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SHORT COMMUNICATION

E. V. Mikhajlova. THE MILLIPEDES (DIPLOPODA) OF THE SHANTAR ISLANDS (KHABAROVSKII KRAI, RUSSIA). – Far Eastern Entomologist. 2012. N 250: 10-12.

Summary. Three species of millipedes, *Angarozonium amurense* (Gerstfeldt, 1859) (Polyzoniidae), *Orinisobates microthylax* Enghoff, 1985 (Nemasomatidae), and *Underwoodia kurtschevae* Golovatch, 1980 (Caseyidae), are firstly recorded from the Shantar Islands.

Key words: Diplopoda, fauna, Shantar Islands, Sea of Okhotsk, Russia.

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Резюме. Впервые для фауны Шантарских островов отмечены 3 вида двупарноногих многоножек: *Angarozonium amurense* (Gerstfeldt, 1859) (Polyzoniidae), *Orinisobates microthylax* Enghoff, 1985 (Nemasomatidae) и *Underwoodia kurtschevae* Golovatch, 1980 (Caseyidae).

INTRODUCTION

The Shantar Islands are a group of fifteen islands that lie in Uda Bay, in the southwestern zone of the Sea of Okhotsk. Administratively this island group belongs to the Khabarovskii krai of the Russian Federation. The millipede fauna of the Shantar Islands is hitherto unknown (Mikhajlova, 2004, 2009). The present paper is based on the specimens collected by Dr. V.V. Bogatov in 2010. This material is deposited in the collection of the Institute of Biology and Soil Science, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Vladivostok, Russia.

LIST OF THE SPECIES

Order Polyzoniida
Family Polyzoniidae

Angarozonium amurense (Gerstfeldt, 1859)

MATERIAL. Russia: Khabarovskii krai: Sea of Okhotsk, Shantar Islands: Feklistova Island, seacoast near Arka rock, rocky slope, Gramineae, *Abies*, *Betula*, litter, 54°54,263'N, 136°46,180'E, 18.VIII 2010, 1 ♂, leg. V.V. Bogatov; Bolshoy Shantar Island, environs of Bolshoe Lake, right bank, approximately 300 m above top of flow, edge of pine forest, litter, 55°02,423'N, 137°59,67'E, 22-23.VIII 2010, 3 ♂, 4 ♀, leg. V.V. Bogatov.

DISTRIBUTION. Russia: Siberia (central part of Krasnoyarskii krai, Irkutskaya oblast, Buryatia, Zabaikalskii krai, Yakutia), Far East (southern part of Khabarovskii krai, Jewish Autonomous Region, northern and central parts of Sakhalin Island, Kamchatka Peninsula). – North Mongolia, Northeast China.

REMARKS. The species was originally described from the mouth of Songhua River in China as *Platydesmus amurensis* (Gerstfeldt, 1859). However, this description is too poor according to the modern standards of millipede taxonomy. Therefore I suspected (Mikhaljova, 1993) that it might be a senior synonym of the trans-Siberian *Polyzonium cyathiferum* Mikhaljova, 1981 described from Kamchatka Peninsula and Krasnoyarskii krai (Mikhaljova, 1981). However, the formal synonymy was only advanced in 1998 (Shelley, 1998). Examination of material from southern part of Khabarovskii krai lying close to the type locality of *Platydesmus amurensis* confirmed the Shelley's synonymy (Mikhaljova, 1998). This species is distributed very far northwards compared to the remaining millipedes occurring in the Holarctic. It was recorded just north of the Arctic Circle at 67.40°N (Mikhaljova & Marusik, 2004). This is the northernmost known record of diplopods in Northern Hemisphere.

Order Julida
Family Nemasomatidae

***Orinisobates microthylax* Enghoff, 1985**

MATERIAL. Russia: Khabarovskii krai: Sea of Okhotsk, Shantar Islands: Feklistova Island, seacoast near Arka rock, rocky slope, Gramineae, *Abies*, *Betula*, litter, 54°54,263' N, 136°46,180' E, 18.VIII 2010, 5 ♀, leg. V.V. Bogatov; Bolshoy Shantar Island, right bank of Omokoi Lake valley, slope with grasses near sea, 55°08,764' N, 137°44,279' E, 21.VIII 2010, 5 ♀, leg. V.V. Bogatov.

DISTRIBUTION. Russia: Siberia (Buryatia), Far East (Amurskaya oblast, Jewish Autonomous Region, southern part of Khabarovskii krai, Primorskii krai, Sakhalin Island, Kamchatka Peninsula, Kuril Islands: Kunashir, Shikotan, Iturup).

REMARKS. The species was originally described from Asian part of Russia (Buryatia, Kamchatka, Vladivostok) (Enghoff, 1985). It is characterized by parthenogenesis. The species lives in forest litter, rotten wood and under the bark of dead trees.

Order Chordeumatida
Family Caseyidae

***Underwoodia kurtschevae* Golovatch, 1980**

MATERIAL. Russia: Khabarovskii krai: Sea of Okhotsk, Shantar Islands: Bolshoy Shantar Island, Topaznaya Bay, dark coniferous forest, deep ravine near stream, litter inter motley grass, 54°48,633' N, 137°20,931' E, 16.VIII 2010, 1 ♀, leg. V.V. Bogatov.

DISTRIBUTION. Russia: Far East (Amurskaya oblast, Jewish Autonomous Region, southern part of Khabarovskii krai, Primorskii krai, Sakhalin Island, Moneron Island, Kamchatka Peninsula, Kuril Islands: Zelenyi, Kunashir, Shikotan, Iturup, Urup, Chirpoi, Ketoi). – North Korea.

REMARKS. This species was originally described from Primorskii krai (Golovatch, 1980). It is characterized by parthenogenesis, males being extremely rare. This is one of the most common species in the forests of southern part of Russian Far East.

Discussion

The Shantar Islands supports only three millipede species. Millipedes have been reported from 2 of all 15 islands of this archipelago. However do not expect a great species diversity of diplopods on these islands because of severe climate. The millipedes of any taxonomic rank

endemic to these islands have not been recorded. Also, these islands are devoid of any species with insular distributions. Three recorded species show the large distribution ranges (see above).

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