



British Myriapod Group

AUTUMN 1999

Newsletter number 31

Editor: Paul Lee

Notes from the Editor

This newsletter brings details of parallel developments within myriapodology on the national and international scene. The inaugural meeting of the newly formalised British Myriapod Group (BMIG) will be held at the next annual field meeting in Essex and I urge as many of you as possible to attend this historic meeting. The Centre International de Myriapodologie (CIM) was also formally constituted in June this year. Are we finally going to get ourselves as well organised as the entomological community?

Anyone who still has millipede records they wish to see included in the Provisional Atlas should submit completed RA59 cards by the end of November 1999. I would also like to hear from anyone who has computerised records they wish to submit, again before the end of November.

In future all field meeting records, including those from the 1999 Forde Castle meeting, will be published in the Bulletin. However the records from the 1997 Galloway meeting never made it to press and so the millipede records are reported below just to set the record straight.

For 2000 meeting of BMIG

Ken Hill has managed to find us accommodation for the April 2000 field meeting at Audley End near Saffron Walden in Essex. From here we will be able to explore the totally unrecorded areas of south Herts. and south-east Essex. Although the accommodation costs are a little more than in previous years this was expected for this part of the country and the venue is easily accessible by road and rail which should reduce travel costs. Ken does need to receive lots of early bookings in order to pay the hefty deposit required by St. Mark's College so please return your booking forms as soon as possible before November.

CIM News

Following the plenary session at the 1996 Congress in Copenhagen, the Centre International de Myriapodologie (CIM) was formally constituted as an association on 21 June 1999. The executive committee of CIM for 1999-2002,

comprising J.P. Mauries (President), J.J. Geoffroy (Secretary) and M. Nguyen Duy-Jacquemin (Treasurer), were formally adopted at the International Congress in Bialowieza, Poland in July 1999 and are preparing a constitution for CIM to be discussed at the next Congress in 2002. For further information please contact:

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61, rue Buffon, F-75231 Paris cedex 05, France
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Paupod records

Steve Hopkin has found two species of these fabled creatures using Tullgren extraction. *Stylopaupopus pedunculatus* was identified by Ulf Scheller from Steve's home in Caversham, Reading (SU711760) whilst *Trachypaupopus britannicus* was identified, also by Ulf, from the Ladymoore Nature Reserve in Wolverhampton (SO942948). *T. britannicus* has been collected previously by Gordon Blower only from its locus typicus in Lancashire.

The Millipedes of North & Middle America

Richard Hoffmann has produced a long overdue checklist of the 2167 species of millipede from the North American continent north of Columbia and Trinidad. Each species entry summarises taxonomic data and distribution information and a literature list contains almost 800 relevant papers. The publication, comprising 590 pages, is available from the Virginia Museum of Natural History, 1001 Douglas Avenue, Martinsville, VA24112 at a cost of \$50 + \$8 p&ap.

Hothouse inhabitants wanted

Dr Joachim Adis is looking for live millipedes (*Poratia digitata* and *Muyudesmus obliteratedus*) from European hothouses for studies on their reproductive strategies. They originate from the Amazon region where both males and females are found but the species have become parthenogenetic in Europe. The animals are best collected with the aid of a fine artist's brush and should be sent airmail with litter/soil in a plastic film canister with a perforated lid to:

PD Dr. Joachim Adis, Max-Planck-Institute, Postfach 165,
D-24302 Plön, Germany.

Request for Information on *Scolopendra*

Bob Mesibov has forwarded a request he received via the Internet. Marcus DeMaaijer is trying to establish an educational terrarium in Curacao (Dutch Antilles). He has built a 1x 0.5 x 0.5m cage for *Scolopendra gigantea* from plexiglass and wood, the top being 0.3cm thick plexiglass. Breathing holes in the side are covered with fine wiremesh and the underside of the lid is sprayed with water every other day. Marcus is feeding the centipede with live cockroaches and moths but would like to know what to feed it, what type of "leaves, dirt or moss" to put in the cage, what level of humidity to maintain and how to differentiate the sexes of *S. gigantea*? Bob directed him to a Website dealing with Scolopendra at www.ilinkusa.net/~100legs but if anyone else has information please contact Marcus DeMaaijer, Curacao Sunchild Foundation,

Willemstad, Curacao, Dutch Antilles
e-mail: sunchild@interneeds.net

Millipede Records from Galloway

In April 1997 we visited south-west Scotland for the annual meeting. The weather was far kinder than on our last visit to Scotland - it rained rather than snowed! The most notable finds were of *Choneiulus palmatus* in the flower beds of the Lochinvar Hotel where we stayed and the large numbers of *Thalassiosobates littoralis* found on the shore at Mullock Bay, an MOD site. I have no centipede records from the weekend although I do recall the scheme organiser returning from a day in the field with a botanical specimen, a Chusan palm I think. So much for the image of the dedicated myriapodologist!

Records supplied by: Keith Alexander, Dick Jones, Paul Lee and Charles Rawcliffe.

Sites	LG	AM	MO	GM	LW	DJ	BD	BW	DY GP	DC	SH MB	RB	CP	HW	
10km squares	25/	04	30	40	50	58	59	59	67	68	68	74	84	85	95

SPECIES

<i>Blaniulus guttulatus</i>		*													
<i>Boreoiulus tenuis</i>									*		*				
<i>Brachydesmus superus</i>											*				
<i>Brechiulus pusillus</i>											*				
<i>Choneiulus palmatus</i>									*						
<i>Cylindroiulus latestriatus</i>											*	*	*		
<i>Cylindroiulus londinensis</i>		*									*	*	*		
<i>Cylindroiulus punctatus</i>			*			*	*		*		*	*	*	*	*
<i>Glomeris marginata</i>			*						*	*		*			*
<i>Julus scandinavicus</i>									*		*				
<i>Metodesmus palicola</i>									*		*				
<i>Metogona scutellare</i>						*					*				
<i>Nanogona polydesmoides</i>						*					*				
<i>Ophyiulus pilosus</i>		*	*		*				*		*				*
<i>Polydesmus angustus</i>			*								*				
<i>Polyxenus lagurus</i>											*				
<i>Proteroiulus fuscus</i>									*	*	*	*			*
<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>		*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Thalassiosobates littoralis</i>											*				*

Key to sites

LG	Logan Gardens	25/0242	BW	Brough Woods, New Galloway	25/6276
AM	Auchalton Meadows	25/3303	DY	St Johns Town of Dalry	25/6181
MO	Mossdale	25/4004	DC	Dundeugh Castle	25/6088
GM	Glen Muck	25/5102	GP	Glenlee Park	25/6180
LW	Long Wood, Garroch Glen	25/5982	SH	Silver Hill	25/7145
DJ	Drumjohn	25/5297	MB	Mullock Bay	25/7043-7144
BD	Bardennoch	25/5791	RB	Rascarrel Bay	25/8048
			CP	Castlehill Point, Rockcliffe	25/8552
			HW	Heugh Wood, Southwick Coast	25/9156

NEXT NEWSLETTER: Spring 2000

Please send your contributions to reach the editor by 28 February 2000

Supplies of record cards and additional copies of the British Myriapod Group Newsletter can be obtained from the Biological Records Centre. Please notify either Paul Lee or BRC of any change of address. If you no longer wish to receive the BMG Newsletter, please notify BRC in writing.

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