

Article



Three new species of earthworms belonging to the genus *Amynthas* (Oligochaeta: Megascolecidae) from Hainan Island, China

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Abstract

This paper describes three new species of earthworms from Hainan Island, China: *Amynthas trapezoides* **sp. nov.** *Amynthas conchipapillatus* **sp. nov.** and *Amynthas dongfangensis* **sp. nov.** *Amynthas trapezoides* has no pigment, and has two pairs of spermathecal pores in 6/7 and 7/8 arranged trapezoidally near the mid-ventral line, a complicated glandular region on ventral side of 1/2XVII–1/4XIX, developed prostates and repeatedly curved prostatic ducts close to ventral midline. *Amynthas conchipapillatus* **sp. nov.** has no pigment, and has a pair of large convex smooth shellfish-like papillae in male pore region, only one pair of spermathecal pores in 5/6 and undeveloped thin prostates which closely adherent to the body wall. *Amynthas dongfangensis* **sp. nov.** has a pair of male pores on the centre of a flat-topped conical protuberance surrounded by three to five circular folds, and five pairs of spermathecal pores in 4/5–8/9.

Key words: earthworms, Oligochaeta, Megascolecidae, *Amynthas*, new species, Hainan, China

Introduction

Hainan is the largest tropical island in South China with various animals and plants resources (Deng et al., 2008). Chen Yi collected earthworms from parts of Hainan Island in 1938, and a total of 32 species of earthworm were reported including 22 newly discovered species (Chen, 1938). Three other new earthworm species from Hainan were described in the 1980s (Quan, 1985; Quan & Zhong, 1989). We conducted a wide field survey on earthworm diversity in Hainan in June 2006. In this paper we describe three new species of the genus Amynthas from Jianfeng Mountain and Diaoluo Mountain, Hainan, China. They are Amynthas trapezoides sp. nov., Amynthas conchipapillatus sp. nov. and Amynthas dongfangensis sp. nov.

Jianfeng Mountain is the largest well-preserved intact tropical rain forest in China, located in the southwest of Hainan Island (18°23′–18°50′N, 108°36′–109°05′E). There are eight types of major vegetation distributed vertically from foothills to the highest peak (elevation 1412m), with more than 3000 and 4700 species of plants and animals respectively (Fang *et al.*, 2004; Zeng *et al.*, 1997). Diaoluo Mountain National Forest Park, located in southeastern Hainan Island (18°50′N, 109°50′E), has an East Asian monsoon climate with an average annual temperature of 20°C and precipitation of 2566mm (Wang & An, 1999).

Holotypes and paratypes are deposited in the Shanghai Natural History Museum.

Amynthas trapezoides Qiu & Sun sp. nov.

(Figs. 1A, B)

Material. Holotype: One clitellate (C-HN008A): China, Hainan Province, Mt. Jianfeng (18°44.45'N, 108°50.32'E), 1020 m. elevation, soil, coll. J. P. Qiu and M. B. Bouché, 5 Jun. 2006. Paratype: Three clitellates (C-HN008B): Same data as for holotype. Other material: Seventeen semiclitellates (C-HN008C): Same data as for holotype.