



A review of the Chinese species of *Bothropolys* Wood, 1862 (Chilopoda: Lithobiomorpha: Lithobiidae)

HUI-QIN MA^{1,2}, DA-XIANG SONG^{2,3,4} & MING-SHENG ZHU²

¹Scientific Research Office, Hengshui University, Hengshui, Hebei 053000, P. R. China

²College of Life Sciences, Hebei University, Baoding, Hebei 071002, P. R. China

³Jiangsu Key Laboratory for Biodiversity and Biotechnology, College of Life Sciences, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, Jiangsu 210097, P. R. China

Abstract

The present paper reviews the centipede species of the genus *Bothropolys* Wood, 1862 (Lithobiomorpha: Lithobiidae) of the Chinese fauna, including two species recorded from China for the first time. Diagnoses of the genus and the species, detailed account on species distribution and a key to the Chinese *Bothropolys* species are included.

Key words: Review, Chilopoda, Lithobiidae, *Bothropolys*, China

Introduction

The myriapod fauna of China is still poorly known. In particular, as regards the Chilopoda Lithobiomorpha, only 15 genera and 57 species have been recorded up to now (Verhoeff, 1934, 1937; Takakuwa, 1940; Takakuwa & Takashima, 1949; Chamberlin & Wang, 1952; Wang, 1959, 1963; Wang & Mauriès, 1996; Zhang, 1996; Eason, 1993, 1997; Edgecombe & Giribet, 2003; Chao, 2005; Zapparoli, 2006; Ma et al., 2007a, b).

The genus *Bothropolys* Wood, 1862, is characterized by the presence of numerous irregularly arranged pores on the coxae of last four pairs of legs and by antennae composed of 20 antennomeres or thereabout. Presently, the genus comprises 31 species (Attems, 1938, 1953; Verhoeff, 1938 a, b; Takakuwa, 1939, 1940; Takakuwa & Takashima, 1949; Chamberlin & Wang, 1952; Matic, 1974; Wang & Mauriès, 1996; summary by Zapparoli, 2006). *Bothropolys* species are hitherto known from eastern and southern China, Indo-China, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, New Guinea, and the Hawaiian Is. (Takakuwa, 1940; Zapparoli & Shelley, 2000), North America, and central Asia around Tashkent, Uzbekistan and Kirghizstan (Zaleskaja, 1978; Eason, 1997). However, only 5 species of *Bothropolys* have been described from China (Attems, 1938, 1953; Verhoeff, 1938a, b; Takakuwa, 1939, 1940; Takakuwa & Takashima, 1949; Chamberlin & Wang, 1952). On examining our collections, we came across two species of *Bothropolys* new to China. A review of the species of the genus *Bothropolys* Wood, 1862 from China and the description of the two species recorded for the first time from this country are given below.

Material and methods

All the materials were collected by hand or with forceps under stones while Barber pitfall traps were only used occasionally. All centipedes examined were preserved in 75% ethanol. Specimens were examined with