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The millipedes of Barrow Island, Western Australia (Diplopoda)

Catherine A. Car¹, Megan Short², Cuong Huynh² and Mark S. Harvey¹,³,⁴,⁵,⁶

¹ Department of Terrestrial Zoology, Western Australian Museum, Locked Bag 49, Welshpool DC, Western Australia 6986, Australia.
² Deakin University, 221 Burwood Hwy, Burwood, Victoria 3125, Australia.
³ Research Associate: Division of Invertebrate Zoology, American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street @ Central Park West, New York, New York 10024–5192, USA.
⁴ Department of Entomology, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California 94103–3009 USA.
⁵ School of Animal Biology, University of Western Australia, Crawley, Western Australia 6009, Australia.
⁶ Adjunct Professor: School of Natural Sciences, Edith Cowan University, Joondalup, Western Australia 6027, Australia.

ABSTRACT – Six species of millipedes are recorded from Barrow Island, including three species of pin-cushion millipedes of the order Polyxenida, Lophoturus madecassus (Marquet and Condé, 1950) (Lophoproctidae), Unixenus mjoebergi (Verhoeff, 1924) (Polyxenidae) and Phryssonotus novaehollandiae (Silvestri, 1923) (Synxenidae), a single species of the order Spirobolida, Speleostrophus nesiotes Hoffman, 1994 (Trigoniulidae), and two species of the order Polydesmida, Boreohesperus dubitalis Car and Harvey, 2013 (Paradoxosomatidae) and one species of the family Haplodesmidae (genus and species indet.). Lophoturus madecassus is circum-tropical in distribution, Unixenus mjoebergi and Phryssonotus novaehollandiae are found also on mainland Australia, but the other three species are endemic to the island. Speleostrophus nesiotes is a highly modified troglobiotic species, currently listed as threatened by the Western Australian government. It is unclear at present whether the haplodesmid specimen is a troglobite.

KEYWORDS: short-range endemics, biodiversity, threatened species

INTRODUCTION

Barrow Island lies ca. 55 km from the north-west coast of Western Australia at ca. 20°45’S, 115°25’E. It is the largest off-shore island in Australia, and home to many unique biotic elements and the last refuge of several mammal species that have otherwise been extirpated on the mainland by introduced carnivores. The superficial geology of the island is predominantly comprised of sedimentary deposits which have formed sandstones (Dept. of Resources, Energy and Tourism 2010) as well as large areas of limestone karst which support a unique subterranean faunal community (Humphreys 2000, 2001). Barrow Island lies within the North Coast IBRA (Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia) region (Thackway and Cresswell 1995; Environment Australia 2000) and has many biogeographical links with the neighbouring Pilbara bioregion and with the Cape Range which is situated ca. 155 km to the south-west.

Six species of millipedes have been identified from Barrow Island, based upon numerous collections made by different organisations since the 1980s. We present a synopsis of the fauna of the island. Four of the six species have been previously named, but the fifth represents a new species of Boreohesperus Shear, 1992, B. dubitalis sp. nov. and is described in a recent paper (Car and Harvey 2013). The remaining species is unidentified at present, but its presence on the island is noted here.
**MATERIAL AND METHODS**

The specimens examined for this study are lodged in the Western Australian Museum, Perth (WAM), and were examined with Leica MZ6 and MZ16A stereo microscopes. The images were generated with a Leica MZ16A automontage imaging system. To confirm the identification of *L. madecassus* (Marquet and Condé 1950) 2 specimens (from collections T104047 and T110379) were cleared in 15% potassium hydroxide, heated in a water-bath for 2 minutes at 80°C, neutralised in 20% acetic acid for 2 minutes, rinsed in distilled water and dehydrated in a series of ethanol baths prior to staining with 1% Fast Green solution to increase contrast. The head and body were separated, the body cut open with a single latero-longitudinal incision and contents removed. After rinsing in 100% ethanol, stained specimens were transferred to 100% isopropanol, then to xylene and mounted on slides with DPX synthetic resin and examined using an Olympus Vanox compound microscope. The maps were prepared with ArcGIS version 9.3. The taxonomic data and literature were partly obtained from Mesibov (2013).

**TAXONOMY**

*Subclass Penicillata* Latreille, 1831  
*Order Polyxenida* Lucas, 1840  
*Family Lophoproctidae* Silvestri, 1897  
*Genus Lophoturus* Brolemann, 1931  
*Lophoproctus* (Lophoturus) Brolemann, 1931: 303–304.  
*Oroxenus* Chamberlin, 1955: 47.  

*TYPE SPECIES*  
*Lophoproctus* (Lophoturus) *obscurus* Brolemann, 1931, by original designation.

*REMARKS*  
*Lophoturus* was originally described as a subgenus of *Lophoproctus* but was raised to genus rank by Condé and Nguyen Duy-Jacquemin (1977). The genus *Lophoturus* is found globally with 23 described species (Nguyen Duy-Jacquemin and Geoffroy 2003).
Family Polyxenidae Lucas, 1840

Unixenus Jones, 1944


Unixenus Jones, 1944: 94 (replacement name for Monoxenus Jones, 1937).

**TYPE SPECIES**

*Monoxenus padmanabhii* Jones, 1937, by monotypy.

**REMARKS**

The polyxenid genus *Unixenus* is widespread and represented by 12 species in Africa, Madagascar, India and Australia (Nguyen Duy-Jacquemin and Geoffroy 2003; Short and Huynh 2011, 2013).


*Unixenus mjoebergi* (Verhoeff, 1924)

*Monographis mjoebergi* Verhoeff, 1924: 38 [as *Monographis mjöbergi*].

**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

**Australia: Western Australia:** Barrow Island: Site 17, 20°47'38"S, 115°27'24"E, 10 individuals, post...
Winkler sac litter, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T71112); 100+ individuals, suction samples, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T71114, T71115, T129331); 8 individuals, suction sample 06, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T126121); 15 individuals, suction sample 7, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129453); 4 individuals, wet pitfalls, 24 April 2005-4 May 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129316, T129318); 8 individuals, wet pitfalls, 17-27 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129319); 5 individuals, wet pitfalls, 24–29 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129323, T129451); 5 individuals, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129328); Site 105, 20°48’08"S, 115°26’48"E, 50+ individuals, suction samples (combined), 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T71111); 50+ individuals, Winkler sac samples, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T71113); 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 17-22 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129452); 1 individual, hand sorted litter, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129314); 1 individual, Winkler sac litter, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129317); 1 individual, Cape Malouet, 20°43’03"S, 115°23’42"E, under rocks on cliff face, 5 November 1993, M.S. Harvey and J.M. Waldock (WAM T71145); Chevron Texaco camp, 20°49’43"S, 115°26’36"E, 3 individuals, suction sample, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129321); 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129322); Future administration area, 20°49’43"S, 115°27’15"E, 3 individuals, hand sorted litter 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129324); 5 individuals, Winkler sac, 7 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129327); Plot N 01a, current accommodation, 20°49’34"S, 115°26’44"E, 16 individuals, suction sample, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129296); Plot N 02, old dump, 20°47’47"S, 115°21’01"E, 1 individual, Winkler sac, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and

FIGURES 7–12 Maps showing recorded distributions of millipedes on Barrow Island: 7, Lophoturus madecassus (Marquet and Condé, 1950); 8, Unixenus mjoebergi (Verhoeff, 1924); 9, Phryssonotus novaehollandiae (Silvestri, 1923); 10, Speleostrophus nesiotes Hoffman, 1994; 11, Haplodesmidae (genus and species indet.); 12, Boreohesperus dubitalis Car and Harvey, 2013.
MILLIPEDES OF BARROW ISLAND

**Family Synxenidae Silvestri, 1923**

*Phryssonotus* Scudder, 1885

*Lophonotus* Menge, 1854: 12 (junior homonym of *Lophonotus* Stephens, 1829).

*Phryssonotus* Scudder, 1885: 731 (replacement name for *Lophonotus* Menge, 1854).

*Synxenus* Silvestri, 1900: 114 (junior synonym).

*Kubanus* Attems, 1926: 113 (junior synonym).

*Koubanus* Attems, 1928: 198 (junior synonym).

*Schindalmonotus* Attems, 1926: 113 (junior synonym).

**TYPE SPECIES**

*Lophonotus hystrix* Menge, 1854, by original designation.

**REMARKS**

The genus *Phryssonotus* is found globally with six recent and two fossil species (Nguyen Duy-Jacquemin and Geoffroy 2003). *Phryssonotus novaehollandiae* is the only Australian species.

*Phryssonotus novaehollandiae*

(Silvestri, 1923)

**Synxenus novaehollandiae** Silvestri, 1923: 14, Figure 6.


**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

Australia: Western Australia: Barrow Island: 1 individual, 10–15 February 1981, W. H. Butler (WAM T126128); **Bandicoot Bay**, 20°52'04"S, 115°20'01"E, 40+ individuals, wet pitfall, 4 November -3 December 1993, M.S. Harvey & J. M. Waldock (WAM T71103); **Cape Malouet**, 20°43'30"S, 115°22'20"E, 4 individuals, under rocks on cliff face, 5 November 1993, M.S. Harvey & J. M. Waldock (WAM T126127); **Current airport**, 20°52'01"S, 115°24'19"E, 1 individual, suction samples (combined), 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T71110); **Future administration area**, 20°47'45"S, 115°27'15"E, 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 17-22 May 2006, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129377); 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129387); **The Acacias** 20°43'45"S, 115°27'45"E, 5 individuals, litter, hand sorted, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129388); **Valley of the Giants**, 20°52'25"S, 115°25'10"E, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129399);
WAPET camp, 20°49'43"S, 115°26'40"E, 7 individuals, wet pitfall traps, 5 November -3 December 1993, M.S. Harvey & J. M. Waldock (WAM T126130); 1 km W. of Warehouse, 20°43'43"S, 115°25'56"E, 41 individuals, wet pitfall traps, 4 November -3 December 1993, M.S. Harvey & J. M. Waldock (WAM T126129); c. 3 km SW. of Town Point, site V1 (Gorgon Gas Plant Treatment site), 20°47'37"S, 115°26'27"E, 1 individual, on ground, daytime, 4 July 2008, K. Edwards and N. Gunawardene (WAM T92158); Site 17, 20°47'38"S, 115°27'24"E, 1 individual, wet pitfall traps,17–27 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129380); 2 individuals, wet pitfall traps, 24–29 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129397); 3 individuals, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129405); Site 22, 20°47'12"S, 115°27'17"E, 5 individuals, large wet pitfalls, 24–29 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T71109); 1 individual, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129395); Site 45, 20°47'18"S, 115°26'31"E, 1 individual, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129396); Site 105, 20°48'08"S, 115°26'48"E, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129378); 2 individuals, hand sorted litter, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129383); 1 individual, Winkler sac, 17 May 2005, S. Callan et al. (WAM T129384); 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 24 April 2005, K. Edward and S. Callan (WAM T129389); SW of Terminal Tanks: site AVN12, 20°46'57.4"S, 115°26'46"E, Angusta valley, 1 individual, wet pitfalls, 28 August–1 September 2004, K. Edward and L. Mould (WAM T129342); site ML1A1, 20°47'15"S, 115°27'09.4"E, Melaleuca on limestone, 1 individual, wet pitfalls, 28 August–1 September 2004, K. Edward and L. Mould (WAM T129333); 1 individual, site ML1A2, 20°47'27.6"S, 115°27'07.5"E, Melaleuca on limestone, 1 individual, wet pitfalls, 28 August–1 September 2004 K. Edward and L. Mould (WAM T129340); W of town point, site LM1A2, 20°47'25.4"S, 115°27'20.7"E, Triodia on limestone, 1 individual, wet pitfalls, 28 August–1 September 2004, K. Edward and L. Mould (WAM T129332); E of old airport, site TLN13, 20°48'04.3"S, 115°26'32.9"E, Triodia on loam, 1 individual, wet pitfalls, 28 August–1 September 2004, K. Edward and L. Mould (WAM T129341); Plot N 02, old dump, 20°47'47"S, 115°21'01"E, 6 individuals, Winkler sac,1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129351); 4 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129408); Plot N 04, barge landing, 20°43'29"S, 115°28'20"E, 6 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129410); Plot N 05, current airport, 20°51'54"S, 115°24'25"E, 4 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129415); Plot N 05a, current airport front office, 20°51'58"S, 115°24'22"E, 1 individual, nocturnal hand collecting, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129348); 3 individuals, wet pitfall trap, 25 April–1 May 2007; S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129345); Plot N 05b, current airport, helicopter hangar, 20°51'50"S, 115°24'23"E, 8 individuals, Winkler sac, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T114011); Plot N 06, storage area (old airport), 20°47'51"S, 115°25'58"E, 1 individual, wet pitfall, 1–6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T99492); 5 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129409); Plot N 06a, storage area (old airport), 20°47'34"S, 115°25'27"E, 1 individual, wet pitfall trap, 25 April–1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129336); Plot N 06b, 1 individual, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T12937); Plot N 07, base/warehouse, 20°49'04"S, 115°23'06"E, 3 individuals, suction sample, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129393); Plot N 08, terminal tanks, 20°46'45"S, 115°27'43"E, 3 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129416); Plot N 09, central processing facility, 20°47'05"S, 115°23'38"E, 1 individual, suction sample, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129398); Plot N 11, former ODE camp, 20°48'52"S, 115°22'32"E, 1 individual, wet pitfall trap, 25 April–1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129393); Plot N 12, Osprey camp, 20°49'55"S, 115°25'52"E, 1 individual, wet pitfall trap, 25 April–1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129338); 11 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129411); 1 individual, wet pitfall trap, 1–6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129414); Plot N 13, old South Camp, 20°50'32"S, 115°23'35"E, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129413); Plot N 14, old incinerator, 20°48'37"S, 115°25'37"E, 3 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129391); Plot N 16, old pipe dump, 20°47'51"S, 115°26'56"E, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129390); Plot N 18, old dump on South Rd, 20°50'29"S, 115°23'23"E, 16 individuals, wet pitfall trap, 25 April–1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129335); 1 individual, nocturnal hand collecting, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129350); 4 individuals, Winkler sac, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129343); 4 individuals, suction sample, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129400); Plot N 20, old air strip, 20°45'00"S, 115°26'51"E, 1 individual, suction sample, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T126120); 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 6 May 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129386); Plot N 23, old administration building, 20°40'09"S, 115°23'40"E, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129347); Plot N 28, near barge landing (CO2 data well site), 20°47'05"S, 115°23'38"E, 2 individuals, wet pitfall trap, 1 May 2007, S. Callan
and K. Edwards (WAM T129344); 1 individual, nocturnal hand collecting, 1 May 2007, S. Callan and K. Edwards (WAM T129346). **Gorgon Project:** Footprint plot GP1, 20°47’32”S, 115°27’26”E, coastal dunes, 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 21–25 September 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129401); Footprint plot GP3, 20°47’09”S, 115°27’26”E, floodplain, 6 individuals, Winkler sac, 25 September 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129382); Footprint plot GP3, 20°47’09”S, 115°27’26”E, floodplain, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129404); 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 10–15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129406); Footprint plot GP4, 20°47’03”S, 115°27’33”E, low limestone flats, 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 21–25 September 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129392); 7 individuals, floodplain, 15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129407); Footprint plot GP5, 20°46’59”S, 115°27’03”E, high limestone flats, 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 10–15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129394); Footprint plot GP6, 20°47’05”S, 115°26’25”E, low limestone ridge, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129394); Footprint plot GP6, 20°47’05”S, 115°26’25”E, high limestone flats, 1 individual, wet pitfall traps, 21–25 September 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129403); Footprint plot GP9, 20°47’59”S, 115°27’00”E, low limestone ridge, 4 individuals, Winkler sac, 25 September 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129379); 8 individuals, Winkler sac, 15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129412); Footprint plot GPX, 20°47’45”S, 115°26’03”E, low limestone ridge, 2 individuals, Winkler sac, 15 March 2006, S. Callan and R. Graham (WAM T129402).

**DIAGNOSIS**

*Phryssonotus novaehollandiae* can be distinguished from other species of the genus by the presence in adults of eyes with 11 ocelli and 5 frontal trichomes B on each side.

**DESCRIPTION**

See Short and Huynh (2006).

**REMARKS**

*Phryssonotus novaehollandiae* was first described as a species of *Synxenus* by Silvestri (1923) based on specimens collected from Mount Lofty, South Australia. It was redescribed by Short and Huynh (2006) who also documented its occurrence in many different regions of Australia (Short and Huynh 2009), including Barrow Island (Figures 3, 9).

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**Subclass Chilognatha Latreille, 1802**

**Order Spirobolida Cook, 1895**

**Family Trigoniulidae Attems, 1909**

**Genus Speleostrophus Hoffman, 1994**


**TYPE SPECIES**

*Speleostrophus nesiotes* Hoffman, 1994, by original designation.

**REMARKS**

The genus is represented by a single troglobiotic species endemic to the subterranean karst ecosystems of Barrow Island (Hoffman 1994).

*Speleostrophus nesiotes* Hoffman, 1994


**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

**Holotype**

Australia: Western Australia: Barrow Island: ♂, Ledge Cave (Cave B1), 20°47’48”S, 115°19’58”E, 12 September 1991, W.F. Humphreys and B. Vine (WAM T26696; original number WAM 93/2).

**Paratypes**

Australia: Western Australia: Barrow Island: 1 ♀, Ledge Cave (Cave B1), 20°47’48”S, 115°19’58”E, 5 September 1991, W.F. Humphreys and B Vine (WAM T26697; original number WAM 93/3); 1 ♂, 3 ♀, locality as for holotype, 12 December 1991, D. Goodgame (WAM T26698–T26701; original numbers WAM 93/4–93/7).

**Other material examined**

Australia: Western Australia: Barrow Island: 1 ♂, 4.0 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (B16; T1–1) vial 15, 20°47’32”S, 115°27’03”E, litter trap, 28 February–18 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66022); 1 ♀, 3.0 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (S6; T1–1) vial 201, 20°48’04”S, 115°26’44”E, litter trap, 28 February–18 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66023); 1 ♂, 1 juvenile, 1.3 km NW. of Chevron Texaco Camp (S9; T1–2) vial 62, 20°49’12”S, 115°26’04”E, litter trap, 28 February–18 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66023); 1 ♂, 1 juvenile, 1.3 km NW. of Chevron Texaco Camp (S9; T1–2) vial 62, 20°49’12”S, 115°26’04”E, litter trap, 28 February–18 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66024); 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 4 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (BH–16), 20°47’32”S, 115°27’03”E, litter trap, 4 March–19 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66025); 1 ♂, 4 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (BH–16), 20°47’32”S, 115°27’03”E, litter trap, 4 March–19 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66026); 1 ♀, 3.0 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (BH–16), 20°47’32”S, 115°27’03”E, litter trap, 4 March–19 April 2005, L. Mould and G. Humphreys (WAM T66027).
Camp (borehole S6; Trap 1–50), 20°48’04”S, 115°26’44”E, litter trap, 18 July 2006, L. Mould and K.L. Edward (WAM T76949); 1 juvenile, 1.3 km NW. of Chevron Texaco Camp (borehole S9; Trap 1-83), 20°49’12”S, 115°26’04”E, litter trap, 18 July 2006, L. Mould and K.L. Edward (WAM T76950); 1 ♀, 4.0 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (borehole B16; Trap 1-80), 20°47’32”S, 115°27’03”E, litter trap, 18 July 2006, L. Mould and K.L. Edward (WAM T76951); 1 ♀, 5.8 km N. of Chevron Texaco Camp (borehole S2; Trap 1-84), 20°47’54”S, 115°26’05”E, litter trap, 18 July 2006, L. Mould and K.L. Edward (WAM T76953); 1 ♂, Barrow Island, no other data, 20°49’12”S, 115°26’04”E, troglofauna trap, 8 m, 17 January 2010, J. Alexander (WAM T110381).

**DIAGNOSIS**

*Speleostrophus nesiotes* differs from other trigoniulids by its pallid colouration and its lack of ocelli (Figure 4).

**DESCRIPTION**


**REMARKS**

*Speleostrophus nesiotes* is restricted to subterranean karst ecosystems on Barrow Island, where it occurs on both the eastern and western side of the island. On the island, this species was collected mainly from boreholes. These are narrow vertical shafts drilled down from the earth’s surface for mining and hydrogeological exploration purposes to depths of 50–800 m underground. Many are open to the surface and unlined (connected to the surrounding substrate). Litter-filled troglofauna traps are suspended in the shafts to attract and collect subterranean fauna (Environmental Protection Authority 2003; Irwin 2007).

The highly restricted distribution of *S. nesiotes* (Figure 10) suggests it is a short-range endemic species (Harvey 2002; Harvey et al. 2011). For this reason, it is listed as threatened under the Western Australian Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.

**Order Polydesmida Pocock, 1887**

**Suborder Polydesmidea Pocock, 1887**

**Family Haplodesmidae Cook, 1895**

**REMARKS**

A single unidentified specimen of this family has been collected from Barrow Island. Due to our poor understanding of haplodesmids in Western Australia, we have been unable to assign it to any existing genus.

**Genus and species indet.**

**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

**Australia: Western Australia:** Barrow Island: 1 ♂, 20°49’12”S, 115°26’28”E, stygofauna haul net, 30 April 1994, J. Alexander (WAM T116231).

**REMARKS**

All Haplodesmidae lack eyes and most family members are less well pigmented and sclerotized than other polydesmidan families. The specimen from Barrow Island (Figure 5, 11) was found underground, lacks pigment and has relatively long legs, all troglomorphic features. Golovatch et al. (2009) comment, however, that very few haplodesmids, and only those with ‘soft integuments’, could be described as troglobites, but even their status would be uncertain. Although this specimen represents a new species, more information is needed before it can be considered a troglobite.

**Family Paradoxosomatidae Daday, 1889**

**Subfamily Australiosomatinae Brölemann, 1916**

**Genus Boreohesperus Shear, 1992**

*Boreohesperus* Shear, 1992: 778.

**TYPE SPECIES**

*Boreohesperus capensis* Shear, 1992, by original designation.

**REMARKS**

The genus *Boreohesperus* was described for a single species from Cape Range, Western Australia (Shear 1992). In a recent review of the genus (Car and Harvey 2013), a further five species were described, one endemic to Barrow Island, four from mainland Australia.

*Boreohesperus dubitalis* Car and Harvey, 2013

*Boreohesperus dubitalis* Car and Harvey, 2013: 10-13, Figures 1D, 5, 6, 9.

**MATERIAL EXAMINED**

See Car and Harvey (2013).

**REMARKS**

This species is restricted to Barrow Island where it is fairly abundant and widespread (Figures 6, 12).
DISCUSSION

The millipede fauna of Barrow Island consists of just six species. Two of the three species of pin-cushion millipedes, *Unichenus miobergi* and *Phryssonotus novaehollandiae*, are known to be found elsewhere in Australia and are not endemic to Barrow Island. They have a wide although patchy distribution under bark and in leaf litter and soil habitats (Short and Huynh 2009, 2011). The third pin-cushion millipede, *Lophoturus madecassus*, is newly recorded from Australia, but has a wide, circum-tropical distribution including Madagascar, Tonga, Cook Islands, Algeria, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Florida, and Cape Verde Islands.

There is one confirmed troglobitic species on the island, *Speleostrophus nesiotes* and a new species of *Haploidesmidae* that is probably troglobitic and also most likely represents a new genus. Both are restricted to subterranean habitats on Barrow Island.

The epigean millipede *Boreohesperus dubitalis* is also restricted to Barrow Island where it is widespread and abundant. Other species of the genus occur on adjacent areas of mainland Australia, including the Cape Range and the Pilbara bioregion (Shear 1992; Car and Harvey 2013).

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