

MYRIAPOD RECORDING IN THE LOTHIANS

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In a short note published in this Bulletin (April 1987) I described how I came to start collecting Myriapoda within the Lothians (Vice Counties 82, 83, 84). The area concerned covers 753 square miles (195,000 ha) of southern Scotland and my intention was to plot distribution on a 10km National Grid square basis. Collecting was carried out by myself, identification by the national recording scheme organisers.

Collecting commenced on 17/06/82 and the last date included in this report is 30/06/89. Virtually all results have been achieved by hand searching although a few records are derived from pitfall trapping and also the use of a home-made Tullgren funnel.

I am unaware of any other collecting being done in the Lothians during the period of study. From the published literature the last major reports of collecting here were by Richard Bagnall (Bagnall, 1917)(VC82; North Berwick area) and Williams Evans (Evans, 1907, 1918)(Forth area, Bass Rock). Specimens from the various houses of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh are not included here although several species of interest have been collected. In this account the term "garbage" is used to describe domestic rubbish as distinct from, say, builder's rubbish. Total specimens collected during the period of study were 247 centipedes (Chilopoda) and 459 millipedes (Diplopoda).

Species Recorded:

(* First recorded for vice-county)

CHILOPODA

GEOPHILOMORPHA

Himantariidae

Haplophilus subterraneus (Shaw) VC83(8), VC84(4)
Under stone, rubbish and in soil and leaf litter

Geophilidae

Strigamia crassipes (C.L. Koch) VC82(1)*
Under stone on beach.

Strigamia maritima (Leach) VC83(2), VC84(2)
On the shore above HWM, Barns Ness.

Geophilus carpophagus (Leach) VC82(2), VC83(4), VC84(3)
Under stone; in dead wood. Found over a wide altitude range from 3m to 460m.

Geophilus electricus (Linné) VC83(2), VC84(4)*
Under stone on beach, and in domestic garden; in soil in domestic garden.

Geophilus insculptus (Attems) VC82(1), VC83(8), VC84(5)
Under stones, in and under dead wood, in leaf litter, in soil and in debris on old quarry face.

Necrophloeophagus flavus (de Geer) VC82(5), VC83(11), VC84(8)
Under stones, under stones on sandy beach and in shingle on beach, under polythene sheeting; under old clothing; under bark; in soil.

Brachygeophilous truncorum (Bergsoe & Meinert) VC82(1), VC83(10), VC84(6)
Under stones, garbage (including polythene sheeting), bark; in soil, leaf litter and dead wood. Greatest altitude 310m.

SCOLOPENDROMORPHA

Cryptopsidae

Cryptops parisi (Brolemann) VC83(1)*
The first record of this species for Scotland was found in leaf litter in the grounds of an Edinburgh church.

LITHOBIORPHA

Lithobiidae

Lithobius forficatus (L.) VC82(15), VC83(31), VC84(25)
With a total of 71 records this was the species most often found. Under stones; bricks, garbage, pottery tiles, broken asbestos roofing, stone setts, stones on beach, dead wood, bark; in soil, dead wood, leaf litter (including oak and beech); in a crevice in a beech tree above ground.

Lithobius melanops (Newport) VC82(3), VC83(8), VC84(5)
Under stones, under stones in sand on beach, bark; in dead wood, and in dead wood on beach.

Lithobius macilentus (L. Koch) VC83(1)
The only record of this was from the Moorfoots, at a farm 400m; found in soil at the edge of a field.

Lithobius calcaratus (C.L. Koch) VC82(1), VC83(1)
It is remarkable how different these two records are, one from under stone in the Pentlands, the other from under a small plank on dunes in the John Muir Country Park almost at sea level.

Lithobius crassipes (L. Koch) VC82(16), VC83(23), VC84(16)
Under stone, garbage (including polythene sheeting), old bricks, old straw, bark, logs. In balast on old railway line, in dead wood, in dead wood on beach, in leaf litter (including holly, beech, rhododendron and larch needles) and in soils (woodland). Found over a wide altitude range, from sea level (1m) to 460m in the Moorfoots.

Lithobius microps (Meinert) VC83(3), VC84(1)

The 3 records from VC83 were all found within the built up area of Edinburgh, from under plastic sheeting, and on soil and in leaf litter. The one from VC84 was found on bark.

Henicopidae

Lamyctes fulvicornis (Meinert) VC82(2), VC83(1), VC84(1)*

All four records were from under stones; Craigie Hill Quarry, White Craig, Lammermuir Hills, Whiteadder. Three of the sites were disused quarries.

DIPLOPODA

GLOMERIDA

Glomeridae

Glomeris marginata VC82(1), VC83(1)*

Under stone, roadside bank, Gala water; under plank of wood, Humble Quarry.

CHORDEUMATIDA

Craspedosomatidae

Nanogona polydesmoides (Leach) VC82(1), VC83(8), VC84(8)*

Under stone, log, bark; in moss, dead wood, leaf litter (including spruce needles).

Chordeumatidae

Melogona gallica (Latzel) VC83(5)*

All the records from VC83 are from the city of Edinburgh built-up area. Under stone, leaf litter and in soil and debris on an old quarry face.

Melogona scutellare (Ribaut) VC83(2)

In moss on a tree stump, Langskail; in dead wood, Bawsinch (SWT reserve).

JULIDA

Nemasomatidae

Nemasoma varicorne (C.L. Koch) VC83(3)

Under stone; garbage and in dead wood by Union Canal, Ratho in roadside bank, Gala Water.

Blaniulidae

Proteroiulus fuscus (AM Stein) VC82(7), VC83(21)*, VC84(9)*

Under stone, dead wood, garbage, bark, moss, slates, in leaf litter, soil, dead wood, and debris on old quarry face and in a cleft in a tree.

Blaniulus gattulatus (Fabricius) VC83(10)*, VC84(2)

Under stone, bricks, plywood sheet, and in strawberries and leaf litter.

Archiboreoiulus pallidus (Brade-Birks) VC83(2)*, VC84(1)*

Under stone, path verge, Beecraig Country Park; in dead wood, woodland, Heriot Watt University grounds; in dead wood, woodland Bawsinch SWT reserve.

Boreoiulus tenuis (Bigler) VC83(2), VC84(1)

Under stone above HWM, Gramond Island off mouth of River Almond; on beach above HWM, Blackness; in soil on bank of old cutting, Roseburn Cycle Track (from a disused railway), Edinburgh.

Julidae

Ommatoiulus sabulosus (L) VC82(11), VC83(13)*, VC84(8)*

Under stone, asbestos roofing, garbage, bark, old clothing, stone on beach, and on sand in beach, in soil, dead wood, ripe brambles, leaf litter (including sycamore and conifer), in soil in a tree cleft, and on a stone beside a loch, from a tree trunk. This species has a wide range of habitats; its altitude range extends from sea level to 270m where it was found in conifer litter.

Tachypodoiulus niger (Leach) VC82(20), VC83(38)*, VC84(14)*

Under stone, pottery tiles, foam sheet, garbage, (plastic sheeting, asbestos roofing, slates), bark, dead fungus, stone on beach, in stones of dry-stone dyke and mortared walls. In soil (including sandy soil), moss, ripe brambles, needle litter, dead wood (including tree stumps), debris on face of old quarry, on stinging nettles, and trapped in pitfall. Like the preceding species this one has an extensive habitat range, plus an altitude range from sea level to 460m. (Moorfoots, in soil): remarkably, it has not yet been found in leaf litter.

Allajulus nitidus (Verhoeff) VC83(1)*

This is another rarity, found in Edinburgh, on a disused railway, under a stone.

Cylindroiulus caeruleocinctus (Wood) VC83(1)*

Found near Whitcraigs (3cm), disused road, under garbage. According to R. Jones (pers.comm.) this record "is the furthest north by about 100 miles".

Cylindroiulus punctatus (Leach) VC82, VC83, VC84

Under stone, wood, bark, garbage (old clothing), asbestos roofing, chipboard, old straw, garden rubbish. In leaf litter, (beech, spruce, oak, pine, beech, twigs) in moss, and old bird's nest.

Cylindroiulus latestriatus (Curtis) VC82(10), VC83(6)*, VC84(3)

Under stone (also on shore), garbage, bark, small stones on shore, plastic sheet, dead vegetation on tide line, dead wood; in soil and in sand.

Cylindroiulus britannicus (Verhoeff) VC82(6)*, VC83(16)*, VC84(3)*

Under stone, bark, dead wood, concrete block, garbage (including old clothing) old straw. In tree stump, soil, moss. Base of charlock root.

Julus scandinavus (Latzel) VC82(6), VC83(8), VC84(9)*

Under stone, bark, asbestos roofing, plastic sheet, garbage, dead wood. In dead wood, dry stone dyke, ripe brambles, leaf litter (including ivy, oak, beech, holly) and in soil.

Ophiulus pilosus (Newport) VC82(4), VC83(16)*, VC84(3)

Under stone, dead wood, railway ballast, old clothing, bark, log, plastic sheet, garbage. In soil, leaf liter (including beech) up to 270m.

Brachyiulus pusillus (Leach) VC83(3)

An uncommon species; under stone, and garbage; (Whitecraigs;) and in soil, railway cutting Polton (Rosewell).

POLYDESMIDA

Polydesmidae

Polydesmus angustus (Latzel) VC82(10), VC83(20), Vc84(10)*

Under stone, asbestos roofing, pottery tiles, garbage, plastic sheeting, plywood, dead wood, log. In cleft in beech tree, dry stone dyke, tree stumps, leaf litter, dead wood; also pitfall trapped at Hopetown. Alt. range 30m - 340m (Moorfoots, under stone).

Polydesmus inconstans (Latzel) VC83(4)

Four records, all occurring within a comparatively small area in the south of VC83, but at separate locations (Castliton, Fala Luggie, Fala Moor, River South Esk) and all within a very short time, 02/06/88 to 16/06/88.

Polydesmus gallicus (Latzel) VC84(1)*

Found at Hopetown House.

Brachydesmus superus (Latzel) VC82(1), VC83(8)*. VC84(2)

Under stone, wood, old straw and in soil.

REFERENCES

Bagnall, R.S. (1918); Records of Myriapoda from the Forth Area
Scot.nat.1918:79-80

Evans, W. (1907); The Myriapods (Centipedes and Millipedes) of the Forth Area
Proc.Roy.Phys.soc.Edin.16:405-414, 17:109-120 (1918): Insects and other Terrestrial Invertebrates from the Bass Rock
Scot.nat.1918:259-265

NEW COUNTY RECORDS OF MYRIAPODA IN THE LOTHIAN
1982 - 1990 (VC's 82, 83 & 84)

(all records CPR except where indicated *S = new to Scotland)

CHILOPODA

<u>Strigamia crassipes</u>	VC82	Hadd	36/719772	Under stone on beach
(*S) <u>Cryptops parisi</u>	VC83	Edin	36/241748	In leaf litter, grounds of an Edinburgh church
<u>Lamyctes fulvicornis</u>	VC84	Lin	36/154760	Under stone, floor of disused quarry

DIPLOPODA

<u>Glomeris marginata</u>	VC83	Edin	36/43.46. 8.8.1985	Gala Water; under stone
<u>Nanogona polydesmoides</u>	VC84	Lin	36/085793 .7.1982	Hopetown House
<u>Melogona gallica</u>	VC83	Edin	36/243742	Under stone, Dean Gardens, Edinburgh
<u>Proteroiulus fuscus</u>	VC83	Edin	9.1.1988 36/43.46	Gala Waters under stone
<u>Proteroiulus fuscus</u>	VC84	Lin	8.8.1985 36/085793	
<u>Blaniulus guttulatus</u>	VC83	Edin	14.10.1982 36/230745	Hopetown House
<u>Archiboreoiulus pallidus</u>	VC83	Edin	30.6.1984 36/173693	In strawberries, Edinburgh Domestic Gdn
<u>A. pallidus</u>	VC84	Lin	16.8.1988 36/000741	In dead wood, Heriot Watt Uni. Riccarton
<u>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</u>	VC83	Edin	27.6.1987 36/33.61	Beecraigs Country Park
<u>Ommatoiulus sabulosus</u>	VC84	Lin	7.6.1984 36/085793	Gore Glen
<u>Tachypodoiulus niger</u>	VC83	Edin	21.6.1984 36/243651	Hopetown House
<u>T. niger</u>	VC84	Lin	16.5.1985 36/085793	Boghall Farm
<u>Allajulus nitidus</u>	VC83	Edin	20.6.1982 36/249751	Under pottery tile Hopetown House
(*S) <u>Cylindroiulus caeruleocinctus</u>	VC83	Edin	11.10.1988 36/359711	Under stone Edinburgh
<u>C. punctatus</u>	VC83	Edin	8.5.1989 36/33.61	In garbage Whitecraigs
<u>C. punctatus</u>	VC84	Lin	7.6.1984 36/085793	Gore Glen
<u>C. latestriatus</u>	VC83	Edin	17.6.1982 36/24.65	Under bank Hopetown House
<u>C. britannicus</u>	VC82	Hadd	18.7.1985 36/73.73	Boghall Farm
<u>C. britannicus</u>	VC83	Edin	27.10.1983 36/36.51	Thornhill Glen SWT Res
<u>C. britannicus</u>	VC84	Lin	7.7.1984 36/08.79	Raeshaw
<u>Julus scandinavicus</u>	J. Carlyle		17.6.1982	Charlock root
<u>Ophiulus pilosus</u>	VC84	Lin	36/085793 .7.1982	Hopetown House
<u>Polydesmus angustus</u>	VC83	Edin	36/24.65 18.7.1985	Hopetown House
<u>Polydesmus gallicus</u>	VC84	Lin	36/085793	Boghall Farm
<u>Brachydesmus superus</u>	VC83	Edin	4.11.1983 36/24.65	Under pottery tiles Hopetown House
			18.7.1985	Hopetown House
				Boghall Farm