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NEW SPECIES OF TERRESTRIAL ISOPODS FROM THE DUTCH EAST INDIES

by Professor H. G. JACKSON, D. Sc. (London).

The material in which the new species described below were found was collected during the expedition to the Dutch East Indies of H. R. H. PRINCE LEOPOLD OF BELGIUM in 1928-1929, and I am greatly indebted to Prof. Dr. V. VAN STRAELEN for entrusting it to me for examination.

The whole of the material will be described and discussed in a further paper to be published with the collective work dealing with the scientific results of the voyage. In this preliminary note I give diagnoses of four new species which fall under Budde-Lund's genus, *Spherillo*, 1904. Three of these can be further placed in the genus *Nesodillo*, split off by Verhoeff in 1926, and the remaining one can only be retained for the present in *Spherillo* until such time as that genus is more adequately defined.

1. *Spherillo pomarius*, sp. n.

Three specimens, all male.

Length, 6.5 mm.; *breadth*, 4 mm. *Shape*, oblong-oval.

Surface, smooth, shiny, covered with inconspicuous and minute scales.

Head. Eyes small, with 12 ocelli. Frontal line well marked, dorsal edge of shield flattened on to vertex and fused, lateral lobes small and scarcely rectangular. Profrons forming flat

shield. Clypeus, lateral processes massive, rod-like and bluntly terminating against antennal socket, not twisted or raised from the surface of the face.

Thorax. I. Posterior border slightly sinuate; lateral margin slightly thickened, turned up; posterolateral angle split, inner

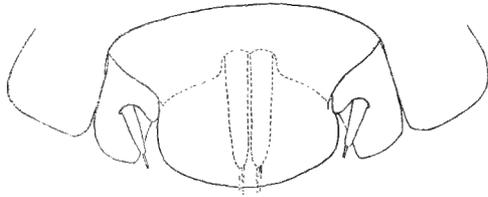


FIG. 1.— *Spherillo pomarius*, sp. n. Telson and Uropoda from above.

(ventral) plate projecting slightly below outer, but not reaching posterior border of somite. II. Nearly transverse; well developed lappet on ventral surface of coxal plate, turning back from thickened anterior border; posterolateral angle of fold broadly rounded. III. Anterior edge of coxal plate slightly thickened.

Abdomen. I. and II. very short; posterolateral angles of remainder rectangular and laterally truncate. Telson scarcely coarctate, posterior border slightly convex, 1 1/2 times broader than long.

Appendages.

Antenna: long and slender, first segment of flagellum very short (less than 1/4 of flagellum).

Mandibles: left, with molariform lacinia mobilis, setae 6 + 2; right, setae 0 + 2.

Maxillula: inner lacinia with 2 short penicilli; outer lacinia, 4 + 6 (omnes integris), outer edge abruptly curved.

Peraeopoda: meros and carpos of first and second with large brush of setae.

Uropod: base with lateral borders nearly parallel, posterior border almost truncate; exopod large and longer than base; endopod nearly as long as telson, the terminal setae projecting beyond it.

Occurrence. Lomira (South New Guinea), on *Musa* near the shore, 20-III-1929.

2. *Nesodillo papuae*, sp. n.

A single female specimen.

Length, 9 mm.; *breadth*, 4.5 mm. *Shape*, oblong-oval.

Surface, smooth, shiny, covered with inconspicuous and minute scales.

Head. Eyes prominent, projecting over genae, 20 ocelli. Frontal line raised on edge of shield, not reflexed or fused to vertex. Profrons slightly convex in middle. Clypeus, lateral

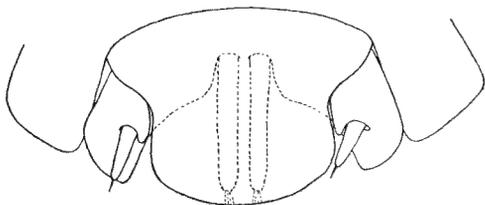


FIG. 2. — *Nesodillo papuae* sp. n. Telson and Uropoda from above.

processes large and not twisted, turned slightly upwards against antennal socket.

Thorax. I. Posterior border transverse except at sides, where it turns sharply back; lateral border slightly thickened and turned up; ventral surface of coxal plate of I. and II. with very shallow lappet well away from posterior border, anterior border of coxal plate of III. thickened.

Abdomen. I. almost covered, II. very short, remainder with subrectangular lateral angles, truncate. Telson slightly coarctate, convex, 1 1/2 times broader than long, posterior border broadly rounded.

Appendages.

Antenna: absent in this specimen.

Mandibles: left, with molariform lacinia mobilis, setae 6 + 2; right, setae 0 + 2.

Maxillula: inner lacinia with two short penicilli; outer lacinia, 4 + 6 (5 and 6 fissi).

Pleopoda: first very small and without laminate portion.

Uropod: outer border of base curved, inner nearly straight, as long as telson; exopod large and longer than base; endopod long and flattened, nearly as long as telson.

Occurrence. Angi-Gita (Arfak, New Guinea), on *Asplenium*, in mixed forest with *Araucaria* at 2100 m. altitude, 10-III-1929.

3. *Nesodillo silvestris*, sp. n.

A single female specimen.

Length, 4.5 mm.; *breadth*, 2.5 mm. *Shape*, oval.

Surface, smooth, shiny, covered with transverse rows of conspicuous scales.

Head. Eyes with 17 ocelli. Frontal line marked, but edge of shield is reflexed on to vertex, lateral lobes small. Profrons slightly convex. Clypeus, lateral processes moderately large and bluntly triangular.

Thorax. I. Posterior border transverse except at each side where it is sharply turned back to form almost triangular post-lateral angles; central portion of ventral surface of coxal plate

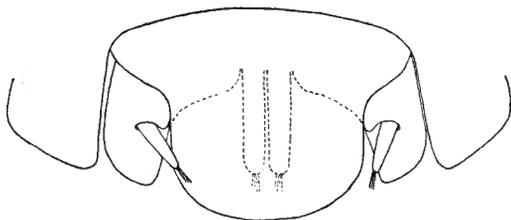


FIG. 3. — *Nesodillo silvestris*, sp. n. Telson and Uropoda from above.

thickened and produced into shallow rounded lappet posteriorly. II. Coxal plate thickened ventrally on anterior margin, posterior edge of thickening forming small shallow rounded lappet. III. Flat knob on anterior ventral edge of coxal plate which forms very shallow rounded lappet posteriorly.

Abdomen. I. Almost covered by thorax; II. Short; remainder truncate laterally. Telson not at all coarctate, $1\frac{1}{2}$ times broader than long, posterior border broadly rounded.

Appendages.

Antenna: first segment of flagellum very short (little more than $\frac{1}{5}$ of flagellum) terminated by long setae ($\frac{1}{2}$ length of flagellum).

Mandibles: left, with molariform lacinia mobilis, setae $5 + 2$; right, setae $0 + 2$.

Maxillula: inner lacinia with 2 short penicilli; outer lacinia $4 + 6$ (omnes integris).

Pleopoda: I. exopod very small and without laminate portion; V, diagonally across posterolateral corner on ventral surface

a straight double row of about 40 long setae, only a few of which exceed margin of pleopod.

Uropod: outer border of base curved, inner nearly straight, internal posterior angle bluntly triangulate, shorter than telson; exopod large but not quite as long as base; endopod much shorter than telson.

Occurrence. Siwi (North New Guinea), on *Asplenium*, in a forest at 250 m. altitude, 6-III-1929.

4. *Nesodillo enoensis*, sp. n.

Three specimens, 2 male, 1 female.

Male described.

Length, 5 mm.; *breadth*, 2 mm. *Shape*, oblong-oval.

Surface, smooth, shiny, covered with minute inconspicuous scales.

Head. Eyes prominent, projecting over genae, 20 ocelli. Frontal line continuous, shield with thickened dorsal border, reflexed in midline and fused to vertex to form distinct notch. Profrons convex and slightly bulbous in middle. Clypeus, lateral processes large and raised into triangular ear-like flaps on inner side of antennal sockets.

Thorax. I. Very slightly sinuate, coxal plate margin not thick-

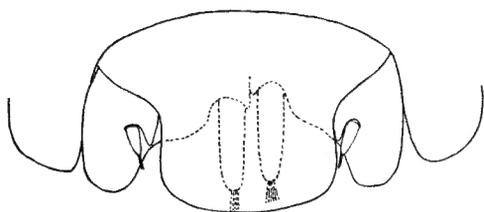


FIG. 4. — *Nesodillo enoensis*, sp. n. Telson and Uropoda from above.

ened, ventral surface with lappet about 1/3 from posterior border, lower angle of lappet slightly pointed; II. Coxal plate similar, but lappet is much shallower; III. without lappet or marginal thickening.

Abdomen. I. Hidden by last thoracic tergite; II. Short; posterior angles of remainder little drawn back and blunt. Telson scarcely coarctate, convex, posterior border nearly truncate.

Appendages.

Antenna: moderately stout, flagellum = V, first segment of

flagellum much shorter than second (about 1/4 whole flagellum).

Mandibles : left, with molariform lacinia mobilis, setae, numerous (9?) + 2 (the seta nearest the plume plumose, remainder styli-form); right, setae 0 + 2.

Maxillula : inner lacinia with 2 short penicilli; outer lacinia 4 + 6 (omnes integris).

Peraeopoda : meros and carpos of first and second with large brush of setae (in male only).

Uropod : both borders of base curved so that posterior margin is smoothly rounded and not at all truncate; exopod minute, conical and placed on inner border of base; endopod not so long as telson.

Occurrence. Enoe (Aroe Isles), on *Crinum* near the shore, 22-III-1929.

Four specimens of the same species, all male, were also collected from the same island on the same date.

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