On two myriapods (Chilopoda, Diplopoda) new to the fauna of Albania

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The check-list of the Albanian millipedes and centipedes was recently renewed owing to the works of MAURIES, GOLOVATCH & STOEV (1998) and STOEV (1996; 2001). Nevertheless, Albania remains amongst the countries less investigated in terms of Myriapoda in the Balkans and in Europe as a whole. That may still last for some time since at present the political and economic conditions in the country are not suitable for new collecting trips.

This note aims at the reporting of two myriapods new to the Albanian fauna from the collection of the National Museum of Natural History in Sofia. Thus the overall number of the millipedes and centipedes known to exist in the country reaches up to 129 species and subspecies from 21 families. I owe my thanks to Dr. William A. Shear (Department of Biology, Hampden-Sydney College, USA) for identifying *Macrochaetosoma troglomontanum* Absolon et Lang, 1935.

**Chilopoda**

*Lithobius* (s.str.) *stygius* Latzel, 1880

**Material:** 1 ad. fem., Albania, Leskoviku District, cave on the road Permet - Leskoviku, 5 km before Leskoviku, alt. ca. 900 m, 12.05.1995, B. Petrov & P. Stoev leg., P. Stoev det.; 1 ad. m., 3 subad. ms., 1 subad. fem., Petrela, 15 km SE of Tirana, alt. 300 m, artificial galleries on the road, 09.05.1995, B. Petrov & P. Stoev leg., P. Stoev det.

**Remarks.** So far, this species has been reported from caves in NE Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Albania, Bulgaria and superficially from mainland Greece and Kerkira (Korfu) Island. Petrela is the first record from an artificial gallery, which supports the assumption that within the southern limits of its range *stygius* maintains superficial populations. It has been registered to exist in caves in Hungary too, but these records need re-evaluation.

**Diplopoda**

*Macrochaetosoma troglomontanum* Absolon et Lang, 1935

**Literature records:** 1 juv. male (28 segm.), Albania, Shkodër District,
Bogë Village, upper camp, alt. ca. 1,900 m, 22.05.1993, P. Beron leg.; 8 fems.,
3 juvs., same locality, cave # 25, 23.05.1993, P. Beron & B. Petrov leg. (MAU-
RIES, GOLOVATCH & STOEV, 1997, p. 269 sub Chordeumatida gen. sp.?).

Material: several males and females, Albania, Shkodër District, Theth
Village, Cave at Maya Harapit, alt. ca. 1,000 m, 27.05.1993, P. Beron leg. det.
W.A. Shear, 2000; one specimen, Albania, Shkodër District, Bogë Village, alt.
ca. 1,000-1,100 m, 5-9.06.1993, P. Beron & B. Petrov leg., W.A. Shear det.

Remarks. The western Balkans genus Macrochaetosoma involves two species -
M. drinae Strasser, 1962 (Bosnia) and M. troglomontanum Absolon et Lang, 1935
(North Albania, Croatia, Bosnia, Montenegro). The latter involves three valid sub-
species - the nominate M. t. troglomontanum (Bosnia, Montenegro and North
Albania), M. t. deelemanorum (Gulička, 1964) (Bosnia), M. troglomontanum
biokovense Mršić, 1987 (Croatia) (MRŠIC, 1992). The above records form the south-
ern border of species’ distribution in the Balkan peninsula.

References

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Върху два вида многоножки (Chilopoda, Diplopoda)
нови фауната на Албания

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(Резюме)

Съобщава се за намирането на Lithobius stygius Latzel, 1880 и Macrochaetosoma
troglomontanum Absolon et Lang, 1935 в Албания. С тях броят на известните от
страната многоножки (Chilopoda, Diplopoda) достига 129 вида и подвид от общо 21
семейства.

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