group (1988)
<i>Cylindroiulus latestriatus</i> (Curtis, 1845)	Curtis (1845)	Brade & Birks (1916)
<i>Cylindroiulus londinensis</i> (Leach, 1815)	Leach (1815)	Selbie (1912)
<i>Cylindroiulus parisiorum</i> (Brölemann & Verhoeff, 1896)	Brade-Birks & Brade-Birks (1918b)	Doogue <i>et al.</i> (1993)
<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i> (Leach, 1815)	Leach (1815)	Templeton (1836)
<i>Cylindroiulus salicivorus</i> Verhoeff, 1908	Read, Corbet & Jones (2002)	
<i>Cylindroiulus truncorum</i> (Silvestri, 1896)	Lindroth (1957)	Lee (2006)
<i>Cylindroiulus vulnerarius</i> (Berlese, 1888)	Blower (1985)	Blower (1985)
<i>Enantiulus armatus</i> (Ribaut, 1909)	Blower (1972)	
<i>Unciger foetidus</i> (C.L.Koch, 1838)	Jones (1985)	
<i>Brachyiulus pusillus</i> (Leach, 1815)	Leach (1815)	Templeton (1836)
<i>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Leach (1814) <sup>v</sup>	Pocock (1893)
<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i> (Leach, 1814)	Leach (1814)	Pocock (1893)

Notes:

<sup>i</sup> Records from before 1996 may include *M. voigti* (Verhoeff).

<sup>ii</sup> Although Evans (1900) is cited by Blower (1972, 1985) as the author of the first record, this species is included in that paper with a query against the species name.

<sup>iii</sup> It has proved impossible to trace an incontrovertible first record of *P. coriaceus*, notwithstanding the nomenclatural confusion about this species in the British literature. Carr (1916) appears to be the earliest date of publication although the actual record dates from 1903.

<sup>iv</sup> Blower (1972, 1985) states erroneously that *C. britannicus* was first recorded by Evans (1907), but this paper summarises a record published, somewhat obscurely, in the previous year.

<sup>v</sup> Blower (1972, 1985) states erroneously that *O. sabulosus* was first recorded in Britain from Scotland, by Johnston (1835).

## DISCUSSION

This somewhat esoteric exercise in collating existing information has highlighted several issues.

- It is important to maintain and regularly update national check lists. This is an appropriate role for a voluntary specialist group, such as BMIG, especially where the necessary expertise does not exist in museums or academic institutions.
- The native, non-native or casually introduced status of species should be considered carefully when compiling national check lists. For a group such as millipedes this is complicated by the synanthropic behaviour of some apparently native species.

- The faunas of geographically discrete areas (e.g. Britain or Ireland), which have distinctive geological or post-glacial histories, should be differentiated.
- There may also be a need to differentiate politically discrete areas (e.g. England, Wales or Scotland), for example to help inform policy making and legislation.
- Publishing new records and the results of surveys is important, not only to maintain the flow of information, but also to give traceable sources of information.
- There is no substitute for publishing important records, such as species new to a country, in anything other than formal ISSN or ISBN publications, thereby ensuring that the records can be traced in the future. Newsletters without ISSN listing and, at present, most web publishing, are ephemeral and may not be able to be traced in only a decade or two.

Access to early publications in libraries is becoming increasingly difficult, even for those with the privilege of access to good libraries. For example, several of the publications that I consulted were classified by Cambridge University Library as Rare Books, which could be used only in controlled conditions.

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