

The first indigenous species of the millipede genus *Eurygyrus* C.L. Koch, 1847 from the European mainland, with remarks on *E. nicarius* (Verhoeff, 1901) and *E. euboicus* (Verhoeff, 1901), and a key to the species of the genus (Diplopoda: Callipodida: Schizopetalidae)

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Abstract

The genus *Eurygyrus* C.L. Koch, 1847 (Schizopetalidae) comprises 17 described species from Asia Minor and the Aegean islands, some of them the largest callipodidans in the world. Here, we describe *E. peloponnesius* sp. n., the first species from the Greek mainland, found in the Taygetos Mts. The holotypes of *E. euboicus* (Verhoeff, 1901) and *E. nicarius* (Verhoeff, 1901), both known only from females, are re-examined and are found both to be distinct from the new species. A key to all, but two species of *Eurygyrus* is included.

Key words: Diplopoda, Callipodida, *Eurygyrus*, taxonomy, Peloponnese, Greece

Introduction

The genus *Eurygyrus* C.L. Koch, 1847 (Schizopetalidae) includes the largest callipodidans in the world, up to more than 10 cm long. Currently 17 species of *Eurygyrus* are known, which are widely distributed in the coastal areas of the Eastern Mediterranean region (Glaubrecht & Spelda, 1993). By far most of the species occur in Asia Minor, where *Eurygyrus* is the dominant callipodid genus. The taxonomic status of some taxa, such as *E. phoeniceus orientalis* (Lohmander, 1932), *E. turcicus* (Verhoeff, 1898) and *E. asiaeminoris* (Verhoeff, 1898) is still uncertain (Hoffman & Lohmander, 1964; Hoffman, 1972).

Five species have hitherto been described from Greece. Four of them, *E. nicarius* (Verhoeff, 1901), *E. nisirius* Spelda, 1993, *E. rhodius* Spelda, 1993 and *E. oertzeni* (Verhoeff,