An annotated catalogue of the scutigeromorph centipedes in the collection of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (France) (Chilopoda: Scutigeromorpha)

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Abstract

The collection of the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (France) houses 16 species of scutigeromorph centipedes belonging to 10 genera of all the three hitherto known families. Two new combinations and two new synonymies are proposed: *Tachythereua hispanica* (Meinert, 1886) = *Tachythereua maroccana* var. *spinosa* Ribaut, 1911 New Synonym; *Thereuonema microstoma* (Meinert, 1886) New Combination = *Thereuonema syriaca* Verhoeff, 1905 New Synonym; *Pselliodes rugosus* (Newport, 1844) New Combination.

Key words: Chilopoda, Scutigeromorpha, annotated catalogue, new combinations, new synonymies, collections

Introduction

The order Scutigeromorpha is one of the five centipede orders included in the class Chilopoda. In the systematic arrangement of this group, it is placed distantly from all other orders and forms its own subclass, Notostigmophora, well characterized by the presence of dorsal tergal spiracles, compound eyes, multisegmented tarsi, etc. Taxonomically, the scutigeromorphs are the least studied group of the Chilopoda with almost no serious investigations since the end of the 1970s (Stoev, 2002). It is worth mentioning that several species described in the nineteenth century by George Newport, Frederik Meinert, Erich Haase and Reginald Innes Pocock still lack satisfactory redescription.

At present, the order comprises 3 extant families, 26 genera and subgenera and about 96 species and subspecies. Undoubtedly, many of them will be synonymised when the