

The Millipede Collections of the World

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Abstract

The present catalog of millipede specimen collections of the world lists 268 biological collection institutions from 143 countries. The data in the catalog are derived from a questionnaire-based survey forwarded by standard mail and electronically to more than 1,000 biological collection institutions worldwide. For 54 countries, no millipede collections could be identified. Nine private collections are listed, though we assume these are underrepresented in this catalog. Although the catalog focuses on collections of Recent millipede material, a preliminary list of 43 collections containing fossil millipedes is included. Each listed Recent millipede collection is described using the data captured through the questionnaire, giving details on the size of the collection, type material and type authors, organization and cataloging status of the collections, and geographic coverage of the holdings. Of the 268 millipede collections, nine collections house more than 20,000 specimen lots and 77 house more than 1,000 specimen lots. The accuracy of the descriptions of these 77 collections was proofed by the respective curators in charge between July 2003 and February 2004. Type material is reported from 89 collections, with six collections harboring more than 1,000 type lots each. More than 21,400 type lots (including all type categories) were reported by the collections. The data on type material are also presented in a reference table, listing for each millipede species author all collections that reported types from this author. Important voucher material of several millipede authors is noted for the collections that house them. The collections are listed by country and for large countries also by provinces or states. For each millipede collection, the mailing address of the institution, telephone and fax numbers, and name of the curatorial staff are given, as are the correspondents' e-mail addresses.