



On the identity of the species described in the genus *Lithobius* Leach, 1814 by L. J. Dobroruka from the former Czechoslovakia (Czech and Slovak Republics) (Chilopoda: Lithobiomorpha)

IVAN HADRIÁN TUF*, JOLANTA WYTWER** & KAREL TAJOVSKÝ***

* Department of Ecology and Environmental Science, Faculty of Science, Palacky University, Svobody 26, 77200 Olomouc, Czech Republic. E-mail: ivan.tuf@upol.cz

** Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Wilcza 64, 00-679 Warszawa, Poland. E-mail: jolawyt@miz.waw.pl

*** Institute of Soil Biology, Biology Centre, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Na Sádkách 7, 37005 České Budějovice, Czech Republic. E-mail: tajov@upb.cas.cz

Abstract

Type material of the species or subspecies from the centipede genus *Lithobius* Leach, 1814 found in Dobroruka's collection, as well as the specimens identified by Dobroruka from the collections of the National Museum in Prague and of the Southern Moravia Museum in Znojmo were revised. As a result, all nine species or subspecies of *Lithobius* described by Dobroruka from former Czechoslovakia are synonyms of other European species, as follows: *Lithobius corrigendus* Dobroruka, 1988 = *Lithobius lucifugus* L. Koch, 1862; *Lithobius erythrocephalus mohelensis* Dobroruka, 1959 = *Lithobius erythrocephalus* C.L. Koch, 1847; *Lithobius evae* Dobroruka, 1958 = *Lithobius tenebrosus* Meinert, 1872; *Lithobius magurensis* Dobroruka, 1971 = *Lithobius muticus* C.L. Koch, 1847; *Lithobius purkynei* Dobroruka, 1957 = *Lithobius macilentus* L. Koch, 1862; *Lithobius pusillus johni* Dobroruka, 1959 = *Lithobius lapidicola* Meinert, 1872; *Lithobius tatricus* Dobroruka, 1958 = *Lithobius mutabilis* L. Koch, 1862; *Lithobius tatricus monounguis* Dobroruka, 1958 = *Lithobius latro* Meinert, 1872; and *Monotarsobius homolaci* Dobroruka, 1971 = *Lithobius (Sigibius) burzenlandicus* Verhoeff, 1931.

Key words: *Lithobius*, taxonomy, synonymy, Czech Republic, Slovakia

Introduction

Dr Luděk Jindřich Dobroruka (1933–2004) was a zoologist with a wide range of interests. During his employments in zoological gardens he worked with many species of mammals; so he wrote 10 international and national studbooks on some antelopes. Beside this, he focused on various aspects of the taxonomy, breeding biology and behaviour of other vertebrates. Dobroruka wrote about 140 scientific papers, 14 books, 6 textbooks, 33 popular-science papers; he also translated into Czech 7 books on natural history.

His scientific work was partly devoted also to centipedes and symphylans. As far as his publications are concerned, he wrote 38 papers containing descriptions of a lot of new taxa (37 species, 11 subspecies, 4 genera and 4 nomina nova) from Europe, Africa and Asia (Tuf 2005). These papers were published mainly in the 1950s through 1970s. Among the taxa he described there are 1 genus, 6 species, 4 subspecies plus 2 nomina nova of centipedes from former Czechoslovakia, at present the Czech and Slovak Republics (Table 1). Unfortunately, his type material remained in his private collection, except for the taxa he described in 1971, i.e. the type material of *Lithobius magurensis* and *Monotarsobius homolaci* which was kept in the collection of the National Museum in Prague. In addition, Dobroruka did not communicate with younger Czech specialists in