



<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.4027.4.3>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:4218E1CD-9016-47C3-A1DA-291F9C53661F>

A further contribution to the knowledge of two inadequately known species of geophilid centipedes from the Andes of South-Central Chile, currently assigned to the genus *Plateurytion* Attems, 1909 (Chilopoda: Geophilomorpha)

LUIS ALBERTO PEREIRA

National Council for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET) and National University of La Plata, Natural Sciences Faculty and Museum (Division of Invertebrate Zoology), Paseo del Bosque s/n, (1900) La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

E-mail: lpereira@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar

Abstract

Two poorly known species of geophilid centipedes from the Andes of South-Central Chile, *i.e.*, *Plateurytion mundus* (Chamberlin, 1955) and *Plateurytion zapallar* (Chamberlin, 1955) (Myriapoda: Chilopoda: Geophilomorpha), are herein redescribed and illustrated after type specimens of both taxa and new material of the latter, rectifying the condition of the coxosternites of the second maxillae, which are medially joined through a narrow, hyaline and non-areolate membranous isthmus only (instead of “broadly fused as in *Pachymerium*”, as stated by Chamberlin), this being consistent with the current generic assignment of these species under *Plateurytion* Attems, 1909. New data on many morphological features of specific value, until now unknown, are also given for both taxa. *Plateurytion zapallar* is reported for the first time from Coquimbo region, 11 Km N of Los Vilos (Elqui province), Valparaíso region, Quebrada Huaquén, Pichicuy (Petorca province), La Campana National Park (Quillota province), and Quebrada el Tigre, Cachagua (Valparaíso province). A key for identification of the South American species currently included in *Plateurytion* is given.

Key words: Chilopoda, Geophilomorpha, Geophilidae, *Plateurytion*, Redescriptions, Chile, southwestern South America

Introduction

R.V. Chamberlin (1955) proposed the new genus *Chilerium* for the reception of two new species of geophilids from southwestern South America, that he named *Chilerium mundum* (type of the genus) and *Chilerium zapallar*. Subsequently, Crabill (1968) considered *Chilerium* to be a junior synonym of *Eurytion* Attems, 1903; while Bonato *et al.* (2007) recognized that the valid name for the centipede genus *Eurytion* is *Plateurytion* Attems, 1909, in which the previously mentioned two taxa are currently included.

The opportunity to examine the syntypical series of both species enabled me to reveal the true condition of the coxosternites of the second maxillae (stated by Chamberlin as “broadly fused as in *Pachymerium*”) and to describe many other morphological characters of specific value omitted or erroneously given in the respective original descriptions.

Plateurytion can be distinguished from all other genera currently recognized in the family Geophilidae by the following particular combination of features. Cephalic plate evidently longer than wide; clypeus with a single, median, non-areolate area; coxosternite of second maxillae with a sclerotized rim surrounding each metameric pore, without antero-internal projections, and with a narrow, hyaline, non-areolate isthmus, medially; claw of second maxillae simple, not particularly elongate; forcipular tergite evidently narrower than subsequent tergite; forcipular coxosternite without chitin-lines; forcipular pleurocoxosternal sutures subparallel to the lateral margins of the pleurae; forcipules at the same level or overreaching the anterior margin of cephalic plate; sternal pores either arranged in a single area on the first metasternite and in two paired areas on all remaining metasternites, or in a single area on metasternites of the anterior part of the trunk, in two paired areas or absent on metasternites of the posterior part of the trunk; metasternite of the ultimate leg-bearing segment trapezoidal, wider than long or about as wide as long; coxal organs opening either into separate pores or through common pits, on the ventral side of each