

British and Irish earthworms - a checklist of species updated from Sims & Gerard (1999)

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Abstract As many as 69-70 terrestrial megadrile oligochaete earthworms have been reported from the UK and Ireland - all known species are presented here in an annotated checklist.

Introduction

This checklist is modified from Sims & Gerard (1985 - reprinted in 1999 as a "Revised" version, that nevertheless retains most pagination and figure details). Other incidental records are compiled from Blakemore (2002, 2005, 2006) wherein many species are described in more detail.

As for the origin of the British fauna, Sims & Gerard (1985; 1999: 32) state:

".. during the maximum of the Pleistocene glacial advances (in the Weichselian glaciation, about 15,000 BP), the whole of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and most of England were covered with permafrost and possibly, at least temporarily, with ice. The Lumbricidae were exterminated from the British Isles and the species found today have come from continental Europe. Recolonisation could have started across the land-bridge crated from the post-glacial deposits that connected Belgium and Norfolk between 13,000 and 8.300 BP" - an era corresponding to the Mesolithic

That some Lumbricidae (except possibly the North American *Bimastos*) may have originated in the Middle-East, and been introduced along with agriculture, is supported by several species (marked with * below) in common with the 34 [Levant](#) species from Pavlicek *et al.*, (2004). Additional reports of species introduced from around the world being recovered from Botanic Gardens, such as Kew, attests to one mechanism of accidental introduction (and for certain Lumbricidae, Megascolecidae and possibly Eudrilidae there are deliberate importations for composting/bait markets). It is unlikely that many of the sub-tropical species from botanic gardens could readily survive winters outside of the glasshouse, unless there is substantial climate change.

The total records from Sims & Gerard (1999) were of 44 species (plus 4 sub-species) to give 48 taxa, whereas the present account includes later records plus ca. 20-21 taxa marked with "?", mainly collected from Botanic Gardens for which there is some doubt about either taxonomic position, their continued survival, or verifiability of first report, to give a total of 69-70 taxa. Sims & Gerard (1985, 1999: 32) claim "*half-a-dozen*" non-allochthonous species from the British list although it is unsure to which taxa they refer to as all the lumbricids are common to other countries.

Not included in this report are species recorded from British overseas protectorates; a rather incomplete review of some "*non-native*" earthworms may be found in Varnham (2006).

In perhaps the earliest reports of non-parasitic worms from the British Isles, were three listed by Michaelsen (1900: 518, 520) as *species dubiae*: viz. *Lumbricus terrestris minor* Pennant, 1766: 33 from Britain, *Lumbricus kani* Williams, 1858: 102 (also "kanii" and "kauii" *laps.*) from England, and *Lumbricus rufescens* Johnston, 1827: 327 from a tidal beach in England. Although the latter is probably a Polychaeta, the true identity of these other species remains a mystery.

Results - Checklist of British and Irish species

* - denotes spp in common with the 34 Levant spp from Pavlicek *et al.*, (2004);

? - indicates some taxonomic ambiguity or other uncertainty of report.

Family MONILIGASTRIDAE (Oriental)

1. *Drawida barwelli* (Beddard, 1886) [syns. include *Moniligaster bahamensis* Beddard, 1893: 690 that was obtained from Kew, alive, imported accidentally with plants from the Bahamas; overlooked by Sims & Gerard (1999)].

Family SPARGANOPHILIDAE Michaelsen, 1918 (Nearctic)

2. *Sparanophilus tamesis* Benham, 1892 [syns. *S. eiseni* Smith, 1895 [some north American authors maintain *S. eiseni* despite Sims & Gerard's (1985; 1999: 122) explanation of its synonymy]; *Sparganophilidae benhami* Eisen, 1896; *Sparganophilidae benhami* var. *guatemalensis* Eisen, 1896; *Sparganophilidae benhami* var. *carnea* Eisen, 1896; *Helodrilus elongatus* Friend, 1911; ?*Pelodrilus cuenoti* Tétrý, 1934 [synonymy of *cuenoti* by Cernosvitov reported in Gates (1972: 314), others from Sims & Gerard (1985, 1999: 120)]. Distribution from Sims & Gerard (1999: 122) is north-eastern America and introduced to Britain and France (Lorraine)].

Family LUMBRICIDAE (Holarctic)

A Holarctic family found from Vancouver Island Canada to Japan; several species are Cosmopolitans and Gates (1958) reviewed lumbricids exotic to the Orient saying that none appeared endemic to the British Isles either.

3. *Allolobophora chlorotica* (Savigny, 1826)* [syn. *Al. virescens* (Savigny, 1826) that Sims &

Gerard (1985; 1999: 52) note may yet be available for the pink, unpigmented forms].

4. *Allolobophora cupulifera* Tétay, 1943 [Muldowney & Schmidt (2002) recorded from Ireland].
5. *Allolobophoridella eiseni* (Levisen, 1884) [records, often as *Bimastos* or *Lumbricus eiseni*, from UK and Ireland].
6. *Aporrectodea caliginosa* (Savigny, 1826)* [part of a spp-complex (Blakemore, 2006); many synonyms inc. *A. turgida* (Eisen, 1873) although *trapezoides* and *tuberculata* are now given separate status; whereas the *nocturna* morph, rarely recorded outside the UK e.g. a few records from Germany and France, is stated by Gerard (1964: 3) to be similar to both *A. tuberculata* and to *A. longa*; it is suggested by Sims & Gerard (1999: 56) that ecologists record a non-taxonomic “*nocturna*” morph separately in their survey results].
7. *Aporrectodea icterica* (Savigny, 1826) (from Britain and Ireland).
8. *Aporrectodea limicola* (Michaelsen, 1890).
9. *Aporrectodea longa* (Ude, 1885).
10. *Aporrectodea rosea rosea** (Savigny, 1826) [many synonyms].
- ?11. *Aporrectodea trapezoides** (Duges, 1828) [possible British records cf. *A. caliginosa*].
- ?12. *Aporrectodea tuberculata* (Eisen, 1874) [possible British records cf. *A. caliginosa*].
13. *Bimastos parvus* Eisen, 1974* [syns. *beddardi* Michaelsen, 1894 (non Ribaucourt, 1896 = *Ap. caliginosa/trapezoides* complex); *parva udei* Ribaucourt, 1896 (non Sapkarev, 1972 = *Serbiona juncesapkarevi* Blakemore, 2004: 78); *consticta* var. *geminata* Friend, 1897: 549; ?*longicinctus* Smith & Gittins, 1915: 548 - some authors maintain this taxon on the grounds that it has >60-64 partitions in the calciferous glands vs. 40-45 in *B. parvus* (S. James, pers. com. 7th Dec, 2004)]. [Note: recently transferred from *Allolobophoridella parva* to *Bimastos parvus* by Csuzdi & Zicsi (2003: 69, 71), although sometimes still reported as *Allolobophora parva* or even *Eisenia parva*, some authors revoke the probable

beddardi and possible *longicinctus* synonyms. Also known from the Levant. Ironically for an American genus, the British records were from Plant Quarantine in New York in 1949 from soil from England and Wales (Gates, 1956: 7); the type locality of Friend's *geminata* is believed to be Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland, a single record from Dublin (Gerard, 1964: 35) - see Sims & Gerard (1999: 48) and note that their New Zealand record is probably false, as discussed in Blakemore (2002; 2004; 2006)].

14. *Dendrobaena attemsi* Michaelsen, 1902 (from Britain and Ireland - rare).
15. *Dendrobaena hortensis** (Michaelsen, 1890) [several synonyms, especially by Friend].
16. *Dendrobaena octaedra octaedra* (Savigny, 1826) [several synonyms; from Britain and Ireland; Sims & Gerard (1999: 70) mistake the spermathecal pores in 9/10-11/12 as "three pairs in 9/10/11"].
17. *Dendrobaena pygmaea* (Savigny, 1826) [syns. *Allolobophora minima* Rosa, 1884 non Muldal, 1953 (= *Murchieona minuscula*); *cognettii* Michaelsen, 1903 replacement name for *ribaucourti* Cognetti, 1901 non Bretscher, 1901 (= *L. rubellus*); *pygmaea cognettii*: Bouché, 1972].
18. *Dendrobaena veneta veneta** (Rosa, 1886: 674) [syns. *caucasica* Kulagin, 1889; *bogdanowii* Kulagin, 1889; *veneta zebra* Michaelsen, 1902; *veneta succinta* Rosa, 1905; *venetus concolor* Michaelsen, 1909; *veneta picta* Michaelsen, 1910; *veneta tumida* Friend, 1927 (non Eisen, 1874); *austriaca* Michaelsen, 1936; *veneta crassa* Malevics, 1947 [non Michaelsen, 1900]; *veneta minuta* Malevics, 1947; *svetlovia* Grieb, 1948)].
19. *Dendrodrilus rubidus rubidus* (Savigny, 1826) [many synonyms].
- ?20. *Dendrodrilus rubidus subrubicundus* (Eisen, 1874) [possibly a morph rather than subspecies].
- ?21. *Dendrodrilus rubidus tenuis* (Savigny, 1826) [possibly a morph rather than subspecies].
- ?22. *Eisenia andrei* Bouché, 1972 [syns. *E. fetida andrei* Bouché, 1972 replacement name for *E.*

fetida var. *unicolor* André, 1963 as varietal names were invalid after 1961. Note: *E. fetida andrei*, placed in synonymy of *E. fetida* by Easton (1983) and Csuzdi & Zicsi (2003: 143), is sometimes given separate specific status, but this is almost arbitrary between authors - see discussion in Blakemore (2002)].

23. *Eisenia fetida** (Savigny, 1826) [many synonyms, see Blakemore (2002)].

24. *Eiseniella tetraedra tetraedra** (Savigny, 1826) [several synonyms including *Allurus tetragonurus* Friend, 1892, *Allurus macrurus* Friend, 1893; *Ei. tetraedra pupa* (Eisen, 1874) with syn. *hercynius* Michaelsen, 1890; *tetraedra quadripora* Cernosvitov, 1942; - as the only differences of several *tetraedra* morphs are the locations of the male pores, Csuzdi & Zicsi (2003: 153) argue they could be varieties rather than subspecies].

25. *Helodrilus oculatus oculatus* Hoffmeister, 1845 [syns. *hermanni* Michaelsen, 1890; *Anagaster fontinalis* Friend, 1921; from UK and Ireland].

26. *Lumbricus castaneus* (Savigny, 1826).

27. *Lumbricus festivus* (Savigny, 1826).

28. *Lumbricus friendi* Cognetti, 1904 [from Jersey, Wales, Ireland: eg. Dublin, Glasnevin, Cork, Valencia, Kerry].

29. *Lumbricus rubellus rubellus* Hoffmeister, 1843 [many synonyms including *Allolobophora relictus* Southern, 1909: 169 from Clare Island, Co. Mayo, an abnormal specimen of *L. rubellus* according to Gerard (1964: 51), Gates (1972: 78), Easton (1983: 482), etc.].

30. *Lumbricus terrestris* Linnaeus, 1758 [the “common” earthworm; many synonyms and false reports; the Neotype is in the British Museum (Sims, 1973)].

31. *Murchieona muldali* (Omodeo, 1956) [replacement name for *Allolobophora minima* Muldal, 1952 non *A. minima* Rosa, 1884 (= *Dendrobaena pygmaea*); the fate of *Allolobophora muldali* var. *pickfordi* Bouché, 1972 illegitimate varietal name is unknown. Note: *Mu.*

muldali was resurrected from synonymy in *Mu. minuscula* Rosa, 1906 by Zicsi & Csuzdi (1999: 990)].

32. *Octolasion cyaneum* (Savigny, 1826) [non *communis cyaneus* Hoffmeister, 1845 (= *Aporrectodea caliginosa*); syn. *stagnalis* Hoffmeister, 1845; *alyattes* Kinberg, 1867; *studiosa* Michaelsen, 1890; *kempi* Stephenson, 1922; *cyaneum* var. *armoricum* Bouché, 1972 - this synonymy by Csuzdi & Zicsi (2003: 193), thus the nominal subspecies elevated to specific status].

33. *Octolasion tyrtaeum tyrtaeum* (Savigny, 1826) [syns. *gracile* Örley, 1885 - a synonym according to Easton (1983: 483), cf. Sims (1983: 471) and Sims & Gerard (1999: 116) who mention Bouché's various subspecies concepts of *tyrtaeum* that maintained "*gracile*", and cf. Csuzdi & Zicsi (2003: 197) who put *gracile* in synonymy of their concept of *lacteum*; ?*Allolobophora tyrtaea* Ribaucourt, 1896 that would be a junior secondary homonym if it were a synonym (cf. *H. antipae*) according to Gates (1972: 128) who also noted that *tyrtaea* may equally well be a synonym of *cyaneum* and further that Cernosvitov (1931) had previously recognized Savigny's *tyrtaeum* was the same as Örley's *lactaeum* although Csuzdi & Zicsi (2003: 198, 224) (erroneously?) have *Enterion tyrtaeum* as a *species incertae sedis*, place *gracile* in synonymy of *lacteum*, and appear to overlook *Allolobophora tyrtaea*].

34. *Satchellius mammalis* (Savigny, 1826) [UK and Ireland].

Family OCNERODRILIDAE

Sims & Gerard (1999: 138) describe how Friend (1916) reported *Kerria rubra* from a lily tank in the Botanic Gardens, Oxford. Seven new species were described by Beddard (1892b, 1893a,b), all small and poorly characterized, imported to Kew Gardens in soil from the Caribbean and Africa, as listed

below:

- ?35. *Eukerria rubra* (Friend, 1916: 147) [possibly a synonym of *Eukerria eiseniana* (Rosa, 1895) from Paraguay according to Cernosvitov (1943: 267)].
- ?36. *Gordiodrilus ditheca* Beddard, 1892b: 90.
- ?37. *Gordiodrilus dominicensis* Beddard, 1892b: 91.
- ?38. *Gordiodrilus elegans* Beddard, 1892b: 84 [first described from Kew Gardens in soil from Lagos, Nigeria; types in British Museum listed as "BMNH 1904:5:607" by Reynolds & Cook (1976: 97) but later corrected to "1904:10:20:439". Gates (1972: 271) remarks that this species has not yet been properly characterized as biparental populations are unknown, rather it is composed of anatomical morphs variously degraded by parthenogenesis].
- ?39. *Gordiodrilus robustus robustus* Beddard, 1892b: 82.
- ?40. *Gordiodrilus tenuis* Beddard, 1892b: 75.
- ?41. *Ilyogenia africana* Beddard, 1893b: 703 [obtained at Kew Gardens along with *Eudriloides durbanensis* in soil from Durban, South Africa but types missing from British Museum. It is possibly a junior synonym of *Ocnerodrilus occidentalis*. Note: Sims & Gerard (1985: 139) probably mistake *Nannodrilus africana* Beddard, 1894: 388 from Africa for *Ilyogenia africana* Beddard, 1893: 703 from Kew; and in Reynolds & Cook (1976: 66) the species is confused in the tubificid genus *Ilyodrilus* Eisen, 1879].
- ?42. *Nematogenia lacuum* (Beddard, 1893: 259) [first described as *Pygmaeodrilus lacuum* from Kew Gardens in soil from Lagos, Nigeria; types BMNH:1904:20.1047-50. Possibly a senior synonym of *Ocnerodrilus (Nematogenia) lacuum* var. *panamaensis* Eisen, 1900: 127, from Panama according to Gates (1972: 273). Note: Sims & Gerard (1999: 139) mistake *Pygmaeodrilus lacuum* Beddard, 1893a: 259 for "*Ocnerodrilus lacuum*".]
- ?43. *Ocnerodrilus occidentalis* Eisen, 1878 [syns: *O. o.* var. *sinensis* Eisen, 1900; *O. tenellulus* Gates,

1945; ?*Ilyogenia africana* Beddard, 1893b:703 - possibly in synonymy; ?*Ocnerodrilus occidentalis* var *arizonae* Eisen, 1900 from Phoenix may also be synonymous with *O. occidentalis*, as one of its parthenogenetic morphs].

Family ACANTHODRILIDAE

?44. *Microscolex phosphoreus* (Dugès, 1837) [from UK and Ireland].

Family OCTOCHAETIDAE

45. *Dichogaster (Diplotheodrilus) affinis* (Michaelsen, 1890) [syns. include *Benhamia crassa* Beddard, 1893b: 681 obtained alive at Kew from Lagos, West Africa (type BMNH 1904:10:5:829) that Sims & Gerard (1999: 144) list as a separate species cf. Csuzdi (1996), Blakemore (2002)].

46. *Dichogaster (Diplotheodrilus) bolau*i (Michaelsen, 1891) [several syns. including *Dichogaster lageniformis* Friend, 1916: 265 from Botanic Gardens, Oxford; Rota & Schmidt, 2006 record *D. bolau*i from swimming pool drains in Cork, Ireland].

?47. *Dichogaster (Diplotheodrilus) gatesi* Csuzdi, 1997: 42, figs. 13-15 [syn. *Dichogaster* sp. Gates (1977: 486) was collected 16.vii.1959 by A. Loveridge from St Helena, a British protectorate island in the South Atlantic, and Csuzdi (1997: 43) also lists a specimen from "Insel St. Helena, Scotland, 17.07.1965 leg. A LOVERIDGE, Inv. Nr. BM (NH) 1995.05.12.545-558". But this Scottish report is possibly a mistake of labeling and may refer to the house name on St. Helena].

48. *Dichogaster (Diplotheodrilus) saliens* (Beddard 1893) [originally *Microdrilus saliens* Beddard, 1893: 683 et *M. asiaticus* (laps.) Beddard, 1893: 706. Specimens were picked out from earth by Mr Thistleton Dyer at Kew Gardens in soil from Singapore, Java and Penang. Types unknown, possibly in British Museum].

?49. *Eutyphoeus nicholsoni* (Beddard, 1901: 195) (originally *Typhoeus nicholsoni* in soil imported to Kew Gardens; syn *Eutyphoeus khani* Michaelsen, 1907: 233 from India).

?50. *Trigaster minima* Friend, 1911: 274 [in soil imported to Kew (from Caribbean?), type missing].

Family MEGASCOLECIDAE

An intriguing instance of deliberate exportation was in 1975 when Dr E. Gordon Hallsworth, then Chief of CSIRO Division of Soils, Adelaide, took native Megascolecidae earthworms from Mt Kosciuszko Australia to Strathclyde in Scotland in an attempt to reduce the peat turf mats there (Dr K.E. Lee, pers. comm.; see also Costin *et al.*, 1952). The species involved were possibly *Cryptodrilus fastigatus* Fletcher, 1889, *Vesiculodrilus frenchi* (Spencer, 1892), *Notoscolex montiskosciuskoi* and *Anisochaeta celmisiae*, and according to Sims & Gerard (1999), and at least one of these species survived relocation and persists in Scotland. [Note: the species identified by Sims & Gerard (1985: 136, fig. 49; 1999 ditto) as “*Spenceriella minor* (Spencer, 1900)” now, following Blakemore (1997) in *Anisochaeta*, appears to me to more closely resemble *Anisochaeta celmisiae* as these two species usually have, respectively, two and three pairs of spermathecae (Blakemore, 2000; 2005) and close inspection of the figure in Sims & Gerard (1985: fig. 49; 1999) reveals some indication of erasure of a third pair of spermathecal pores in intersegment 6/7].

?51. *Amyntas alexandri alexandri* Beddard, 1901: 988 [from Kew in soil from Calcutta; type in British Museum, 1904:10:5:757; overlooked by Sims & Gerard (1999)].

52. *Amyntas corticis* (Kinberg, 1867) [many synonyms including *Megascolex diffringens* Baird, 1869a: 40 & 1869b: 387 with type locality Plas Machynlleth, North Wales and types in British Museum; also redescribed as *Perichaeta indica* (Horst) obtained from Kew by Beddard (1890: 57) in soil around roots of orchid from South America – this name was subsequently

confused with *Pheretima darnleiensis* but is now in synonymy of *A. corticis*].

53. *Amyntas gracilis* (Kinberg, 1867) [many synonyms including *Perichaeta hawayana* Rosa, 1891; *Perichaeta barbadensis* Beddard, 1892a: 167, Pl. IX, fig. 6, (?part - specimen "b" show as fig. 6 but mistakenly claimed to be specimen "a") obtained alive at Kew Gardens (from Barbados?); ?*Perichaeta mauritiana* Beddard, 1892a: 170, Pl. X figs. 5,6, imported alive to Kew from Mauritius; cf. *A. morrissi*].
54. *Amyntas morrissi* (Beddard, 1892a: 166) [originally found alive at Kew Gardens in soil ex Penang (types in British Museum 1904:10.5.199-201); many synonyms including ?*Perichaeta barbadensis* (parts ?"a" and possibly "c" presumably including type) Beddard, 1892a (July): 167 (his figures are confused and specimen "a" is not figured despite the text calim; cf. *A. gracilis*); ?*Perichaeta mauritiana* Beddard, 1892: 170, Pl. X figs. 5,6, imported alive to Kew from Mauritius - more likely a variety of *gracilis*].
55. *Amyntas rodericensis* (Grube, 1879) [several synonyms including *Perichaeta dyeri* Beddard, 1892a: 157, Pl. IX figs. 2, 8, X fig. 1, originally found alive at Kew; *Perichaeta sinensis* Beddard, 1892: 158, Pl. IX, figs. 3, 5, of living specimens at Kew from Fooshow in China; ?*Perichaeta trinitatis* Beddard, 1896: 206 (Beddard did not record dorsal location of spermathecal pores, only that the spermathecae were in 6-9)].
- ?56. *Anisochaeta celmisiae* (Jamieson, 1973) [new combination as per Blakemore (2000), see notes under Megascolecidae above].
- ?57. *Anisochaeta minor* (Spencer, 1900) [reported by Sims & Gerard (1999: 136) as "*Spenceriella minor* (Spencer)" from Lephinmore, District of Argyll and Bute, Strathclyde, Scotland; but possibly actually *A. celmisiae* – see notes under Megascolecidae above].
58. *Duplodicrodrilus schmardae schmardae* (Horst, 1883) [several synonyms including *Perichaeta trityphla* Beddard, 1896: 205 from Barbados and possibly *Perichaeta sumatrana*: Beddard,

1892a: 155 (non *Megascolex sumatranus* Horst, 1883) - Beddard's account of specimens from Kew did not mention that the intestinal caeca were manicate, therefore it is more likely that these specimens were of *Metaphire californica* or possibly *M. javanica*, although Sims & Gerard (1999: 132) mention an unpublished study by Easton that found Beddard (1892a: 155) had misidentified *M. schmardae* as "*Perichaeta sumatrana*".

59. *Metaphira californica* (Kinberg, 1867) [synonyms include ?*Perichaeta sumatrana* Horst: Beddard, 1892a: 155, fig. 4, **syn. nov.** [?non *Megascolex sumatranus* Horst, 1883: 189 (= *Metaphire javanica*)] received alive from Kew Gardens "in Wardian cases from Barbados and from Hong Kong"; and *Perichaeta hesperidum* Beddard, 1892a: 169 also at Kew Gardens (from Barbados?).

60. *Metaphire posthuma* (Vaillant, 1868) [reported by Beddard (1906: 66); several synonyms including *Pheretima incerta* Beddard, 1912: 197 **syn. nov.** - reported from Kew but overlooked by Sims & Gerard, 1999].

61. *Perionyx excavatus* Perrier, 1872 [recorded by Sims & Gerard (1999: 34) from Hertfordshire and Chelsea Gardens, London].

62. *Polypheretima taprobanae* (Beddard, 1892) [collected in Kew Gardens and sent to to Csaba Csuzdi with identification confirmed by current author 23rd June, 2008]. **New record UK.**

Family GLOSSOSCOLECIDAE

?63. *Hesperoscolex hesperidum* (Beddard, 1893a: 252) [originally *Trichochoaeta hesperidum* from Kew Gardens in cases of soil imported from Trinidad and Jamaica, (non *Perichaeta hesperidum* Beddard, 1892a); syn. *Pontoscolex trinitatis* (laps.?) Beddard, 1895: 646); Sims & Gerard (1999: 123) have this taxon in genus *Diachaeta* Benham, 1886 rather than *Hesperoscolex* Michaelsen, 1900: 421 -a replacement name for *Trichochoaeta* (preocc. Bigot, 1878 Diptera)].

?64. *Hesperoscolex barbadensis* (Beddard, 1893b: 701) [originally *Trichochaeta barbadensis* - live specimens from Kew imported from Barbados; Sims & Gerard (1999: 123) have this taxon in genus *Diachaeta*].

?65. *Pontoscolex corethrurus* (Müller, 1857) [recorded from Kew by Beddard (1906)].

Family EUDRILIDAE

Species recorded as imports into Kew Gardens by Beddard (1891; 1893; 1897; 1906) were *Eudrilus eugeniae*, *Eudriloides durbanensis*, *Heliodrillus lagosensis*, *Hyperiodrilus africanus* and *Iridodrillus roseus* all but the first having single median male and spermathecal pores. Of these, only *E. eugeniae* has been subsequently recorded outside of Africa and the others were not therefore considered “British-occurring” by Sims & Gerard (1999: 145), however, Michaelsen (1910) classed *Hyperiodrilus africanus* as peregrine in Africa (see also Blakemore, 2006).

?66. *Eudrilus eugeniae* (Kinberg, 1867) [Beddard (1906) obtained specimens from Kew Gardens. Sims & Gerard's (1999: 146) report of *Eudrilus* from New Zealand is incorrect as this mistake by Beddard (1895, repeated by Michaelsen, 1900 and Gates, 1972) was stated by Lee (1959: 365) to be an error for Smith's *Endrilus* [sic] *levis* (Hutton, 1877)].

?67. *Eudriloides durbanensis* Beddard 1893: 696 [specimens obtained alive from Kew gardens from Durban, Natal, South Africa].

?68. *Iridodrillus roseus* Beddard, 1897: 346 [from Kew gardens from Lagos, West Africa; redescribed and transferred to *Heliodrillus* by Sims (1985) but restored by Owa (1994); cf. overlooked by Sims & Gerard (1985, 1999) and Blakemore (2005)].

?69. *Heliodrillus lagosensis* Beddard, 1891: 253 [from Kew gardens from Lagos, West Africa].

?70. *Hyperiodrilus africanus* Beddard, 1891: 236 [from Kew gardens from Africa].

Removed from the British Isles' species lists is *Aporrectodea georgii* (Michaelsen, 1890) since the worms from Co. Clare, Ireland that Friend (1894) referred to *Allolobophora georgii* were later found to be *Aporrectodea caliginosa*. It seems Friend was rarely correct in his identifications; Beddard too was wordy but rather inconsistent as, for example, Stephenson (1931) corrects several of his errors.

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