



New Cave Arrhopalitidae (Collembola: Symphypleona) from the Crimea (Ukraine)

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Abstract

Caecus and *pygmaeus* groups of species of the genus *Arrhopalites* Börner, 1906 are discussed and redefined. Separate generic status for *pygmaeus*-group *sensu lato* under the name *Pygmarrhopalites* is proposed. Five new species and one new subspecies of family Arrhopalitidae from 38 caves of 4 karstic massifs of the Crimean Peninsula are described, illustrated and compared with similar species: *Arrhopalites karabiensis*, *A. peculiaris*, *Pygmarrhopalites tauricus*, *P. kaprusi*, *P. pseudoprincipalis* and *P. principalis skelicus*. A key to the species of the family occurring in Crimean caves is given.

Key words: Collembola, Arrhopalitidae, taxonomy, caves, Crimean Peninsula