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Pauropods (Myriapoda: Pauropoda) from eastern China, descriptions of three new species and revision of *Pauropus bifurcus* Zhang & Chen, 1988

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Abstract

Pauropods from Zhejiang and Jiangsu in eastern China were collected from the field. Among 23 specimens, four species assigned to two genera are identified. Three of these species are new and from the genus *Decapauropus* Remy, 1931: *Decapauropus bifurcodicoccus* Qian & Dong **sp. nov.**, *D. duomamillatus* Qian & Dong **sp. nov.** and *D. bidrepanoides* Qian **sp. nov.** The status of *Pauropus bifurcus* Zhang & Chen, 1988 is reexamined and reallocated to the genus *Stylopaupopus* Cook, 1896. A key to *Decapauropus* species of eastern China (including Jiangsu, Anhui and Zhejiang province) is provided.

Key words: new species, Pauropoda, Myriapoda, revision, eastern China, taxonomy

摘要

本研究以在中国东部浙江、江苏野外采集获得的少足动物为材料，发现其中的 23 只标本分别隶属 4 种少足动物。其中 3 个新种隶属十别少足属 (*Decapauropus* Remy, 1931)，分别为：*Decapauropus bifurcodicoccus* Qian & Dong **sp. nov.**，*D. duomamillatus* Qian & Dong **sp. nov.**和 *D. bidrepanoides* Qian **sp. nov.**。其余 1 种 *Pauropus bifurcus* Zhang & Chen, 1988 经鉴定后被厘定为针少足属 (*Stylopaupopus* Cook, 1896) 的 *Stylopaupopus bifurcus* (Zhang et Chen)。并附上中国东部江苏、安徽、浙江三省十别少足属分类检索表。

关键词: 少足纲，多足亚门，新种，厘定，中国东部，分类学

Introduction

The Pauropoda is a special edaphic cryptozoic group assigned to the monophyletic Progoneata of the subphylum Myriapoda because the gonopores in male adults open on the 3rd trunk segment (Brusca and Brusca 2003). Body sizes are 0.3–2.0 mm and the antennae have 4 or 6 segmented stalk and are branched distally. Adult pauropods have 12 segmented trunks with 6–12 tergites, and 8–11 pairs of legs in 5–6 segments; the pygidium has a unique anal plate (Scheller 2008). Pauropodans are not common and occur mainly in moist soils, woodland litter and under rotting bark (Brusca and Brusca 2003, Scheller 2011). Their food habits remain generally unknown but most species are thought to suck fluid from root hairs and fungal hyphae (Scheller 2012).

Pauropodans were discovered approximately 150 years ago (Scheller 2012), but have attracted limited