

A FURTHER GREENHOUSE RECORD OF *LITHOBIUS LAPIDICOLA* MEINERT, 1872

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During a centipede, millipede and woodlice workshop organised by COFNOD, the biological records centre for North Wales, at the University Botanic Gardens, Treborth, Bangor, an opportunity was taken to search for specimens amongst the collection of orchids and other plants in the glasshouse attached to the centre where, amongst other myriapods, a small female (7mm) *Lithobius* was collected. Lacking any very obvious & distinct distinguishing features, a female and being from a heated greenhouse with tropical/subtropical plants, it was sent to Prof. Marzio Zapparoli of Viterbo for an opinion.

He identified it as *Lithobius lapidicola* Meinert, 1872. It had 28 antennal articles, 1+4,3,2 ocelli, 2+2 prosternal teeth, a double claw on the 15th leg, 2+2 spurs and a tridentate claw on the gonopods and 3/2, 3, 3, 3 coxal pores.

Spinulation of leg 14 was: dorsal 0, 0, amp, p, 0, ventral, m, amp, amp, m and of the 15th: dorsal 0, 0, mp, 0, 0, ventral, 0, m, amp, (a, asymmetric) m, 0.

There were no projections on either tergites 9 or 11 but very small projections on T13. This description fits with that in the synopsis (Barber, 2009); the absence of any one really distinct character and the somewhat variable nature of tergal projections means it is not always easy to recognise.

The species was first found in hothouses in Edinburgh by Charles Rawcliffe and subsequently out of doors on the coasts of both Kent and Suffolk whilst there is a further greenhouse record from Dorset; this would be the first record from Wales.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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REFERENCE

Barber, A.D. (2009) *Centipedes*. Linnean Society Synopses of the British Fauna (NS) **58** Shrewsbury, Field Studies Council.