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CENTIPEDES AND MILLIPEDES FROM FINISTÈRE, BRITTANY

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Details are here given of two collections made in Brittany by J.G.E.L. and Mrs. Sheila Lewis. The centipedes have been identified by J.G.E.L. and the millipedes by R.D.K.

The 1985 collection

1 km north of Palude near Roscoff, VU29, 10.viii.85, Rock crevices in upper part of barnacle zone, Fucus spiralis, Littorina saxatilis and Lasaea rubra present: Hydroschendyla submarina (Grube). 3 females, 2 immature in same crevice, all with 49 pairs of legs.

1.5 km w of Mespaul, VU28 11.viii.85, Base of wooded bank in lane: Glomeris marginata (Villers), Leptoiolus bellicosus? immature. Lithobius forficatus (Linn.), 3 specimens, Lithobius crassipes C. L. Koch, 2 specimens.

Between Plouvorn and Plouzévétré, VU28, 12.viii.85, Oak litter. Ommatoiulus sabulosus (Linn.), Cylindroiulus punctatus (Leach), Lithobius crassipes. Under bark of standing dead oak sapling: Ommatoiulus sabulosus, Cylindroiulus punctatus, Proteroiulus fuscus (Am Stein). Lithobius melanops (Newport), three specimens, Lithobius crassipes, 5 specimens, Brachygeophilus truncorum (Bergso and Meinert).

Under stones by wooded roadside: Lithobius crassipes, 2 specimens, Lithobius piceus L. Koch.

Plouvorn, VU28, 12.viii.85, Beech/Chestnut litter by Plan d'Eau: Glomeris marginata, Cylindroiulus punctatus, Chordeuma sp. Immature. Lithobius crassipes, Arctogeophilus (=Gnathomerium) inquinatus (Rib.) Male, 17.5 mm, 41 pairs of legs. Brolemann (1930) gives 39 pairs of legs in both sexes.

Guiclan, VU27, 13.viii.85. Under log by road: Cryptops parisi Brolemann, length 17 mm.

4 km NNE of St Thegonnec, VU37, 14.viii.85, under ivy litter, side of road after heavy rain. Lithobius forficatus, 5 specimens, Lithobius crassipes, 3 specimens.

5 km NNE of St Thegonnec, 14.viii.85, in chestnut litter, oak/chestnut forest: Lithobius piceus, Lithobius calcaratus C. L. Koch, 8 specimens, Lithobius crassipes, 3 specimens. Lithobius microps var caernensis Eason (lacks spines on legs), Brachygeophilus truncorum.

In very rotten log: Lithobius forficatus, 5 specimens, Cryptops hortensis Leach, 6 specimens, Brachygeophilus truncorum, 4 specimens.

Under pieces of bark in oak litter: Lithobius calcaratus, Lithobius crassipes, Geophilus carpophagus Leach, 2 males, each with 47 pairs of legs. Brachygeophilus truncorum.

Carentec, VU39, 15.viii.1985, Rock crevice top third of barnacle zone: Hydroschendyla submarina, 12 specimens 47 and 49 pairs of legs.

La Villeneuve 1.5 km S.E. of St Pol de Leon, VU29, 15.viii.1985, very old strand line, probably HWS. In pebbles and sand with rich humus about 6 cm below surface of pebbles: Strigamia maritima (Leach) 15 specimens (5 females with 47 - 51 pairs of legs, one male with 47 pairs of legs). Geophilus fucorum seurati Brolemann, 5 specimens, one male with 53 pairs of legs, one female and two immatures with 57 pairs of legs, one damaged specimen. These appear to be identical with British G. fucorum seurati as described by Lewis (1962). In layer of pebbles and clean sand below the humus rich area in which the Strigamia were found and the fifth at the boundary of this and the humus rich zone. Strigamia maritima, 3 specimens under boulders in Atriplex zone a little higher up the shore.

#### The 1986 Collection

Landivisiau, VU27, on D35 by motorway, 1.viii.86, under lump of sandy soil by hedge at edge of field of oats: Polydesmus augustus Latzel, Haplophilus subterraneus (Shaw).

Pont Coblant on Brest/Nantes Canal (R. Aulne) 4 km S. Pleyben on D785, VU23, 2.viii.86, litter and slates under horse chestnut by towpath: Leptoiulus kervillei (Brolemann), Glomeris marginata, Cylindroiulus punctatus, Lithobius forficatus. Cryptops hortensis, 5 specimens, the smallest, length 7.5 mm, moulting.

1 km NE of Pont Coblant under slates: Lithobius forficatus, 2 specimens, Lithobius piceus, Necrochloeophagus longicornis (Leach), 2 specimens, females with 53 and 55 pairs of legs. Brachygeophilus truncorum.

4 km S of Brasparts, junction of D785 and D14, VU24, 2.viii.86, in sandy soil with stones, base of cliff by road: Nanorona polydesmoides (Leach), Lithobius forficatus, Cryptops parisi, 2 specimens.

3 km E of Pont Coblant on river Aulne (Brest/Nantes Canal), VU23, 3.viii.86, in soil under slates, edge of oak/beech/sweet chestnut wood, Glomeris marginata, Cylindroiulus londinensis (Leach), C. punctatus. Lithobius forficatus, Lithobius crassipes, Lithobius piceus, Cryptops parisi, Haplophilus subterraneus, one female, 81 pairs of legs and poorly developed virguliform fossae, 5 males with 77, 79 and 81 pairs of legs, all lacking virguliform fossae.

6.5 km W of Chateaulin on D887, 200m, VU13, 4.viii.86, litter pine/oak wood: Cylindroiulus punctatus, Tachynodoiulus niger (Leach), Haplophilus subterraneus, Arctoseophilus inquinatus. Under bark of dead pine trees: Lithobius forficatus, 3 specimens, Lithobius crassipes, Lithobius muticus C. L. Koch, (this specimen is atypical with 4 + 4 forcipular coxosternal teeth (Fig. 1) rather than 2 + 2) Lithobius borealis Meinert, Lithobius melanous, Lithobius microps Meinert. Cryptops hortensis, 7 specimens, one of 14 mm with at least 7 young at adolescens 1 stage, one of 13.5 mm with 7 foetus stage larvae. Strigamia acuminata (Leach) with 41 pairs of legs. In very rotten branch in litter: Haplophilus subterraneus.

6 km W of Landévennec, 1 km S. of coast, 76m. UU94, 6.viii.86, under bark of dead pine tree, pine wood: Cylindroiulus punctatus, Proteroiulus fuscus. Lithobius forficatus, 2 specimens, Lithobius crassipes.

E end of Anse de Polmic about 5 km W of Landévennec, on boundary of UU94 and VU04, 6.viii.86: On rock under shingle, top of shore with Ligia oceanica: Strigamia maritima, a group comprising 5 males with 45 pairs of legs, one male and one female with 47. In rock crevice, Verrucaria zone, one adolescens (S. maritima) with 47 pairs of legs.

W end of Anse de Caon, 3 km SW Telgruc sur Mer, UU94, 6.viii.86, under shingle or on shingle covered rock with Ligia oceanica: Strigamia maritima, 8 specimens, 3 males with 49 pairs of legs, one female with 49, 4 with 51 pairs of legs. A further 34 specimens, 29 of them adolescens 1, 47 - 53 pairs of legs. Rock crevice in Barnacle zone: Hydroschendyla submarina, 12mm, 51 pairs of legs.

Pte de Grottes, Anse de Morgat, nr Crozon, UU84, 7.viii.86, rock crevice, mid barnacle zone: Hydroschendyla submarina, 3 specimens.

1 km N of Telgruc sur Mer, UU94, 7.viii.86, Oakwood, in humus: Cylindroiulus punctatus, Polydesmus sp. (immature), Lithobius muticus, 3 specimens, Lithobius calcaratus, Cryptops hortensis. Under rotting grass by road: Cylindroiulus londinensis, Lithobius forficatus, Lithobius calcaratus, 2 specimens. In rotten stump in willows, low lying part of wood: Glomeris marginata, Lithobius forficatus, Cryptops hortensis, 5 specimens, Schendyla nemorensis, Strigamia crassipes (C.L. Koch), 2 specimens, both adolescens 1, 49 and 51 pairs of legs. Geophilus carpophagus, female, 49 mm, 51 pairs of legs. In mole hill, hay meadow: Necrophiloeophagus longicornis, female, 49 mm, 51 pairs of legs.

5 km up road from Sizun to Landivisiau, VU16, 9.viii.86, rotten stump under oak/beech, side of track: Ommatoiulus sabulosus, Cylindroiulus punctatus, Glomeris hexasticha intermedia Latzel, Polydesmus sp. (immature). Lithobius diceus, Lithobius crassipes, 2 specimens, Geophilus carpophagus, male 41.5 mm, 47 pairs of legs.

### Discussion

The present collection contains no unexpected species.

The low leg numbers exhibited by the population of Strigamia maritima from the Anse de Polmic (45 - 47) as compared to the range of 47 - 53 from other localities is worth noting. Lewis (1962) suggested that differences in leg numbers between different populations from Southern Britain probably represented genetic differences between the discontinuous populations of the species. It is not unlikely that populations in small bays may sometimes be wiped out by severe weather conditions. Recolonisation by a single female might give rise to population with a limited range of leg numbers.

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### References

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Figure 1. Forcipular coxosternal teeth of Lithobius muticus from 6.5 km W of Chateaulin.