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NOTES ON AMERICAN SPECIES OF  
PERIPATUS, WITH A LIST  
OF KNOWN FORMS

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# NOTES ON AMERICAN SPECIES OF PERIPATUS, WITH A LIST OF THE KNOWN FORMS

BY AUSTIN HOBART CLARK

While engaged in entomological investigations on the Isthmus of Panamá, Mr. August Busck collected a single specimen of a species of *Peripatus*, which he found beneath a palm frond at La Chorrera; and in the course of their studies on the marine resources of Porto Rico the naturalists of the United States Bureau of Fisheries steamer "Fish Hawk" gathered two additional specimens at Vieques, a small island off the southeastern corner of Porto Rico, a locality where the genus was not previously known to occur.

Our knowledge of the species of this genus is in the highest degree fragmentary; many species are known, but of none of them do we know even approximately the geographical range. It thus becomes incumbent upon all to whom opportunity may offer immediately to record such specimens as may come under their notice in order to accumulate records from which, in time, the geographical distribution of the various forms may be accurately mapped.

At the same time everyone who records species of *Oroperipatus*, *Peripatus*, (with its various subgenera) or of the other genus occurring in America, *Metaperipatus*, should take care that his specimens are properly preserved and placed in some museum where they will be easily accessible for review, for the species of the various genera of this group, like the species of the king crabs, crinoids, and many other ancient types are all cast, as it were, in the same mould, and it is astonishingly easy to make mistakes in their determination.

## PERIPATUS (PERIPATUS) JUANENSIS Bouvier

*Peripatus juliformis* (part) 1880. PETERS, Sitzungsber. naturf. Freunde Berlin, 1880, pp. 29, 166.

*Peripatus from Utuado* 1880. SEDGWICK, Quart. Journ. Micros. Sci., vol. 28, pp. 479, 488.

*Peripatus dominicæ* var. *juanensis* 1900. BOUVIER, Bull. Soc. Ent. de France, 1900, pp. 394, 395.—1904. BOUVIER, Nouv. Archives du Mus. d'Hist. nat. (4), vol. 3, pp. 7, 20.—1906. BOUVIER, Ann. des Sci. Nat. (9), vol. 2 (zoologie), p. 266.

*Vieques, near Porto Rico; "Fish Hawk" Porto Rican Expedition.*—Two specimens, both females, agreeing well with Bouvier's description. The length of one is 35 mm., and the breadth 4 mm. There are 31 pairs of ambulatory legs. The coloration (in alcohol) is a deep, almost uniform, yellowish brown; the posterior portion of the body is slightly darker than the remainder, and there is a large lightish area just behind the anterior end. The primary papillæ are more yellowish than the general surface of the back. The ventral surface is somewhat lighter and more yellowish than the dorsal.

The other specimen, beautifully preserved, measures 45 mm. in length by 4 mm. in breadth. There are 31 pairs of ambulatory legs.

This species was heretofore known only from the island of Porto Rico, where it has been found at Utuado and Arecibo. A comparison between these specimens and others from various parts of the main island would be of interest, but no material for such a comparison is available.

#### PERIPATUS (MACROPERIPATUS) GEAYI Bouvier

*Peripatus geayi* 1899. BOUVIER, Comptes Rendus Acad. des Sci., vol. 128, p. 1345.—1900. BOUVIER, Ann. Soc. Ent. de France, vol. 68 (1899), pp. 389, 404-406.—1904. BOUVIER, Bull. du Mus. d'Hist. Nat., 1904, p. 53.—1905. BOUVIER, Annales des Sci. Nat. (9), vol. 2, p. 200.

*La Chorrera, Panamá; from under a palm leaf; August Busck, May 17, 1912.*—One specimen, agreeing well with Bouvier's description and figures. There are 32 pairs of ambulatory legs. The length is 45.5 mm. The color is a purplish brown, lighter beneath; the primary papillæ are darker than the rest of the back. Just behind the anterior extremity of the body is a broad transverse obscure yellow band, about 1.3 mm. wide, slightly constructed in the center.

This species was previously only known from French Guiana.

#### LIST OF THE AMERICAN SPECIES OF PERIPATUS, WITH THE ASCERTAINED RANGE OF EACH

The species belonging to the family Peripatidæ and to the subfamily Peripatinæ as now restricted, all but one of which are American, are as follows:

#### Genus OROPERIPATUS Cockerell

*Oroperipatus ecuadoriensis* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Bulim, northwestern Equador.

*Oroperipatus lankesteri* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Paramba, near Quito, Equador.

*Oroperipatus tuberculatus* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Popayan, Colombia.

*Oroperipatus quitensis* (Schmarda).

HABITAT.—High regions of Equador.

*Oroperipatus cameranoi* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Cuenca and Sigsig, Equador.

*Oroperipatus corradoi* (Camerano).

HABITAT.—Equador; known from Quito, Balzar and Guayaquil.

*Oroperipatus eiseni* (Wheeler).

HABITAT.—Tepic, Mexico.

*Oroperipatus belli* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Equador; Duran, on the Guayas river.

*Oroperipatus goudoti* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Mexico.

*Oroperipatus soratanus* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Bolivia; Sorata.

*Oroperipatus balzani* (Camerano).

HABITAT.—Bolivia; states of Coroico and Chulumani.

*Oroperipatus intermedius* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—Bolivia; Sorata.

#### Genus PERIPATUS Guilding

##### Subgenus MACROPERIPATUS A. H. Clark

*Peripatus (Macroperipatus) torquatus* von Kennel.

HABITAT.—Trinidad.

*Peripatus (Macroperipatus) perrieri* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Mexico; Vera Cruz.

*Peripatus (Macroperipatus) geayi* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Cayenne, on the French-Brazilian boundary; La Chorrera, Panamá.

*Peripatus (Macroperipatus) ohausi* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Brazil; Petropolis, near Rio de Janeiro.

*Peripatus (Macroperipatus) guianensis* Evans.

HABITAT.—Demerara; east bank of the Demerara river.

##### Subgenus EPIPERIPATUS A. H. Clark

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) brasiliensis* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Brazil; Santarem, probably also San Pablo, Panamá.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) imthurmi* Sclater.

HABITAT.—Demerara; Maccasseema, on the Pomeroon river, Hoorubea, on the Demerara river, and other localities not specifically recorded; Essequibo; Surinam, Paramaribo; Cayenne, Haut Carsevenne.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) evansi* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—East bank of the Demerara river.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) edwardsii* Blanchard.

HABITAT.—Cayenne; banks of the Approuague river, also the interior; Surinam, Paramaribo; ?Trinidad; Venezuela, Haute Sarare, Bas Sarare, Mérida and Caracas; ?Colombia, vicinity of Lake Valencia; Panamá, Panamá Station; Darien.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) simoni* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Brazil, Breves, on the island of Marajo, at the mouth of the Amazons; Venezuela, Caracas.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) biolleyi* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Costa Rica, San José and Surubres, near San Mateo; ?British Honduras, Benque Viejo.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) nicaraguensis* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Nicaragua, Matagalpa and San Benito.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) isthmicola* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Costa Rica, San José, Cachi, plains of Santa Clara.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) trinidadensis* Stuhlmann.

HABITAT.—Trinidad.

*Peripatus (Epiperipatus) barbouri* Brues.

HABITAT.—Grenada; Grand Etang.

#### Subgenus PERIPATUS Guilding

*Peripatus (Peripatus) swainsonæ* Cockerell.

HABITAT.—Jamaica, Bath, and near Savanna lo Mar.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) juanensis* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Porto Rico, Arecibo and Utuado; Vieques.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) danicus* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—St. Thomas, Danish West Indies.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) antiguensis* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Antigua, Barlar, near Warburton; also other localities not specifically recorded.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) bayayi* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Guadeloupe, French West Indies.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) dominica* Pollard.

HABITAT.—Dominica, Laudat and Prince Rupert.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) juliformis* Guilding.

HABITAT.—St. Vincent.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) brölemanni* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Venezuela, Tovar, Raxto Casselo and Puerto Cabello.

*Peripatus (Peripatus) sedgwicki* Bouvier.

HABITAT.—Venezuela, Caracas, San Esteban, La Moka, Las Trincheras and La Guayra.

#### Subgenus PLICATOPERIPATUS A. H. Clark

*Peripatus (Plicatoperipatus) jamaicensis* Grabham and Cockerell.

HABITAT.—Jamaica, Bath, and near Savanna lo Mar.\*

\* This species has two varieties, *gossei* Cockerell, and *bouvieri* Cockerell, with the same habitat as the type form.

## Genus MESOPERIPATUS Evans

*Mesoperipatus tholloni* (Bouvier).

HABITAT.—French Congo.

The subfamily Peripatoidinæ of the family Peripatopsidæ is represented in America by the following species:

## Genus METAPERIPATUS A. H. Clark

*Metaperipatus blainvillei* (Blanchard).

HABITAT.—Chile, San Carlos, Chiloe Island, Corral and Villa Rica.

In addition to the forms listed above, Grube described, under the name of *Peripatus peruanus*, a species from Peru which cannot be placed with certainty in any group.