

# Role of millipedes (Diplopoda) as potential bioindicators of forest disturbance in the Campo Ma'an National Park, southern Cameroon

Millipedes are one of the major groups of terrestrial Arthropods involved in the breakdown of organic matter and play important roles as potential bioindicator taxa owing to their little tolerance and high sensitivity to habitat change. Despite their ecological importance, millipedes are still very poorly known and have long been neglected by conservationists and local conservation programmes.

## Bioindicators of Natural Forest (Dipikar Island)



*Spirostreptus crenulatus*



*Amblybolus* sp.2



*Scolodesmus* sp.1



*Urodesmus cornutus*

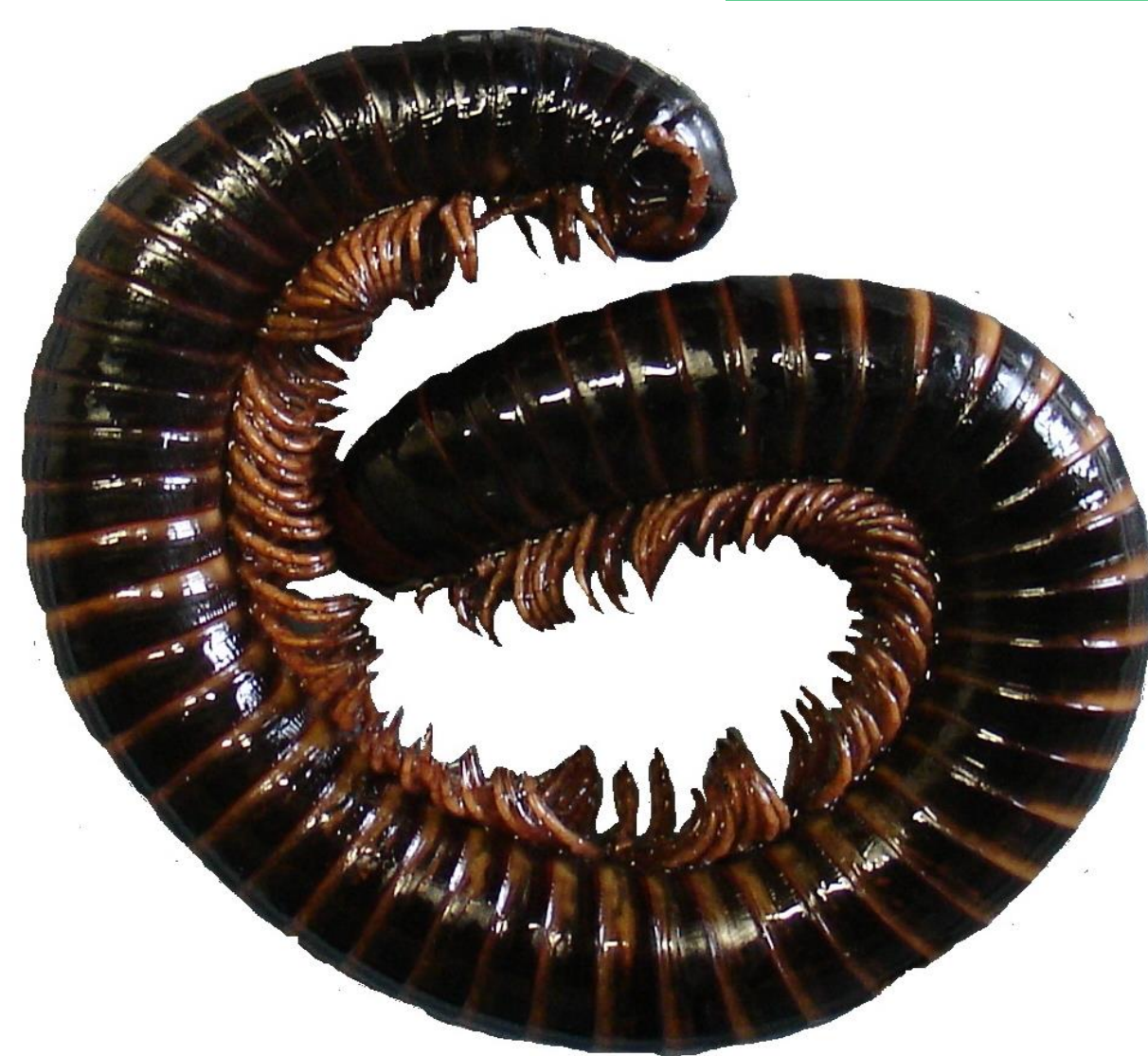


*Pelmatojulus excisus*

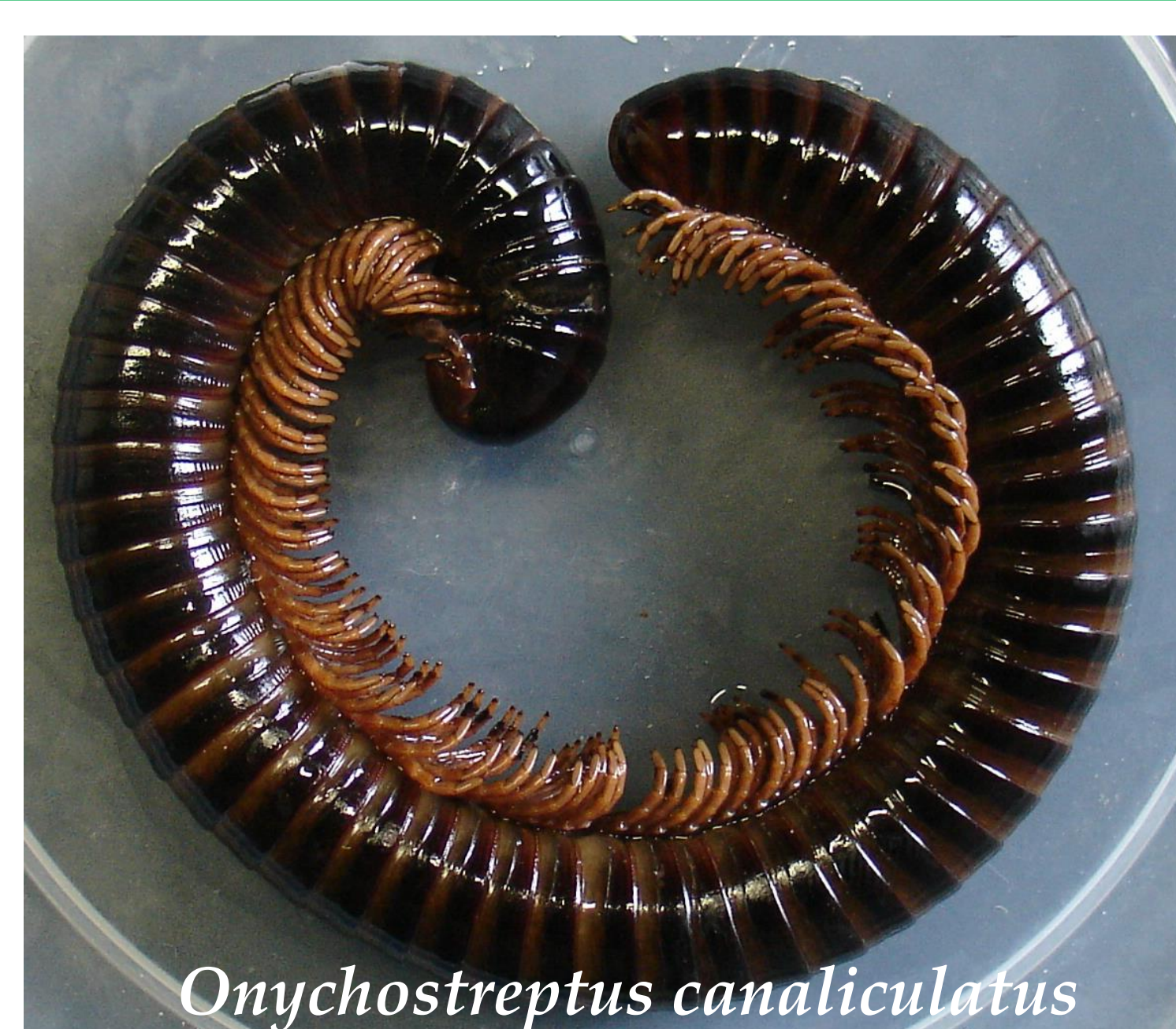


*Aporodesmus gabonicus*

## Bioindicators of Disturbed Forest (UFA 09025)



*Kartinutus colonus*



*Onychostreptus canaliculatus*



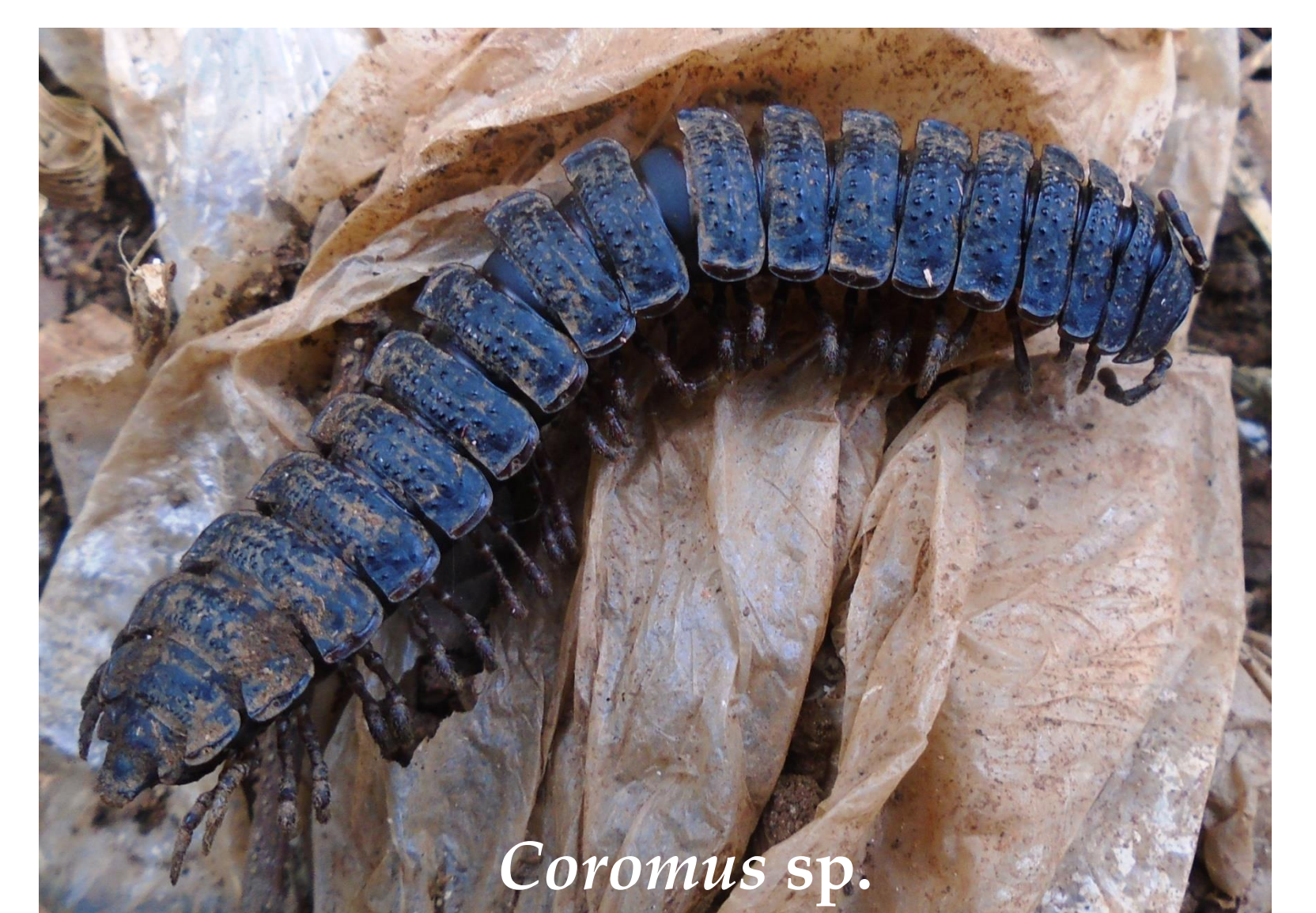
*Amblybolus* sp.1



*Scolodesmus* sp.2



*Odontopygidae* gen. sp1



*Coromus* sp.

Millipedes are considered as bioindicators taxa that prevent further disturbance of humid tropical rainforest and monitoring ecosystem health. Therefore, efforts should be made to recommend invertebrates (e.g millipedes) in biodiversity conservation programmes, as well as in IUCN Red List where they are often not assessed and listed as data deficient.

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