

## Millipedes from Australia, 6: Australiosomatini from Victoria (Diplopoda: Polydesmida: Paradoxosomatidae)

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**ABSTRACT.** Redescriptions of *Hoplatria clavigera* Verhoeff, 1941, and *Hoplatessara pugiona* Verhoeff, 1941. Descriptions of: *Somethus biramus* n.sp., characterized by the length of the tibiotarsal branch of the gonopods, and the small size of the femoral branch, which is reduced to a tiny lappet emanating from near the apex of the seminiferous branch; *Australiosoma laminatum* n.sp., characterized by the laminate expansion of the femoral process of the gonopods; and *Hoplatessara nigrocingulata* n.sp., particularly characterized by the relative length and shape of the femoral process of the gonopods. Two new genera are proposed: *Archicladosoma* and *Isocladosoma*. *Archicladosoma*, type species *A. magnum* n.sp., is of particular interest since it is characterized by what may be regarded as the most ancestral type of gonopods yet recorded in the Australiosomatini, with a distinctly demarcated femoral section, and the tibiotarsus, femoral process and solenomerite unmodified. *Isocladosoma*, type species *I. guttatum* n.sp., has the gonopods split into three branches, all of which emanate almost directly from the prefemur. The genus suggests *Cladethosoma* Chamberlin, 1920, but differs in having the femoral process elongate lanceolate, and in having only a single tibiotarsal branch, which in some species bears an additional spine. A second and third species, *I. pallidulum* n.sp. and *I. maculatum* n.sp., substantiate the characters of the genus. The three species are distinguished mainly by the structure of the tibiotarsus of the gonopods and by their colour pattern.

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Up to now, our information on the occurrence in Victoria of Paradoxosomatidae of the tribe Australiosomatini rested solely on a contribution by Verhoeff (1941), who described three species: *Hoplatessara pugiona* Verhoeff, from Whittlesea, and *Hoplatria clavigera* Verhoeff and *Cladethosoma forceps* (Verhoeff), both from 'Gippsland'.

The present paper, which is a sequel to a previous paper treating the Antichiropodini of Victoria (Jeekel, 1982a), is based primarily on material of the Australiosomatini collected by the author and his wife between 11 and 18 November 1980 in the coastal area of Victoria between Melbourne and the New South Wales border (Jeekel, 1981).

Important additional material was obtained on loan from the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Unfortunately, most of the samples in this collection were lacking data on locality, date and collector, the tubes containing only small labels with collection numbers. However, there can be little doubt that the material was obtained in Victoria by Ch. Barrett, probably somewhere to the east or north-east

of Melbourne. Evidence for this is found in the facts that the collection contained material of *Hoplatria clavigera*, that it contained the type material of *Pogonosternum coniferum* Jeekel, 1965, and other samples of species of *Pogonosternum*, a genus now known to focus in eastern Victoria, and that the collection showed a certain coherence. Although the uncertainty with regard to the provenance of the material is much to be regretted, some species represented are taxonomically so important that it would be unwise to ignore their existence altogether. At least with regard to millipedes, Victoria is one of Australia's most undercollected areas, and under the circumstances all data on the composition of its fauna should be welcomed even when incomplete.

Finally, some incidental samples received on loan from the South Australian Museum, Adelaide, are also included.

The holotypes of the new species *Somethus biramus*, *Isocladosoma guttatum* and *I. pallidulum* will be deposited in the Australian Museum, Sydney.