

Short Communication

NEW LOCALITY RECORDS OF *SCUTIGERA COLEOPTRATA* (LINNAEUS, 1758) FROM THANJAVUR DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU STATE, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The first time records of *Scutigera coleoptrata* in Andakudi village, thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu. In this note given to the baseline of centipede distributions and history. This the first time record of in this regions.

Keywords: New Record, First Time Report, Distributions, Scutigermorpha, Scutigeridae.

INTRODUCTION

Of the number of arthropods that can be found inside human structures, the house centipede is one of the most maligned despite its essentially beneficial nature. House centipedes are generalist predators of insects, spiders, and other arthropods, many of which are considered household pests. The class Chilopoda is one of the four major lineages of myriapods [1]. Six orders of centipedes are currently recognized, including five extant orders of Craterostigmomorpha, Geophilomorpha, Lithobiomorpha, Scolopendromorpha, and Scutigermomorpha, and an extinct order of Devonobiomorpha. The debate about the phylogeny of Chilopoda has been a heated discussion in recent years. Based on the morphological features, it was traditionally believed that Chilopoda was divided into two branches, the subclass Notostigmophora (only consisting of the order Scutigermomorpha) and the subclass Pleurostigmophora. Meanwhile, the hypothesis of the division of Notostigmophora and Pleurostigmophora had been supported by molecular data [2-6].

Life cycle and biology: Young house centipedes resemble adults but are smaller and with fewer legs. After each developmental moult, the centipedes gain more legs. House centipede development is much slower than that of spiders or other insects, taking upwards of 3 years to reach sexual maturity. They are also long-lived and can live as long as 7 years. However, there are still many problems in the species identification of Scutigermomorpha. Many species are underestimated with neglecting the extent of ontogenetic and intra and inter-population variation. As the rationality of the initial classification is poor, it is easy to exhibit polymorphic species with broad geographic distributions and extensive

synonymy [7]. Aim and present study deals with their notes and the status of *Scutigera coleoptrata* species distributions and recorded locality of Tamil Nadu.

DESCRIPTIONS

Scutigera coleoptrata, the common house centipede, is thought to be native to the Mediterranean. Today it can be found throughout Europe, Asia, and North America [8]. Here, found the *Scutigera coleoptrata* from Andakudi village (10°56'52.7"N 79°18'06.6"E), Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu state, India. This is the first time record of the house centipede in this regions (Figure 1).

Scutigera coleoptrata spend the winter in isolated protected habitats and become active in the spring. They retreat to underneath rocks and logs during the day, becoming active at night. They use their antennae to sense the environment around them, although *S. coleoptrata* makes better use of its eyes than most other centipedes. House centipedes migrate or burrow in response to changing environmental conditions such as extreme cold or drought [9].

Scutigera coleoptrata is carnivorous, eating worms, snails, cockroaches, silverfish, fly larvae, and other arthropods. It senses its prey using its antennae which have scent and touch receptors on them. House centipedes then use their fangs to hold the prey while injecting poison with the modified front legs. After eating, *S. coleoptrata* retreats to a safe place to let the food digest. [10]. The Chilopoda is a class belong to Sub-phylum Arthropoda, it is body segmented into many segments reaching eating other invertebrate. They are over than 3600 well known species belong to five orders, one of the scolopendromorpha which composed 700 nominal species [11]. The *Scolopendromorpha*

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Figure 1. A record of *Scutigera coleoptrata* from Thanjavur district, Tamil Nadu state, India.

reaching to (10-300) mm in long and having 21, 23, 39 and 43 pair of legs [12-15]. Its colored from yellow, green red, orange and blue, also can found it under leaves, litters, rocks, in the forest, greenhouses, desert and soil. *S. coleoptrata* are very fast moving centipedes. They have a shorter body and longer legs than other species, preventing them from tripping over them as they run. Their legs progressively get longer towards the rear of the body. This allows the rear legs to cross the legs in front of them, going above and to the outside, preventing entanglement. The rear-most legs are actually twice as long as the front-most legs [16].

CONCLUSION

The Chilopoda is a class belong to Sub-phylum Arthropoda, it is body segmented into many segments reaching eating other invertebrate. They are over than 3600 well known species belong to five orders, one of the Scolopendromorpha which composed 700 nominal species.

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