

Morphology and relationships of a new species of *Henicops* (Chilopoda: Lithobiomorpha) from New South Wales and Queensland, Australia

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Abstract

The henicopid centipede *Henicops* Newport, 1845, is common and widespread in wet forests in Australia and New Zealand. A new species of *Henicops*, *H. washpoolensis*, is widely distributed in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, ranging into the wet tropics of north Queensland. Parsimony analysis of morphological characters identifies the monophyly of an Australasian group within *Henicops* relative to more distantly allied species from Lord Howe Island and New Caledonia. The most parsimonious cladograms unite the three species from southeastern Australia and New Zealand to the exclusion of congeners from Western Australia and north Queensland or unite all Australasian species to the exclusion of *H. washpoolensis*.

Key words: Chilopoda, Lithobiomorpha, Henicopidae, *Henicops*, *Henicops washpoolensis*, Australia

Introduction

The lithobiomorph centipede *Henicops* Newport, 1845, has a widespread distribution in Australia and New Zealand. A review of the genus (Hollington & Edgecombe 2004) recognized four Australian species, one endemic to the southwest of Western Australia (*H. dentatus* Pocock, 1901), another in Tasmania, Victoria, southern New South Wales, and New Zealand (*H. maculatus* Newport, 1845), and new species endemic to Victoria (*H. milledgei* Hollington & Edgecombe, 2004) and north Queensland (*H. tropicanus* Hollington & Edgecombe, 2004). A species from each of Lord Howe Island (*H. howensis* Edgecombe, 2004) and New Caledonia [*H. brevilabiatus* (Ribaut, 1923)] are the only non-Australasian members of *Henicops*.

Rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest in New South Wales and Queensland (Fig. 1) provide a new species, *Henicops washpoolensis*, described herein. This new species is