

Scientific note

The southernmost millipedes found on Guarello Island, southern Chile

(Diplopoda, Polydesmida, Dalodesmidae)*

Jörg Spelda**

The distribution of millipedes (class Diplopoda) in southern South America is still incompletely known. The southernmost record of a millipede, a member of the order Polyxenida, originates from Santa Cruz River, Argentina. The southernmost records of true millipedes (suborder Chilognatha), respectively members of the order Polydesmida, are from the island of Chiloe, Region Los Lagos, Chile (Shelley & Golovatch 2011, see page 9 and 49).

A recent collection made by Roland Melzer and Roland Meyer during their expedition “Huinay Fjords 16” in southern Chile, organized by the Huinay Scientific Field Station, now expands our knowledge by seven specimens, collected under a wooden board in a subantarctic shrubbery at the limestone quarry on Guarello Island (50.3827°S, 75.3327°W), Region XII Magallanes, Última Esperanza Province, Chile, April, 23th 2013, about 700 km south of Chiloe and about 50 km south of the Santa Cruz River.

These specimens belong to at least two species, a larger one, represented by one adult female (about 20 mm long, reddish brown, Fig. 1a) and a smaller one, represented by two adult males and two adult females (about 12 mm long, pale brownish, Fig. 1b). A juvenile male and a juvenile female might also belong to this latter species, which could be tentatively identified as

Anaulacodesmus insulanus (Verhoeff, 1924) described from the Juan Fernandez Islands by a side by side comparison with the type material. Further investigations have to show if the specimens from Guarello represent an own, near allied species or fall into the variation of *A. insulanus*.

As no male material was available, the second species could not be determined to species level, but is also a member of the family Dalodesmidae, probably belonging to one of genera *Anaulacodesmus* or *Semnosoma*. All specimens are deposited at the Bavarian State Collection of Zoology, section “Arthropoda varia”.

Acknowledgements. Thanks to Prof. Roland Melzer and Roland Meyer for providing this interesting material.

References

- Shelley, R. M. & Golovatch, S. I. 2011. Atlas of myriapod biogeography. I. Indigenous ordinal and supra-ordinal distributions in the Diplopoda: perspectives on taxon origins and ages, and a hypothesis on the origin and early evolution of the class. *Insecta Mundi* 0158: 1-134.
- Verhoeff, K. W. 1924. Über Myriapoden von Juan Fernandez und der Osterinsel. Pp. 403-418 in: Skottsberg, C. (ed.). The natural history of Juan Fernandez and Easter Island, Vol. III. Uppsala.

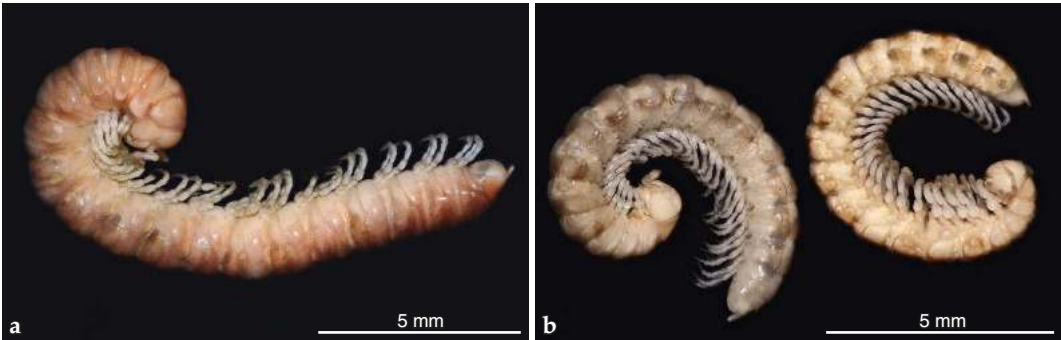


Fig. 1. a. Dalodesmidae gen. sp., female; b. *Anaulacodesmus* cf. *insulanus*, male (right) and female (left); photos: Jörg Spelda.

* This is publication No. 136 of the Huinay Scientific Field Station.

** Jörg Spelda, Zoologische Staatssammlung München, Münchhausenstr. 21, 81247 München, Germany