

Review of Tasmanian Earthworms updated from Blakemore (2000)

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Summary

This checklist follows the revision by Blakemore ([2000](#)) of Spencer's (1895) treatment of Tasmanian earthworms one century earlier in which 19 species were described. Total taxa now known from Tasmania number 230 species in 38 genera belonging to 4 families comprising: 203 natives in 25 genera (one taxon in preparation), 2 possibly neo-endemic species (from Subantarctic Macquarie Island and a Lumbricid), 23 exotics and 3 translocated mainland species. Exotics represent only about 11.8%, perhaps the lowest proportion known. Comparable totals are approximately 48 species from Britain and Ireland, 80 from Japan, 180 species from North America, 198 from New Zealand, and ca. 511 from mainland Australia (including ca. 65 exotics).

Tasmania is an island state of 6,850,000 ha to the south-east of continental Australia, approximately the same size as Ireland, Hispaniola, Sri Lanka or Hokkaido, but with a much lower human population leaving much of the central plateau and west coast uninhabited and pristine. And, while the diversity in Tasmania is unprecedented and remarkable for its small size, there is still considerable work to build a complete inventory and phylogeny of the earthworm fauna as numerous other new native species were recognized but were not formally described during these recent studies that complemented [IBOY](#) projects. No endemic Acanthodrilidae nor Octochaetidae occur in Tasmania as are found on both the North and South Islands of New Zealand and in northern Australia. Tasmania's earthworms all belong in the Megascolecidae s. strict.

An [appendix](#) checklists records from the Tasmanian Wilderness WHA.

Checklist of Tasmanian taxa

Syn. - synonyms; ? - some doubt about occurrence or name; # - denotes non-Tasmanian alien species, translocated natives from mainland Australia, or neoendemic (see Blakemore, 1999; 2000; 2002 for details).

MEGASCOLECIDAE sensu Blakemore, 2000

Pontodrilus Perrier, 1874.

Pontodrilus primoris Blakemore, 2000b.

Graliophilus Jamieson, 1971.

(Syns. *?Hiatidrilus* Jamieson, 1994 [this genus erected by Jamieson (1994) matched one proposed but unpublished in a Qld University PhD thesis by Blakemore (10th March, 1994: 478-480) and was suggested a junior synonym by Blakemore (2000c: 193)]; *Kangaridrilus* Jamieson, 2000).

Graliophilus adsiduus Blakemore, 2000b.

Graliophilus ? bassanus (Spencer, 1895).

Graliophilus benlomondi Blakemore, 2000b.

Graliophilus cooperi Blakemore, 2000b.

Graliophilus ellisii (Spencer, 1895).

Graliophilus praestringor Blakemore, 2000b.

Graliophilus tripapillatus (Jamieson, 1974).

Vesiculodrilus Jamieson, 1973

(Syn. *Perionychella* (*Vesiculodrilus*) (part.): Jamieson, 1973; *Pinguidrilus* Jamieson, 1974; *Diporochaeta* (part.): Jamieson, 1976; *Diporochaeta* (*Vesiculodrilus*) (part.): Jamieson, 2000).

Vesiculodrilus albus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus ansoni Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus apris Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus bithecatus (Jamieson, 1974).

Vesiculodrilus borealis Blakemore, 2000a.

Vesiculodrilus bronte Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus brunyi Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus bufalus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus canaliculatus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus culminis Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus cuneatus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus cygnus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus decathecus (Michaelsen, 1910) [New comb. *Species inquirendum*.

[Describing it as "Diporochaeta (*Vesiculodrilus*) decatheca", Jamieson (2000: 538) claims to have rediscovered Michaelsen's type (Hamburg Museum HM V3560); however, his redescription (2000: fig. 10.72) shows (erroneously?) only 4 pairs of spermathecae in 5/6/7/8/9. Nevertheless, it now seems most likely that it is a junior synonym of the *V. mortoni* species complex, as was suggested by Blakemore (2000: 63)].

Vesiculodrilus dendrophagus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus duodecithecatus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus emu Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus fictilis Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus fignal Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus fonsager Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus glandiferus glandiferus (Jamieson, 1974).

Vesiculodrilus glandiferus pyengana Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus gracilis Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus gryps Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus hobartensis (Spencer, 1895).

Vesiculodrilus inornatus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus insularis (Spencer, 1895) [non *insularis* Rosa, 1891 (= *Pontodrilus litoralis*)].

Vesiculodrilus lateralis Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus lepidus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus lilliputensis Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus marian Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus maritimus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus mathinna Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus melaleuteus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus mesibovi Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus metandris Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus mortoni montis Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus mortoni mortoni (Spencer, 1895).

Vesiculodrilus narcissus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus octothecatus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus oeconomicus Blakemore, 2000b.

Vesiculodrilus parattah Blakemore, 2000b.
*Vesiculodrilus pennya*e Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus pollex Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus prospectus Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus pulchellus Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus quadruparus Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus recessus Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus santaclairis Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus symmetricus Blakemore, 2000b.
Vesiculodrilus tasmanianus (Fletcher, 1887) [sometimes misspelt "tasmanicus"].
Vesiculodrilus tunnackensis (Jamieson, 1974).
Vesiculodrilus ventralis Blakemore, 2000a.
Vesiculodrilus zeehan Blakemore, 2000b.

Amphimiximus Blakemore, 2000b.

Amphimiximus delicans Blakemore, 2000b.
Amphimiximus stumpyi Blakemore, 2000b.

Diporochaeta Beddard, 1890

(Syn. *Aporochaeta* (laps. cal.) Beddard, 1890; *Perionyx* (part.): Michaelsen; 1916;
subgen. *Diporochaeta* (part.): Michaelsen, 1923: 229; *Perionychella* (part.):
Jamieson, 1974; *Diporochaeta* (part.): Jamieson, 1976; *Terriswalkerius*: (part,
see *Perionychella*) Jamieson, 1994].

Diporochaeta aterannis Blakemore, 2000b.
Diporochaeta coccyx Blakemore, 2000b.
Diporochaeta diadema Blakemore, 2000a.
Diporochaeta gordoni Blakemore, 2000a.
Diporochaeta hellyeri (Jamieson, 1974).
*Diporochaeta ise*o Blakemore, 2000b.
Diporochaeta kershawi (Jamieson, 1974).
Diporochaeta lacustris Blakemore, 2000a.
Diporochaeta monogyna Blakemore, 2000b.
Diporochaeta montisarthuri (Jamieson, 1974).
Diporochaeta moroea (Spencer, 1895).
Diporochaeta pulvilla Blakemore, 2000b.
Diporochaeta rubertumula Blakemore, 2000a.
Diporochaeta setosa Blakemore, 2000a.
Diporochaeta soccoli Blakemore, 2000b.

Diporochaeta stronach Blakemore, 2000b.

Diporochaeta sucta Blakemore, 2000b.

Provescus Blakemore, 2000b.

Provescus crottyi Blakemore, 2000b.

***Megascolides* M'Coy**

(Syns. *Dinephrus* Spencer, 1900: 33; *Austrohoplochaetella* Jamieson, 1971; *Pseudocryptodrilus* Jamieson, 1972). [Note: under ICBN (1999: Art. 12), the genus-group name *Dinephrus* proposed by Spencer (1900) with type-species *Megascolides diaphanus* Spencer, 1900 is deemed to be available; therefore, Jamieson's *Pseudocryptodrilus* with the same designated type-species is a Junior Objective Synonym of this genus, which is itself in the synonymy of *Megascolides*].

Megascolides cataractus Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides catenastagnis Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides croesus Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides fontis Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides improbus Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides intestinalis Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides jotaylorae Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides laffani Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides maestus Blakemore, 1997.

Megascolides oppidanus Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides orthostichon (Schmarda, 1861).

Megascolides salmo Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides sanctorum Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides tener Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides tortuosus Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides umbonis Blakemore, 2000b.

Megascolides xanthus Blakemore, 2000b.

***Zacharius* Blakemore, 1997.**

Zacharius evansi (Jamieson, 1974).

Zacharius weldboroughi (Jamieson, 1974).

***Woodwardiella* Stephenson, 1925**

(Syn. *Woodwardia* Michaelsen, 1907 (Nom. preocc.); *Woodwardiella* Stephenson, 1925 (nom. nov. pro *Woodwardia*); *Pseudoperichaeta* Jamieson, 1970).

Woodwardiella tessellatus (Spencer, 1895) [Syn. *Plutellus tessellatus* : Michaelsen,

1900 (incorrect subsequent spelling of *tesselatus*)].

Woodwardiella tiki Blakemore, 2000b.

Woodwardiella vandiemensis Blakemore, 2000b.

***Perionychella* Michaelsen, 1907**

(Syn. *Perionyx* (part.): Michaelsen, 1900; *Perionychella* (part.): Jamieson, 1974; *Diporochaeta* (part.) Jamieson, 1976; *Terrisswalkeris* Jamieson, 1994: 158 (part. including type). *Perionychella* is restored, after being variously “supressed” (sic - Jamieson, 1974; 1976, although ‘Suppression’ is in fact an act of the ICBN), and Jamieson (2000: 952) incorrectly includes his own *Pseudoperichaeta* in synonym although this is more correctly placed under *Woodwardiella* by Blakemore (2000: 282), as mooted by Blakemore (1994; 2000: 200]).).

Perionychella dilwynnia (Spencer, 1895) [Syn. *obliquae* (part?) Jamieson, 1974].

Perionychella eruca Blakemore, 2000b.

Perionychella irregularis (Spencer, 1895: 53) [non *Perichaeta irregularis* Goto & Hatai, 1899 (= part of *Metaphire hilgendorfi* / *Amynthus tokioensis* species-complex sensu Blakemore, 2003)].

Perionychella lacustris (Stephenson, 1924).

Perionychella myrtea Blakemore, 2000b.

Perionychella richea (Spencer, 1895) [Syn. *Perichaeta richae* (sic lapsus): Jamieson, 1974; *Perionychella* (*Perionychella*) *hickmani* Jamieson, 1974; *Perionychella* (*Vesiculodrilus*) *obliquae* Jamieson, 1974].

Perionychella strzeleckii Blakemore, 2000b.

Perionychella variegata Blakemore, 2000a.

***Tassiedrilus* Blakemore, 2000b.**

Tassiedrilus griffithae Blakemore, 2000b.

***Hypolimnus* Blakemore, 2000a.**

(The genus *Hypolimnas* Hubner, 1816 (Nymphalidae : Lepidoptera) differs by one letter and is not a homonym although it is sometimes mispelt "Hypolimnus"; type species is *Perionychella* (*Vesiculodrilus*) *pedderensis*, later changed to *Diporochaeta pedderensis*).

Hypolimnus pedderensis (Jamieson, 1974) - EXTINCT!; see Blakemore (2000a: 18).

***Notoscolex* Fletcher, 1886.**

(Syn. *Tokea* Benham, 1904; *Pseudonotoscolex* Jamieson, 1971; *Pseudocryptodrilus* : Jamieson, 1974, 2000 (part. not type); *Oreoscolex* Jamieson, 1973; *Araucaridrilus*, Jamieson, 2000; *Plutelloides* Jamieson, 2000).

Aporodrilus dombrovskisi Blakemore, 2000a.
Aporodrilus doveri Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus enteronephricus (Jamieson, 1974).
Aporodrilus fuscus fuscus Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus fuscus violaceus Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus hartzi Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus melaleucus Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus monogynus Blakemore, 2000a.
Aporodrilus nubigenus Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus olympus Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus rubicundus Blakemore, 2000a.
Aporodrilus semisilvus Blakemore, 2000b.
Aporodrilus urethrae (Jamieson, 1974).
Aporodrilus warrai Blakemore, 2000b.

Gastrodrilus Blakemore, 2000a.

Gastrodrilus dartnalli (Jamieson, 1974).
Gastrodrilus driesseni Blakemore, 2000a.
Gastrodrilus iosem Blakemore, 2000b.
Gastrodrilus kingi Blakemore, 2000b.

Caecadrilus Blakemore, 2000b.

Caecadrilus flindersi Blakemore, 2000b.
Caecadrilus strzelecki Blakemore, 2000b.
Caecadrilus walkersi Blakemore, 2000b.

Anisochaeta Beddard, 1890.

(Syn. *Trichaeta* Spencer, 1900 [non Swinhoe, 1892]; *Spenceriella* Michaelsen, 1907 (part?); *Gemascolex* Edmonds and Jamieson, 1973; *Pericryptodrilus* Jamieson 1977; *Spenceriella (Austroscolex)* Jamieson, 1977; *Propheretima* Jamieson, 1975; *Arthuridrilus* Jamieson, 2000; *Bursadrilus* Jamieson, 2000; *Occicryptodrilus* Jamieson, 2000]. [Note: Revival by Jamieson (2000) of the genus *Trichaeta* seems trivial, unwarranted (see Michaelsen, 1907, Blakemore, 1997; 2000), and invalid as there is an objective senior homonym in the Australian (sub-)genus: *Trichaeta* Swinhoe, 1892 (Lepidoptera : Arctiidae or Syntomidae). Moreover, an informal Caribidae group called "Anisochaeta" by Jeannel (1941) (Dr David Morrison, University of Arizona, pers. comm. to RJB April, 2005) does not affect validity of *Anisochaeta* Beddard, 1890.]

Anisochaeta alba Blakemore, 2000b.

Anisochaeta andrea Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta brevis Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta burniensis (Jamieson, 1974).
Anisochaeta cethana Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta clavi Blakemore, 2000a.
Anisochata corinna Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta floris Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta greeni Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta isla Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta magna Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta martha Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta mawbanna Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta metandris Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta montisarthuri (Jamieson, 1974).
Anisochaeta portusarturi Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta proandris Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta scottsdalei Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta simpsonorum Blakemore, 1997.
Anisochaeta stumpsinensis Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta tamara Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta tasmanica (Spencer, 1895).
Anisochaeta vincula Blakemore, 2000b.
Anisochaeta zeehan Blakemore, 2000b.

Aceeca Blakemore, 2000b.

Aceeca dee Blakemore, 2000b.

Scolecoidea Blakemore, 2000b.

(Syn. *Scolecidrilus* Jamieson, 2000. This genus erected by Jamieson (2000) has same type-species as that established by in manuscript by Blakemore earlier in 1995 after reinspection of MOV types plus new material, and formally published by Blakemore (2000). However, Jamieson has mistaken the meroic nephridia as "holonephric" and the tubuloracemose prostates as "racemos" "

Scolecoidea scolecoidea (Spencer, 1895).

Hickmaniella Jamieson, 1974.

Hickmaniella classica Blakemore, 2000b.

Hickmaniella faba Blakemore, 2000b.

Hickmaniella gogi Blakemore, 1997.

Hickmaniella noda Blakemore, 2000b.

Hickmaniella opisthogaster Jamieson, 1974.

Retrovescus Blakemore, 1998.

Retrovescus capensis (Jamieson, 1974).

Retrovescus mesibovi Blakemore, 1998.

Retrovescus plomleyi Blakemore, 1998.

Retrovescus simplex Blakemore, 1998.

Anisogaster Blakemore, 2000b.

Anisogaster quini Blakemore, 2000b.

Anisogaster remora Blakemore, 2000b.

LUMBRICIDAE

#*Allolobophora chlorotica* (Savigny, 1826).

Allolobophoridella eiseni (Levinsen, 1884).

#*Aporrectodea caliginosa* (Savigny, 1826) (Syn. *turgida* Eisen, 1874).

#*Aporrectodea longa* (Ude, 1885).

#*Aporrectodea rosea* (Savigny, 1826) (Syn. see Gates, 1974; Easton, 1983: 477).

#*Aporrectodea trapezoides* (Dugès, 1828).

?#*Dendrobaena attemsi* (Michaelsen, 1902).

#*Dendrobaena hortensis* (Michaelsen, 1890).

#*Dendrodrilus rubidus rubidus* (Savigny, 1826).

?#*Dendrodrilus rubidus subrubicundus* (Eisen, 1874).

#*Dendrodrilus rubidus tenuis* (Eisen, 1874).

#*Eisenia fetida* (Savigny, 1826) (Syn. ?*andrei* Bouché, 1972; ?*nordenskioeldi* Eisen, 1879; see Blakemore, 2002).

#*Eiseniella tetraedra* (Savigny, 1826).

?#*Eophila eti* Blakemore, 2008 (possibly an exotic or, less likely a neo-endemic).

#*Lumbricus castaneus* (Savigny, 1826).

#*Lumbricus rubellus* Hoffmeister, 1843.

#*Lumbricus terrestris* Linnaeus, 1758 (Syn. *herculeum* Savigny, 1826; *agricola* Hoffmeister; *infelix* Kinberg, 1867; *americanus* Perrier, 1872; *Lumbricus studeri* Ribaucourt).

#*Octolasion cyaneum* (Savigny, 1826).

OCNERODRILIDAE

#*Ocnerodrilus occidentalis* Eisen, 1878.

?#*Eukerria saltensis* (Beddard, 1895).

ACANTHODRILIDAE sensu Blakemore, 2000
#*Microscolex dubius* (Fletcher, 1887).
#*Microscolex macquariensis* (Beddard, 1896).
#*Microscolex phosphoreus* (Dugès, 1837).
#*Rhododrilus kermadecensis* Benham, 1905 (Syn. *littoralis* Jamieson, 1974).
MEGASCOLECIDAE sensu Blakemore, 2000
#*Perionyx excavatus* Perrier, 1872.
#*Amynthus corticis* (Kinberg, 1867) (Syns. numerous - see Blakemore, 2002).
#*Anisochaeta dorsalis* (Fletcher, 1887).
#*Anisochaeta gracilis* (Fletcher, 1886) (syn. *Megascolex crateroides* Boardman, 1943);
an Australian Museum specimen (W 20797) labeled from Denison Gorge (Tas).
#*Anisochaeta sebastiana* (Blakemore, 1997).

A new genus name was unintentionally listed on website:
<http://www.anbg.gov.au/asbs/conferences/1997-adelaide/asbs-agm-1997-abstracts-systematics.html> [May, 2005] as *Atlantodrilus* gen. nov. and attributed to Blakemore (1997); as this was not a valid publication, this name has no status and can be ignored. [Two other new genera were also cited on this website but both were formally published subsequently].

Selected References

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Appendix - see file [TasWWHAworms.xls](#)

[End of Tasmanian Species Checklist. 27th May, 2005, **November, 2007**]