

## TABLES OF HAWAIIAN AND PUERTO RICAN EARTHWORMS

by R.J. Blakemore **March, 2006**

The 137 islands of Hawaii comprise the 50th State of the USA, size ca. 16,600 km<sup>2</sup>. About 35 species are listed, none are natives.

The Island of Puerto Rico is a commonwealth associated with the US of ca. 9,000 km<sup>2</sup>. About 31 species are reported and about 58% of these are natives.

Family classification after Blakemore (2000) and (2002) wherein full synonymies (syns.) for the cosmopolitan taxa may be found.

### HAWAII

---

#### FAMILIES (Origins) and *species* reported from Hawaiian Islands

---

##### GLOSSOSCOLECIDAE (Neotropical)

1. *Pontoscolex corethrurus* (Müller, 1856) [includes *Pontoscolex hawaiensis* Beddard, 1896: 196].

##### LUMBRICIDAE (Holarctic)

2. *Allolobophoridella eiseni* (Levinsen, 1884)
3. *Aporrectodea caliginosa* (Savigny, 1826) [includes *Aporrectodea turgida* (Eisen, 1873)].
4. *Aporrectodea limicola* (Michaelsen, 1890)
5. *Aporrectodea rosea* (Savigny, 1826)
6. *Aporrectodea trapezoides* (Dugès, 1828)
7. *Bimastos parvus* (Eisen, 1874) [many synonyms including *Allolobophora beddardi* Michaelsen, 1894: 182. [Non *A. beddardi* Ribaucourt, 1896 (= *Ap. caliginosa/trapezoides* complex)].
8. *Dendrobaena octaedra* (Savigny, 1826)
9. *Dendrodrilus rubidus rubidus* (Savigny, 1826) [syns. *xanthurus* Templeton, 1836; *puter* Hoffmeister, 1845; *pieter* Udekem, 1865; *havaicus* Kinberg, 1867 (sometimes mispelt *Hypogaeon "havaicum"*); *victoris* Perrier, 1872; *arborea* Eisen, 1874 [Reynolds & Cook (1976: 71) miscite a reference to this taxon as *A. putris arborea* by Michaelsen (1890: 49) as a different species]; *constricta* Rosa, 1884: 38; *darwini* Ribaucourt, 1896; *putris subrubicunda* var. *helvetica* Ribaucourt, 1896; *magnesa* Tzelepe, 1943. Omodeo & Rota (2004: 250) suggest reservation of the "name" *D. rubidus constrictus* "to the forms devoid of spermathecae" even though "forms" are deemed of infrasubspecific rank and are thereby excluded from the taxonomic code of ICZN (1999)].
10. *Eisenia andrei* Bouché, 1972
11. *Eisenia fetida* (Savigny, 1826)

12. *Eisenia nordenskioldi* (Eisen, 1879) sub-spp.

**OCNERODRILIDAE** (Tropical America & Africa)

13. *Ocnerodrilus occidentalis* Eisen, 1878 [*Ocnerodrilus mexicanus hawaiiensis* Eisen, 1900:124 from San Francisco, brought in from Honolulu, Hawaii is possibly synonymous with *O. occidentalis*, or with one of its pathogenetic morphs].

**ACANTHODRILIDAE** (Pangean?)

14. *Microscolelex horstii* Eisen, 1900 (seems to have been left off species lists).

15. *Microscolelex phosphoreus* (Dugès, 1837)

**OCTOCHAETIDAE** (Circumtropical, Indian and Australasian)

16. *Dichogaster* (*Diplothecodrilus*) *bolaui* (Michaelsen, 1891) [*D. malayana* (Horst, 1893) is a synonym].

17. *Dichogaster* (*Diplothecodrilus*) *modiglianii* (Rosa, 1896) [includes *Benhamia papillata* var. *hawaiiensis* Eisen, 1900: 212].

18. *Dichogaster* (*Diplothecodrilus*) *saliens* (Beddard, 1893) [includes *Dichogaster crawi* Eisen, 1900].

**MEGASCOLECIDAE** (mostly Asio-Australasian)

19. *Amyntas aeruginosus* Kinberg, 1867

20. *Amyntas corticis* (Kinberg, 1867) [type locality Oahu; many synonyms, including *?Pheretima silvestrii* Cognetti, 1909 and probably *Perichaeta perkinsi* Beddard, 1896: 198 and *Perichaeta molokaiensis* Beddard, 1896 all from Hawaii].

21. *Amyntas gracilis* (Kinberg, 1867) [many synonyms, including *Perichaeta hawayana* Rosa, 1891].

22. *Amyntas lavangguanus* (Gates, 1959) [as redescribed by Blakemore (1997: 18); the unconfirmed Hawaii report is from the Bishop Museum website].

23. *Amyntas minimus* (Horst, 1893)

24. *Amyntas morrisi* (Beddard, 1892)

25. [*Amyntas perkinsi* (Beddard, 1896: 198) - an erstwhile subspecies of *Megascolelex indicus*, probably in synonymy of *A. corticis* as suggested by Beddard (1912: 111); Gates (1972: 149)].

26. *Amyntas rechingeri* (Cognetti, 1909) [from Samoa and Hawaii].

27. *Lampito mauritii* Kinberg, 1866

28. *Metaphire californica* (Kinberg, 1867)

29. [*?Metaphire sandvicensis* (Beddard, 1896) (?= *M. californica*)]

30. *Metaphire schmardae schmardae* (Horst, 1883)

31. *Perionyx excavatus* Perrier, 1872

32. *Pithemera bicincta* (Perrier, 1875)

33. *Polypheretima elongata* (Perrier, 1872)

34. *Polypheretima taprobanae* (Beddard, 1892)

35. *Pontodrilus litoralis* (Grube, 1855)

<b>Total non-endemic exotic spp. (E)</b>	35
<b>Endemic natives in region (N)</b>	0
<b>Approx. TOTAL spp. (E+N)</b>	35
<b>Exotics [E/(E+N)] x 100 %</b>	<b>100</b>
Approximate Lumbricidae as % total exotic	34%
Approximate Megascolecidae as % total exotic	47%

**Notes:** Hawaiian records are derived from a Michaelsen (1900), Beddard (1912: 110 see <http://www.regenwurm.de/pdf/beddard-earthworms.pdf>); the Bishop Museum website (<http://www2.bishopmuseum.org/HBS/invert/oligochaeta.htm>) that lists 55 nominal taxa although many of these are long established synonyms; the 20 names listed (some, e.g. "schmardae" listed more than once) in Table 6 of Nakamura (1992: 30); and other sources from Blakemore (2002).

A report of *Pheretima darnleiensis* (Fletcher) was due to the record of "*Perichaeta indica* Horst" that was in the past confused with *P. darnleiensis* - it is now believed to refer to *Amynthas corticis* wherein its erstwhile subspecies *P. indicus perkinsi* may also more comfortably reside.

## PUERTO RICO

---

### FAMILIES (Origins) and *species* reported from Puerto Rico

---

#### **MONILIGASTRIDAE** (India - Oriental)

- \*1. *Drawida barwelli* (Beddard, 1886) [report from Borges & Moreno (1994)].

#### **GLOSSOSCOLECIDAE** (Neotropical)

[Note: genus *Estherella* sometimes mispelt "Estherilla"].

2. *Estherella aguayoi* Borges & Moreno 1989
3. *Estherella caudoferruginea* Borges & Moreno 1989
4. *Estherella gatesi* Borges & Moreno 1989
5. *Estherella montana* Gates, 1970 [reported by Borges (2004)].
6. *Estherella nemoralis* Borges & Moreno 1989
7. *Estherella stuarti* Borges & Moreno 1989
8. *Estherella toronegrensis* Borges & Moreno 1989
9. *Onychochaeta borincana* Borges 1994
10. *Pontoscolex cynthiae* Fragoso, 1993 [report from Borges & Moreno (1990)].
11. *Pontoscolex melissae* Borges & Moreno 1990
12. *Pontoscolex spiralis* Borges & Moreno 1990
- \*13. *Pontoscolex corethrurus* (Müller, 1856)

#### **LUMBRICIDAE** (Holarctic)

- ?\*14. *Eisenia fetida* (Savigny, 1826) [possible record from Borges (2004: 286)].

#### **OCNERODRILIDAE** (Tropical America & Africa)

- \*15. *Eukerria kuekenthali* (Michaelsen, 1908)
- ?\*16. *Gordiodrilus elegans* (?) Beddard, 1892 [reported thus by Gates (1972: 271)].
- \*17. *Gordiodrilus paski* Stephenson, 1928 [recorded as *G. peguanus* Gates, 1942 (? = *G. elegans*)].
- \*18. *Ocnerodrilus occidentalis* Eisen, 1878 [report from Borges *et al.* (2003)].

#### **EXXIDAE** (Caribbean and, doubtfully, Australia)

19. *Neotrigaster complutensis* (Borges & Moreno, 1991: 40)
20. *Neotrigaster rufa* (Gates, 1962: 3)

#### **OCTOCHAETIDAE** (Circumtropical, Indian and Australasian)

21. *Borgesia montana* James, 1991
22. *Borgesia sedecimsetae* (Borges & Moreno, 1991)
23. *Borgesia wegei* James, 1991
24. *Trigaster longissima* Borges & Moreno, 1991 [originally *Trigaster longissimus* (sic – although ICBN, 1999: Art. 30 says genera ending in –*gaster* are feminine)].
25. *Trigaster yukiyui* Borges & Moreno, 1991 [restored from *Neotrigaster* as suggested by Blakemore (2000: 39)].

**MEGASCOLECIDAE** (mostly Asio-Australasian)

- \*26. *Amyntas corticis* (Kinberg, 1867) [record from Borges (2004)].
- \*27. *Amyntas gracilis* (Kinberg, 1867) [record from Borges (2004)].
- \*28. *Amyntas rodericensis* (Grube, 1879) [record from Borges (2004)].
- \*29. *Polypheretima elongata* (Perrier, 1872) [report from Borges *et al.* (2003)].
- \*30. *Pontodrilus litoralis* (Grube, 1855) [report from Borges & Moreno (1994)].

**EUDRILIDAE** (African)

- \*31 *Eudrilus eugeniae* (Kinberg, 1867) [report from Borges *et al.* (2003)].

<b>Total non-endemic exotic spp. (E)</b>	13
<b>Endemic natives in region (N)</b>	18
<b>Approx. TOTAL spp. (E+N)</b>	31
<b>Exotics [E/(E+N)] x 100 %</b>	<b>42</b>
Approximate Lumbricidae as % total exotic	7%?
Approximate Megascolecidae as % total exotic	38%

\* - exotic taxa from Borges (2004)

**Selected references:**

Blakemore, R.J. (1997). Two earthworms (Megascolecidae: Oligochaeta) from Rennell, Solomon Islands. *Journal of Natural History*, 1997. **31**: 17-25.

Blakemore, R.J. (2000). *Tasmanian Earthworms*. CD-ROM Monograph with Review of World Families. 'VermEcology', PO BOX 414 Kippax 2615. Canberra, December, 2000. Pp. 800, including 222 figures. ISBN 0-646-41088-1.

Blakemore, R.J. (2002). *Cosmopolitan Earthworms – an Eco-Taxonomic Guide to the Peregrine Species of the World*. VermEcology, Kippax, ACT 2615, Australia. Pp. 426 + 80 figs.

Blakemore, R.J. (2005). *A Series of Searchable Texts on Earthworm Biodiversity, Ecology and Systematics from Various Regions of the World*. Eds.: N. Kaneko & M.T. Ito. COE Soil Ecology Research Group, Yokohama National University, Japan. CD-ROM. [<http://bio-eco.eis.ynu.ac.jp/eng/database/earthworm/>].

Borges, S. (1996). Taxonomic key and annotated bibliography to the terrestrial oligochaetes of Puerto Rico. The Scientific Survey of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, Ann. N. Y. Acad.

Sci. 776: 249-256.

Borges, S. (2004). Current status of research on the terrestrial oligochaetes of Puerto Rico. In: Moreno, A. G. and Borges, S. (eds.) "Avances en taxonomía de lombrices de tierra/Advances in earthworm taxonomy (Annelida: Oligochaeta)". Editorial Complutense, Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain. Pp. 275-298.

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1989a). Nuevas especies del género *Estherella* Gates, 1970 (Oligochaeta: Glossoscolecidae) para Puerto Rico. *Bollettino del Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali di Torino*, 7(2):383-399.

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1989b). Nuevas especies y un nuevo subgénero del género *Pontoscolex* Schmarda, 1861 (Oligochaeta: Glossoscolecidae). *Bollettino del Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali di Torino*, 7(2).

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1990a). Nuevas especies y un nuevo subgénero del género *Pontoscolex* Schmarda, 1861 (Oligochaeta: Glossoscolecidae) para Puerto Rico. *Boll. Mus. Reg. Sci. Nat. Torino* 8(1): 143-157.

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1990b). Contribución al conocimiento de los oligoquetos terrestres de Puerto Rico: las "pheretimas". *Caribbean Journal of Science*, 26(3-4):141-151.

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1991). Nuevas especies del género *Trigaster* Benham, 1886 (Oligochaeta: Octochaetidae) para Puerto Rico. *Bollettino del Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali - Torino*, 9(1):39-54.

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1992). Redescripción de *Trigaster rufa* Gates, 1962 (Oligochaeta: Octochaetidae). *Caribbean Journal of Science*, 28(1-2):47-50.

Borges, S. & Moreno, A. G. (1994). Dos citas nuevas de oligoquetos terrestres para Puerto Rico, y nuevas localidades para otras tres especies. *Caribbean Journal of Science*, 30(1-2):150-151.

Borges, S., Hubers, H. & Bayron, R. (2003). In search for an appropriate species for vermicomposting in Puerto Rico. *Caribbean J. Sci.* 39(2): 248-250.

Fragoso, C., James, S.W. & Borges, S. (1995). Native earthworms of the north. Neotropical region: current status and controversies. in P. Hendrix (ed.) *Earthworm Ecology and Biogeography in North America*, pp. 67-115. CRC Press, Inc, Boca Raton, Florida.

James, S.W. (1991). New species of earthworms from Puerto Rico, with a redefinition of the earthworm genus *Trigaster*. (Annelida: Oligochaeta: Megascolecidae). *Transactions of the American Microscopical Society* 110:337-353.

Nakamura, M. (1992) "An ecological study of Earthworms in Papua New Guinea - with some comparison of Hawaiian earthworm fauna. *Chuo University Dissertation Summary*. Vol. 13:19-33.

[End of Hawaii and Puerto Rico checklist].