

# AN ADDITION TO THE OHIO RECORDS OF MILLEPEDES

BLAKE B. HANAN

*Department of Zoology and Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus 10*

One hundred or more specimens of a small, barbed-haired millepede were collected on November 9, 1950, from beneath the bark of a sycamore tree adjacent to the farm campus of Ohio State University by Mr. John Knierim. On November 12, 1950, the author visited the described site and collected several dozen more specimens of the same species. This same site was collected again on May 12, 1951, when two or three dozen immature specimens were taken.

The author's tentative identification indicated that these specimens were *Polyxenus fasciculatus* Say, 1821. (The author is indebted to Dr. R. A. Hefner of Miami University for verification of his tentative identification). A complete description of the genus and American species is given by Williams and Hefner (1928), while the more interesting features of this millepede are shown in figure 1.

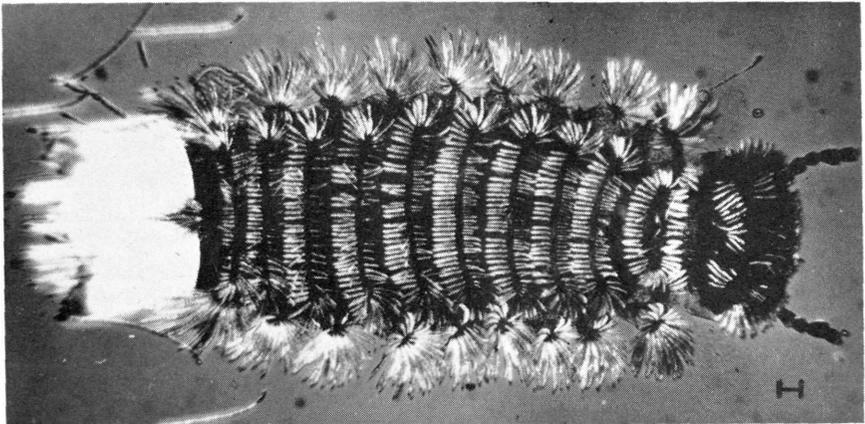


FIGURE 1. Dorsal view of a slide-mounted specimen of *Polyxenus fasciculatus* Say. Line at lower right indicates actual length.

The living individual is about one-eighth inch in length and is basically of a light tan color with many white to cream colored bristles. Contrasting sharply with this tan background are two dense, linear masses of light colored caudal bristles which show up even to the naked eye as a small white patch. This white appearance of the caudal area is a distinctive field characteristic.

Most of the colonies found by the author were about an inch in diameter and consisted of approximately one hundred individuals. The colonies were found beneath the closely adhering deciduate bark of the sycamore, and might easily have been overlooked had it not been for the numerous, white cast skins in the vicinity of each colony.

Because these collections appear to be the first of this genus and species in Ohio, and since it appears to be permanently established in this one location at least, specimens will be placed in the Department of Zoology Collection of Miami University, Oxford, and the Ohio State Museum, Columbus.

## REFERENCE

Williams, S. R., and R. A. Hefner. 1928. The Millepedes and Centipedes of Ohio. Bulletin 18, Ohio Biological Survey.

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