



An annotated checklist of centipedes (Chilopoda) of Vietnam

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Abstract

The centipede fauna of Vietnam is reviewed from the literature. A total of 71 species in 26 genera, 13 families in four orders, Scolopendromorpha, Geophilomorpha, Lithobiomorpha and Scutigleromorpha, has been recorded from Vietnam. Four genera, *Tonkinodentus*, *Alluropus*, *Anopsobiella* and *Megalacrus*, are monotypic; and twenty-two species and subspecies are known only from Vietnam. Distribution data for each species is provided here to promote further studies on the centipede fauna of Vietnam.

Key words: checklist, centipedes, Chilopoda, Vietnam

Introduction

Located in the tropics of Southeast Asia, Vietnam is considered as a part of the Indo-Burmese biodiversity center (Sterling *et al.*, 2006). Because of its significant north-south range, having areas of low to high altitudes and different climatic conditions, Vietnam is expected to harbor rich faunas of terrestrial arthropods, including centipedes. However, the Vietnamese centipedes have as yet been inadequately studied.

Centipedes in Vietnam have been described in various papers, but mainly in the publications of Attems (1938, 1953). Only scolopendromorphs have been treated recently and carefully by Schileyko (1992, 1995, and 2007).

The paper presents a review of the existing literature related to Vietnamese centipedes. It is presented as a foundational work for promoting further studies on Vietnamese centipedes.

Methodology

The checklist was compiled from a literature review. The material examined by Attems (1938, 1953) is currently deposited in Naturhistorischen Museums Wien in Vienna (Austria); and all scolopendromorphs studied by Schileyko (1992, 1995, and 2007) are being kept in the Zoological Museum of University of Moscow (Russia). However, type material was not examined for this study.

The classification for Chilopoda follows Minelli *et al.* (2006 onward) and Minelli (2011). Families, genera within families and species within genera are listed alphabetically. Appropriate citations for each species are given if they provide original records for Vietnam, and/or affect taxonomy of the species, and/or provide important geographical records of the species. Remarks on taxonomic problems or locality records are being discussed.