

Short note on the occurrence of *Lithobius microps* and *L. curtipes* (Chilopoda, Myriapoda) in Austria

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Introduction

During the search for *Lamyctes emarginatus* (Newport) at the Donauinsel for a phylogenetic study in the framework of the FWF-project "Are the Hexapoda monophyletic? Conflicting hypotheses regarding their relationships to myriapods and crustaceans", we collected a small lithobiomorph chilopod that could be determined as *Lithobius microps* Meinert. Like *Lithobius curtipes* Koch it is mentioned as missing in Austria in Fauna Europaea (Zapparoli 2009).

Yet, both species have already been recorded in Austria earlier. In this contribution, we report our new findings and summarize some older records. Both species are, to our knowledge, new to Lower Austria.

Taxonomic account

Lithobius microps Meinert, 1868

Catalogus faunae Austriae (Würmli 1972) does not list *Lithobius microps* Meinert, 1868. Likewise the Fauna Europaea (Zapparoli 2009) reports *L. microps* as missing in Austria, Hungary and Slovenia, while present in all surrounding countries. *L. microps* occurs in the Czech Republic (Tuf & Laska 2005), however, the species was not found in the regions adjacent to the Austrian border (i.e. South Bohemia and South Moravia). In Slovakia, *L. microps* was mentioned from the banks of the river Danube in Dobrohost-Dunajske kriviny near Gabčíkovo (Orszagh & Orszaghova 1995) some 15 kilometers from the Austrian border.

Our specimen neither is the first record of *L. microps* for Austria, nor even for Vienna, since the species, was already mentioned as quite abundant in Tyrol at the banks of the river Inn and in gardens (Moser 1999), and mentioned for Vienna by Christian & Szeptycki (2004). Additionally, *L. microps* was already collected near Klosterneuburg, Lower Austria, during an environmental impact assessment in 1995 and 1996 (Zulka, unpublished report). About one half of the forest at this site has been destroyed by the construction of a bypass road in 2007, so it is unclear whether the population of *L. microps* has persisted at this locality.

Collection data

- 1) Vienna, Donauinsel, decayed wood trunk at the riverside, 48° 12' 49,81" N - 16° 25' 43,54" E, 160 m a.s.l., 08.06.2009; leg. Bartel & Szucsich, det. Szucsich;
- 2) Lower Austria, Klosterneuburg, non-inundated poplar alluvial forest, 48° 18' 32" N - 16° 19' 42" E, 170 m a.s.l.;
- 23.06.1995: 2 ♀, ♂ (pitfall trap); ♂, ♀ (hand collection);
- 05.08.1995: ♀, ♂, 1 juvenile (pitfall trap);
- 11.10.1995: ♀ (pitfall trap);
- 03.06.1996: ♀ (pitfall trap): all leg. & det. Zulka.

Lithobius curtipes Koch, 1862

While mentioned in the *Catalogus faunae Austriae* (Würmli 1972) for Northern Tyrol at the mouth of the Zillertal near Straß-Schlittens, *Fauna Europaea* (Zapparoli 2009) reports *L. curtipes* as missing for Austria. Since being present in Switzerland, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary, the occurrence in Austria is not surprising. In the Czech Republic *L. curtipes* occurs in South Moravia close to the Austrian border (Tuf & Laska 2005). *L. curtipes* was already mentioned for Austria and described as a typical member of the floodplain assemblage at the River Morava/ March (Zulka 1991, Zulka 1992),

Both species are classified as eurytopic species by Tuf & Tufová (2008). Determination followed the key of Eason (1982).

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