

Project Update: January 2016

Since September 2015, six visits of 4 days each have been carried out to the study sites. During these visits, a total of 31 species or morphospecies belonging to 15 subfamilies of Myriapoda were collected both in disturbed and natural forests. More specifically, we collected 23 species in natural forest and 22 species in disturbed forest. The disturbed forest yielded the highest abundance of species (101 individuals) followed by the natural forest (96 individuals). The most abundant species in natural forest were *Aporodesmus gabonicus*, Odontopygidae gen. sp.2, Spirostreptidae gen.sp.1, Odontopygidae gen. sp.1 and Peridontopyge gen. sp.1. In disturbed forest, *Centrobolus* sp.1, *Aporodesmus gabonicus*, Odontopygidae gen. sp.2, Odontopygidae gen. sp.1 and *Peridontopyge* sp.1 were the most abundant species. Eight species were unique to natural forest (*Lithobiomorpha* gen.sp.1, Odontopygidae gen. sp. 4, *Oxydesmus* sp.1, *Paracordyloporus* sp.1, *Paracordyloporus* sp.2, Paradoxosomatidae gen. sp.1, *Spirostreptus* sp.1 and *Urodesmus cornutus*), whilst 7 species were unique to disturbed forest: *Thrincolus* sp., *Spirostreptus cremillatus*, Spirostreptidae gen.sp.3, *Scolodesmus* sp.1, Odontopygidae gen. sp. 3, *Mesistoporea* sp.1 and *Kartinicus* sp.1. Most of the species were collected on or inside leaf litter (1-6 cm depth) and in topsoil. Further research is in progress, both in the field and in the lab.

We have produced for teaching purposes a poster (see attached file) to educate students of different universities and populations in Cameroon about the importance of the knowledge of millipedes. After a brief introduction, this poster presents data on millipede bioecology, ecological importance, traditional use and current research carried out on this poorly known animal group.