
Additions to the list of Myriapoda from St Kilda

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During a short period of fieldwork in early August 2006 based on Hirta, the largest of the St Kilda archipelago, a number of myriapods were collected by EGH and JR and have been identified by GBC. These proved to include four species hitherto unrecorded. As shown in the list below, *Lithobius forficatus*, one of the commonest centipedes in the British Isles, had been found by Evans (1906). This record and others are repeated by Waterston (1981) who summarised existing knowledge of the Outer Hebrides at that time. Evans (1906) also listed '*G[eophilus] carpophagus*', now recognised as two species and probably more likely *G. easoni*; and similarly '*Iulus britannicus*' (now *Cylindroiulus britannicus*), probably an error for *C. latestriatus*. In both these cases these are not only the more widespread species in the northwest of Britain but our own records confirm their presence in St Kilda. An expedition to Boreray, 6 km northeast of Hirta, by a group of students from the University of Durham resulted in a lot of terrestrial invertebrate records for that island (Duncan, 1981). Many of these species have yet to be discovered on Hirta, undoubtedly the result of a dedicated group of biologists spending several weeks surveying continuously. Their finding of only one species, *Lithobius forficatus*, might indicate a genuine absence of other myriapods from Boreray and a reflection of its lack of a history of permanent human settlement.

Updated species list for St Kilda

Chilopoda (centipedes)

Lithobius forficatus (Linn.). Hirta (Evans, 1906; Waterston, 1981); Boreray (Duncan, *et al.*, 1981); Village Bay, Hirta, on sea wall and in quarry, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006.

Lithobius borealis Meinert. One male, An Lag, Hirta, in leaf-litter under heather; one male in thrift tussock, Glen Bay, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006.

Lithobius melanops Newport. One male, An Lag, in leaf-litter under heather, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006.

Lamyctes fulvicornis Meinert. Three females, quarry, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006.

Geophilus easoni Arthur *et al.* One female in quarry, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006; '*Geophilus carpophagus*', recorded on Hirta by Evans (1906), record repeated in Waterston (1981), was probably the species now

known as *G. easoni*, but the true *G. carpophagus* has been recorded on sea cliffs elsewhere in Scotland.

Brachygeophilus truncorum (Bergsöe & Meinert). One male, An Lag, in leaf-litter under heather, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006.

Diplopoda (millipedes)

Cylindroiulus latestriatus (Curtis). Glen Bay, in thrift tussocks and on Oiseval, EGH & JR, 1-8.viii.2006.

Iulus britannicus Verh., recorded by Evans (1906) and record repeated in Waterston (1981), is probably a mis-identification for *C. latestriatus*.

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REFERENCES

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