NEMATODES OF THE ORDER DORYLAIMIDA FROM ANDALUCÍA ORIENTAL, SPAIN. THE GENUS *MESODORYLAIMUS* ANDRÁSSY, 1959. IV. TWO RELATIVELY SMALL SIZED NEW SPECIES WITH A COMPENDIUM OF THEIR RELATIVES

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Abstract.— Two new species of the genus Mesodorylaimus Andrássy, 1959 are described from natural areas from southeastern Spain. M. brzeskii sp. nov. is distinguished by its body 1.14-1.44 µm long, quite thin cuticle, lip region continuous or offset by weak depression, odontostyle 11-13 mm or 0.9–1.2 times as long as the lip region width, pharyngeal bulb 79–105 μ m long, V = 50–55, uterus 70.4 (55–87) µm or 2.1 (1.8–2.4) body diameters long, female tail first tapering abruptly and then gradually (53–80 μ m, c = 16–28, c' = 2.4–4.1) with its slender portion usually dorsad bent, male tail rounded conoid (18–22 μ m, c = 58–65, c' = 0.7–0.9), spicules 33–38 μ m long and 7–8 (rarely 9) regularly spaced ventromedian supplements. M. malacitanus sp. nov. is characterized by having body 1.00-1.39 mm long, lip region slightly angular and offset by depression, odontostyle 11–13 μm long or almost equal to the lip region width, pharvngeal bulb 109–132 μm, junction between pharyngeal bulb and cardia with a weak ring-like structure, V = 48.5-56.1, peculiar morphology of the vagina-vulva area (vulva preceded of a funnel-like cavity, pars proximalis vaginae involved by developed musculature, pars refringens vaginae with two somewhat separated sclerotizations), uterus 49 (39-71) µm or 1.3 (0.9-1.9) times as long as the corresponding body width, female tail elongated (80–126 μm , c = 9.5–16.9, c' = 3.2–5.1), and males unknown. A compendium of their relatives and comparison of the new species with them are also provided.



Key words.— Description, Mesodorylaimus, new species, southeastern Spain, taxonomy.

NEW AND KNOWN SPECIES OF MONONCHIDA (NEMATODA) FROM MBALMAYO RESERVE FOREST, CAMEROON

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Abstract.— A new and four known species of mononchs are described from Cameroon. *Mylonchulus vulvalatus* sp. nov. has 1.24–1.48 mm long body; a = 30–33; b = 3.5–4.0; c = 25.5–27.8; V = 59–60; buccal cavity $27–29\times16–17~\mu m$ and is characterized by its blister-like vulval region. It is closely related to M. brachyuris (Bütschli, 1873) Altherr, 1953, M. parabrachyuris (Thorne, 1924) Andrássy, 1958 and M. minor (Cobb, 1893) Andrássy, 1958. *Margaronchulus mulveyi* Andrássy, 1972; *Mylonchulus orbitus* Jensen et Mulvey, 1968; Crassibucca penicula Mulvey et Jensen, 1967 and *Miconchus pararapax* Mulvey et Jensen, 1967 are reported.

Single specimen of a *Jensenonchus* sp. is also described which could not be accommodated in any of the known species of the genus.



 $\textbf{Key words.} \\ - \textit{Mylonchulus vulvalatus} \text{ sp. nov.}, \\ \textit{Mylonchulus orbitus, Margaronchulus mulveyi, Crassibucca penicula, Miconchus pararapax, Jensenonchus \text{ sp., Mononchida, Nematoda, Cameroon.} \\$

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SOME SPECIES OF THE GENUS APORCELAIMUS THORNE ET SWANGER, 1936 (NEMATODA: DORYLAIMIDA) FROM ALASKA

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Abstract.— Three new and a known species of *Aporcelaimus* are reported and described from Alaska, all belonging to the smaller representatives (3 to 5 mm) of the genus. *A. boreus* sp. nov. resembles *A. superbus* (de Man, 1880), but it differs by longer spear and spicula, and number and arrangement of male supplements. *A. brzeskii* sp. nov. differs from species having some of the supplements within the range of spicula by longer body and much longer spicula. *A. femineus* sp. nov. is characterized by arrangement of pharyngeal gland nuclei, mammillated egg shells and lack of sperm in uterus of gravid females. *A. conicaudatus* Altherr, 1953 is redescribed, and its taxonomic position discussed. A list of the know terrestrial nematode species in Alaska is added.

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Key words.— Alaska, Aporcelaimus, nematode fauna, new species, redescription, synonyms.

MORPHOMETRIC PLASTICITY IN *PRIONCHULUS PUNCTATUS* (COBB, 1917) ANDRÁSSY, 1958 AND *CLARKUS PAPILLATUS* (BASTIAN, 1865) JAIRAJPURI, 1970 (NEMATODA: MONONCHIDA): ADAPTATION TO DIFFERENT HUMUS FORMS?

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Abstract.— Morphometric variability was studied in Prionchulus punctatus and Clarkus papillatus from closely related forest sites; Site 1 (eutrophic to calcic mull humus), site 2 (contiguous to site 1, eutrophic mull humus with a more or less leached soil), site 3 (acid mull humus), site 4 (located in site 3 but just under the crown of an old oak, moder humus), site 7 (moder humus, developed in a wide area). Results from correspondence analysis for both nematode species from site 2 suggested two distinct population types (a) with small individuals (Pp: 1.85 ± 0.05 mm and $87.2 \pm 5.7 \,\mu\text{m}$ for body length and tail length respectively; Cp: $1.11 \pm 0.02 \,\text{mm}$ and $78.5 \pm 1.9 \,\mu\text{m}$) with typical characteristics of populations collected from a calcic mull and (b) larger individuals (Pp: 2.14 ± 0.04 mm and $100.2 \pm 1.8 \mu m$ for body length and tail length respectively; Cp: 1.21 ± 0.01 mm and $83.3 \pm 2.2 \,\mu\text{m}$) similar to populations collected from an eutrophic mull. Results from correspondence analysis from site 4 showed that the populations of the two species had intermediate characteristics between populations collected from a mull humus and from a moder humus. Moreover, a laboratory culturing experiment with adult Clarkus papillatus collected from site 3 and cultured on three humus forms (calcic mull, site 1; acid mull, site 3; moder, site 7) showed that this species reproduced successfully on mull acid only. The conjunctural or the structural influence on morphometric plasticity of these species is discussed from a functional ecology aspect.



Key words.— Humus forms, Mononchida, Morphometric plasticity, Nematoda.

PRATYLENCHUS BRZESKII SP. NOV. (NEMATODA: PRATYLENCHIDAE), A ROOT-LESION NEMATODE FROM EUROPEAN COASTAL DUNES

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Abstract.— A root-lesion nematode, $Pratylenehus\ brzeskii\ sp.\ nov.$, is described and illustrated from the roots of $Ammophila\ arenaria\ (L.)$ Link from the coastal dunes of the Netherlands; this new species is morphologically characterized by: relatively long females (625–735 μ m) with two lip annuli, long stylet (\pm 19 μ m) with broad stylet knobs, anteriorly slightly indented, short DGO; pharyngeal gland lobe ranging from 65 to 100 μ m; four lateral lines present, inner lines closely together; spermatheca faint, oval to rectangular shaped; vulva posterior, ranging from 75 to 78 %, lips slightly protruding, posterior uterine sac 19 to 35 μ m long; tail conoid, terminus smooth, rounded to narrowly rounded, relatively long hyaline tail part present. Males occurred abundantly and are slightly smaller in most morphological characteristics. PCR was used to amplify the internal transcribed spacer regions of a ribosomal DNA-cluster of $P.\ brzeskii\ sp.\ nov.$ and compared with the morphological related species $P.\ coffeae$, $P.\ loosi\ and\ P.\ penetrans$. The rDNA fragments were cut with restriction enzymes; interspecific RFLP's were observed. $Pratylenchus\ brzeskii\ sp.\ nov.$ was also isolated from the coastal dune grasses $Elymus\ farctus\ (Viv.)\ Meldris\ and\ Leymus\ arenarius\ Hochst.$, and detected in coastal dunes of Belgium, France and Poland.

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 $\textbf{Key words.} \\ -\textit{Ammophila arenaria}, \text{ coastal dunes, PCR-RFLP}, \\ \textit{Pratylenchus brzeskii}, \text{ ribosomal DNA, taxonomy.} \\$

BURSAPHELENCHUS PARACORNEOLUS SP. NOV. (NEMATODA: PARASITAPHELENCHIDAE) AUS KONIFERENHOLZ IN DEUTSCHLAND UND BEMERKUNGEN ZU SEINER BIOLOGIE UND VERBREITUNG

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Abstract.— *Bursaphelenchus paracorneolus* **sp. nov.** (Nematoda, Parasitaphelenchidae) from coniferous wood in Germany and remarks on its biology and distribution.

Bursaphelenchus paracorneolus sp. nov. was found in spruce and pine wood within the Bavarian Forest and near Potsdam in Germany. The new species is of medium size, females and males averaging 665 μ m and 610 μ m in length, respectively. It is characterized by an a-value of 28 and a mean stylet length of 13 μ m. The lateral field shows 3 lines. The female tail is ventrally curved, tapering gradually to the end and has sometimes a mucro. The relatively stout paired spicules measuring 13–15 μ m have a relatively blunt rostrum and a prominent cucullus. One postanal pair, one adanal pair of caudal papillae and a single papilla in front of the anus are present. A short bursa, best seen in dorsoventral view, surrounds the end of the male tail. The new species can easily be multiplied on Botrytis cinerea on malt agar. It was also found in larch wood imported from Irkutsk, Russia. Inoculation tests with B. paracorneolus sp. nov. onto Picea abies and Pinus sylvestris in a climate chamber at 25°C have shown that this species is not pathogenic.



Key words.— Taxonomy, new species, Bursaphelenchus, coniferous wood, distribution.

INLAND FREE-LIVING NEMATODES IN CHINA: A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF TAXONOMIC STUDIES WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF APHANONCHUS ORIENTALIS SP. NOV. (CHROMADORIDA: LEPTOLAIMIDAE) AND DAPTONEMA LIMNOBIA SP. NOV. (MONHYSTERIDA: XYALIDAE)

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Abstract.— The study of inland free-living nematodes is relatively imperfect in China, only seventeen papers were previously published. Since the early researches in 20–30s, few works have been accomplished until 80s. Altogether 171 taxa were formerly recorded, among which, over eighty species have been re-combined. A checklist of the former records with notes on their distribution is presented in this paper.

Recently, the function of free-living nematodes has received much attention from Chinese zoologists. Hence, the present authors carried out their studies with emphasis on taxonomy of inland nematodes. During the survey of freshwater lakes, two species are found to be new to science. *Aphanonchus orientalis* **sp. nov.** is characterized by having sclerotized vagina, the presence of 10–11 tubular supplements and 42–62 alveoli supplements in males, but no alveoli in females. *Daptonema limnobia* **sp. nov.** is distinguished from other species of the genus in the presence of larger and more anteriorly located amphids, shorter bifurcated spicules, smaller apophysis of gubernaculum, shorter terminal setae, and postvulval uterine sac in females.



Key words.— *Aphanonchus orientalis* sp. nov., China, *Daptonema limnobia* sp. nov., inland free-living nematodes, new species, review, taxonomy.

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A NEW TRICHODORUS SPECIES FROM SOUTH AFRICA WITH NOTES ON T. VANDENBERGAE (TRIPLONCHIDA: DIPHTHEROPHORINA)

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Abstract.— A new species of the genus *Trichodorus* is described from natural vegetation in the Western Cape Province, South Africa. *Trichodorus iuventus* **sp. nov.** is characterised by a relatively short body, short onchiostyle with inner onchium in all adults; in male, by short spicule length and spicule shape (dorsally convex in anterior part, with indentation at mid-calamus and a straight, striated posterior part); in females, by the small rounded vaginal sclerotized pieces in lateral view, a pore-like vulva in ventral view and one pair of prevulvar and post-advulvar lateral body pores. A population of *T. vandenbergae* was found associated with fynbos; additional morphological and morphometric information is provided.



Key words.— Nematodes, Trichodorus, South Africa, taxonomy.

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TRIDENTULUS BRZESKII SP. NOV. (NEMATODA: MONHYSTERIDAE) FROM FRESHWATER BODIES OF CENTRAL RUSSIA

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Abstract.— Thirteen females of a new free-living nematode species, *Tridentulus brzeskii* **sp. nov.** were found during a hydrobiological investigation on Latka River (Central Russia, Yaroslavl' district). The new species differs from the only valid species of the genus *Tridentulus*, *T. flore-anae* (Eyualem et Coomans, 1995) by the longer body, wider oral aperture, smaller denticles and absence of somatic setae.

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Key words.— Nematoda, Monhysteridae, new species, river, Central Russia.

MORPHOLOGICAL VARIABILITY IN SINGLE FEMALE PROGENIES OF *CEPHALENCHUS HEXALINEATUS* (GERAERT, 1962) AND *FILENCHUS MISELLUS* (ANDRÁSSY, 1958) (NEMATODA: TYLENCHIDA)

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Abstract.— Morphological variability of parthenogenetic *Cephalenchus hexalineatus* and amphimictic *Filenchus misellus* was studied in populations of single female progenies reared on birch seedlings in laboratory for four months. In the females of both species the measurements and the indices related to the anterior body part (stylet length, pharynx length, position of excretory pore and hemizonid, MB, EP%L) and to the genital area (V, V') were the least variable morphological characteristics. Ovary length, body width, anal body with, tail length, and indices a and c' showed the greatest variability. The taxonomy of both species is discussed.



Key words.— Tylenchidae, Cephalenchus, Filenchus, morphological variability, taxonomy.

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STUDY OF PLECTIDAE (NEMATODA) FROM UKRAINE. DESCRIPTION OF TWO *PLECTUS* SPECIES WITH A DISCUSSION OF SOME TAIL ABNORMALITIES

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Abstract.— The descriptions of *Pleetus amorphotelus* Ebsary, 1985 and *P. spicacaudatus* Ebsary, 1985 found in Ukraine for the first time are provided. The variability of measurements in nine different populations of *P. amorphotelus* is given. Both species are characterised by atypical structure of tail terminus and absence of caudal glands. New data about distribution of somatic setae and shape of vagina are given. Abnormalities in tail structure in three other species of the genus *Pleetus* are described and discussed.

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Key words.— Nematoda, Plectidae, Plectus, redescription, taxonomy, Ukraine.

HEKARELLA TALAWAKELAE GEN. AND SP. NOV., A CURIOUS NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF MONOGONANT CARNOYIDAE (NEMATODA: RHIGONEMATIDA) FROM SRI LANKA

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Abstract.—Hekarella talawakelae, a new genus and species of rhigonematid from the Carnoyidae is described from the gut of a diplopod from Sri Lanka. The new genus is characterised by the presence of four, well developed, sublateral longitudinal rows of spines in the cervical region of the female, the presence of six cuticularised pieces around the oral opening, the monogonant female genital system, no cephalic cap in the male, anisomorphic and anisometric spicules, boat-shaped gubernaculum with a dorsal hole and 15 copulatory papillae with three pairs either sublateral, subdorsal. Hekarella gen. nov. has some morphological affinities with Martadamsonius, an African carnoyid and also with the Indian genus Raonema, but is easily differentiated by the presence of only one genital tract and by the form of the markedly anisomorphic and anisometric spicules.



Key words.— Nematodes, Diplopod, morphology, new genus, new species, SEM, Sri Lanka, taxonomy.

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TRIPYLIDAE (NEMATODA: ENOPLIA) FROM KOREA

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Abstract.— One new and four known species belonging to the family Tripylidae are described and illustrated. *Tripyla koreana* sp. nov. is characterized by its small size (L = 0.93–1.06 mm), short outer labial (2–3 μm) and cephalic (1 μm) sensillae, large and wedge shaped dorsal tooth, shape of tail which tapers in anterior part, than becomes cylindrical. *Tripyla glomerans* Bastian, 1865, *Tripyla infia* Brzeski et Winiszewska-Ślipińska, 1993 and *Tripylina arenicola* (de Man, 1880) were recorded for the first time from the Korean Peninsula.



Key words.— Description, Korea, taxonomy, Tripyla, Tripylina.

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DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF *IOTONCHUS*AND FIRST RECORD OF *COOMANSUS ZSCHOKKEI*(MONONCHIDA) FROM KOREA

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Abstract.— Two new species of the genus Iotonchus and Coomansus zschokkei (Menzel, 1913) are described and illustrated. Iotonchus uisongensis sp. nov. is 1.5–1.6mm long, a=23.0–26.0, b=2.8–3.2, c=17.1–19.4 (female) and 19.6–23.0 (male), V=67.0–73.0, buccal cavity=52.0–63.0 \times 31.0–36.5 μ m, spicule 75.0–92.0 μ m long, ventromedian supplements papillae 20–22 in numbers, and is characterized by having not protruded labial papillae, supra basal dorsal tooth, and flattened basal oblique plates of buccal cavity. Iotonchus Ioto



Key words.— Taxonomy, Mononchida, Iotonchus, new species, Korea.

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NEMATODE FAUNA OF A CULTIVATED PEAT MEADOW IN RELATION TO SOIL DEPTH

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Abstract.— Vertical distribution of nematodes down to a depth of 50 cm was studied in a peat meadow soil in north-eastern part of Poland. The abundance and generic composition of nematode fauna in five soil layers (0–10, 10–20, 20–30, 30–40 and 40–50cm) were analysed. It was found that total numbers of nematodes and their generic diversity decreased with increasing soil depth. Out of all nematodes, 65% (in May) and 72% (in September) were found down to a depth of 20 cm. The proportion of nematodes in the deepest studied soil layer (40–50 cm) was the lowest, about 9% in spring samples and only 1.3% in autumn samples. Nematode fauna of the studied site was represented by 43 genera from 27 families. The most common genera in both sampling occasions were *Acrobeloides, Aglenchus, Cephalobus, Filenchus, Helicotylenchus, Rotylenchus* and *Rhabdolaimus*. Considerable differences in vertical distribution of some genera were also found. An attempt was made to use some soil characteristics of the studied site in interpretation of the results.

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Key words.— vertical distribution, nematode generic composition, nematode abundance, drained peat meadow.

TWO NEW SPECIES OF A NEW GENUS, KUNJUDORYLAIMUS (NEMATODA: DORYLAIMIDA) FROM KARNATAKA, INDIA

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Key words.— Taxonomy, Dorylaimida, Nematoda, new genus, India, Kunjudorylaimus.

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A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *THALASSOGENUS* ANDRÁSSY, 1973 AND THE SYSTEMATIC POSITION OF THE GENUS (NEMATODA: ONCHOLAIMINA)

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Abstract.— A new species of the genus *Thalassogenus* Andrássy, 1973 is described and dedicated to the memory of Prof. Dr. M. Brzeski. It was extracted from *Selaginella* sp., La Paz Falls, Costa Rica. The main diagnostic feature is the long tail (108–178 μ m, c' = 2.6–4.3); also body length tends to be greater than in the other species (2.3–3.2 mm vs 1.7–2.5). Opinions vary with regard to the systematic position of the genus; Oncholaimina (Pelagonematidae) or Mononchina. We show that it belongs to Oncholaimina, where it represents a separate family. The genus is now known from four widely spaced regions in the tropics – India, New Guinea, Samoa Islands and Central America. The presence of an ocellus suggests that species of this genus are recent immigrants of freshwater.

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Key words.— New species, systematic position, *Thalassogenus*.

THE ROLE OF THE BIOGENETIC CONVERGENCE RULE IN POLARIZING TRANSFORMATION SERIES – ARGUMENTS FROM NEMATOLOGY, CHAOS SCIENCE, AND PHYLOGENETIC SYSTEMATICS¹

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Abstract.— The new term biogenetic convergence rule is suggested as a replacement for Haeckel's old term biogenetic law. It works as follows: by converging on identical adult structures, polarizations of phylogenetic transformation series are determined by those of corresponding ontogenetic transformation series. Examples from nematology are presented. Cases of paedomorphosis are subject to a second rule suggested as the biogenetic suppression rule. A third rule, suggested as the adaptive convergence rule, refers to well-known cases in which adaptions to particular environmental conditions result in the similarity of otherwise different structures. Essential findings of chaos science are outlined and illustrated by Waddington's epigenetic land-scape in order to show that the biogenetic convergence rule fits to these new findings. Contrary to common belief, the popular outgroup algorithm reveals to be unsuitable for polarizing sequences of character states. For theoretical reasons, Hennig's unsupported demand is rejected to accept only holophyletic taxa as valid. Paraphyletic taxa must also be accepted as valid. Therefore, phylogenetic systematics sensu Hennig and evolutionary systematics sensu Mayr are suggested as synonyms.

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Key words.— Nematodes, biogenetic law, biogenetic convergence rule, chaos science, self-organization, epigenetic landscape, outgroup rule, phylogenetic systematics, cladistics.

NEMATODE COMMUNITIES IN SUBALPINE MEADOWS IN CENTRAL PYRENEES

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Abstract.— Studies were carried out in subalpine meadows in the "Massif Néouvielle" in Central Pyrenees (France). Three habitats differing in humidity, temperature and soil pH were selected: 1 – dry and warm acidic soil, 2 – medium dry, acidic soil, 3 – wet and cold, neutral soil. One hundred and forty nematode species belonging to 7 orders, 21 families and 71 genera were found in studied material. Quantitative parameters: total number, numbers of families and genera of nematode communities from analyzed sites were poorly differentiated. However, great differences were found in composition and structure of studied communities. Dry and warm soil was dominated by nematodes of three orders: Areolaimida (27.02%), Dorylaimida (25.48%) and Tylenchida (24.32%), eudominants being genera: Aporcelaimellus, Paratylenchus and Prismatolaimus. In medium dry soil dominated Tylenchida (44.54%), Areolaimida (17.38%), Rhabditida (14.5%) and eudominants were: Acrobeloides, Rhabdolaimus and Rotylenchus. Enoplida (63.01%) dominated in wet and cold soil and eudominant was Rhabdolaimus. Shannon Index of diversity for genera in dry and warm soil was 3.77, in medium dry 4.24, and in wet and cold soil 3.06. Fourteen species were common for all three sites. Low values of Sørensen's similarity index (below 40%) show a low similarity at a species level between communities from various sites.



Key words.— Central Pyrenees, nematode communities, Rhabdolaimus, subalpine meadow.

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DESCRIPTIONS OF *PSEUDOSTEINERIA HORRIDA* (STEINER, 1916) AND *P. VENTROPAPILLATA* SP. NOV. FROM THE WHITE SEA WITH A REVIEW OF THE GENUS *PSEUDOSTEINERIA* WIESER, 1956 (NEMATODA: MONHYSTERIDA: XYALIDAE)

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Abstract.—Pseudosteineria ventropapillata sp. nov. (White Sea) belongs to the species group with the amphids situated just anteriorly to the long cervical setae. The new species differs strongly from other species of this group in having a number of preanal midventral supplementary papillae of various sizes. Pseudosteineria horrida (Steiner, 1916) is redescribed from specimens from the White Sea. Its geographical area includes the coast of Greenland, Barents Sea and White Sea. An amended generic diagnosis of Pseudosteineria is presented. This genus now consists of eleven valid species. A key for their identification is given.

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Key words. — Monhysterida, Xyalidae, Pseudosteineria, White Sea, taxonomy, descriptions.

MYLONCHULUS POLITUS SP. NOV. (NEMATODA: MYLONCHULIDAE) FROM UKRAINE

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Abstract.— A new species of *Mylonchulus* Cobb, 1916 is described from Ukraine. *Mylonchulus politus* **sp. nov.** is similar to *M. andrassyi* Loof, 1993 from which it differs by shorter (L = 0.78–1.00 mm vs > 1.00 mm) and relatively wider (a = 26–35 vs a = 35–40) body, smaller buccal cavity (14–19 μ m long vs > 20 μ m long), shorter tail (28–37 μ m vs > 50 μ m), shorter spicules in males (32–35 μ m vs > 40 μ m), vulval lips sclerotization (rectangular vs triangular pieces), longer posterior uterine sac (75–122 μ m vs 32 μ m).

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Key words.— Mylonchulidae, Mylonchulus, Nematoda, taxonomy, Ukraine.

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PRACTINOCEPHALUS BRZESKII SP. NOV. (ACTINOLAIMIDAE: NEMATODA) FROM ECUADOR, WITH TAXONOMIC NOTES ON THE GENUS

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Abstract.— The new species $Practinocephalus\ brzeskii$ from Ecuador is described and illustrated. It is characterised by a medium length body, transversely striated cuticle with 30–34 longitudinal cuticular ridges, lip region conspicuous, set off by a depression but only slightly expanded, inner labial and cephalic papillae in the same circle external to the sclerotized anterior ring, odontostyle 30–34 μ m long, onchia multi-pointed, cheilostomal sclerotizations heavy and complex, muscular part of pharynx starting at level of nerve ring, female reproductive apparatus didelphic, vulva longitudinal, vagina with sclerotized pieces, female tail elongate conoid to filiform. Males are also described and illustrated for the first time in the genus; they are characterised by a convex conoid tail with a filiform appendix, shorter than female tail and variable in length. A new diagnosis of the genus Practinocephalus and a key to its species are given.

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Key words.— Actinolaimidae, Nematoda, new species, Practinocephalus, taxonomy.