

A new polydesmid milliped genus and two new species from Oregon and Washington, U. S. A., with a review of *Bidentogon* Buckett and Gardner, 1968, and a summary of the family in Western North America (Polydesmida: Polydesmidae)

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Abstract

In North America west of the Continental Divide, the milliped family Polydesmidae consists of six genera and 15 species, and occupies eight disjunct areas. *Retrorsia*, n. gen., is proposed for two new “micro-polydesmid” species (*R. leonardi*, the type species, and *R. benedictae*) in western Oregon and Washington, primarily in the lower Columbia River Valley. It is most closely related to *Utadesmus* Chamberlin and Hoffman, 1950, in Utah and New Mexico, and is characterized primarily by a retrorse gonopodal tibiotarsus that curves dorsad and counters the ventral curvature of the telopodal stem. New records are presented for the coastal species of *Bidentogon* Buckett and Gardner, 1968, occurring from Mendocino to Santa Cruz counties, California, and encompassing the area around San Francisco Bay. The oldest available name for this species is *californicus* (Chamberlin, 1918), whose type locality is Stanford, Santa Clara County. This name has been misapplied to the species occurring in Sacramento County, herein named *B. expansus*, n. sp., and *B. helferorum* Buckett and Gardner, 1968, is placed in synonymy under *B. californicus*.

Key words: Polydesmidae, *Retrorsia*, *R. leonardi*, *R. benedictae*, *Utadesmus*, *Bidentogon*, *B. californicus*, *B. helferorum*

Introduction

The milliped family Polydesmidae is a dominant component of the indigenous fauna in eastern North America. There are only two genera, *Scytonotus* C. L. Koch, 1847 (three species) and *Pseudopolydesmus* Attems, 1898 (about 12 nominal species), that together occupy a continuous area extending from James Bay, Ontario, Canada, to Lake County, Florida, and Victoria County, Texas. East-west, the family ranges from the Atlantic Ocean