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A new blind *Lamyctes* (Chilopoda: Lithobiomorpha) from Tasmania with an analysis of molecular sequence data for the *Lamyctes-Henicops* Group

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Abstract

The cosmopolitan, parthenogenetic centipede *Lamyctes coeculus* (Brölemann, 1889), type species of *Lamyctinus* Silvestri, 1909, occurs in New South Wales and Lord Howe Island, Australia, the former genetically identical to specimens from Tucumán, Argentina. Parsimony analysis of complete sequences of 18S rRNA and fragments of 28S rRNA, 16S rRNA, and cytochrome *c* oxidase subunit I for the *Lamyctes-Henicops* group suggests that loss of ocelli in *Lamyctes coeculus* has an independent origin from blindness in *Lamyctes hellyeri* n. sp. from northern Tasmania. *Lamyctinus* is nested within *Lamyctes* Meinert, 1868, its senior synonym. *Lamyctes hellyeri* is known exclusively from females in gardens, and is probably introduced to Tasmania.

Key words: Chilopoda, Lithobiomorpha, Henicopidae, *Lamyctes*, *Lamyctinus*, *Lamyctes hellyeri*, taxonomy, molecular data

Introduction

Lamyctinus Silvestri, 1909, was proposed as a monotypic genus in the lithobiomorph family Henicopidae. Its type species, *Lithobius coeculus* Brölemann, 1889, is noteworthy for having a widespread, probably largely synanthropic distribution, being parthenogenetic in most occurrences (Enghoff 1975). The species has been recorded from European greenhouses (the types being from a greenhouse in Italy), Mexico (Silvestri 1909; Chamberlin 1943), Illinois, USA (Auerbach 1952), Venezuela (Turk 1955), Cuba and Tanzania (Enghoff 1975), Palestine (Negrea & Matic 1996), the Canary Islands (Eason & Enghoff 1992), and Hawaii (Zapparoli & Shelley 2000). *Lamyctinus coeculus* was reported from Sydney, Australia, by Silvestri (1909) but no additional Australian records have since been pub-

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