

A NEW SPECIES OF DIPLOPOD FROM ROMANIA:
STENOPHYLLUM TABACARUI N. SP. (DIPLOPODA, JULIDAE)

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The author describes a new species of the Genus *Stenophyllum* (Verhoeff, 1897):
Stenophyllum tabacarui.

1. INTRODUCTION

Between the 10th and 18th of May, 2002, along with our colleagues Eugen Nițu, Andrei Giurginca and Victoria Ilie, we made a field trip into the area of the Meledic Plateau and Vârghișului Keys (Covasna county). This trip provided us the opportunity to collect what proved to be a new species of *Stenophyllum* (Diplopoda, Julidae).

Stenophyllum is an endemic genus for Romania and until now three species belonging to this genus were described. Two of these species were described by Verhoeff in 1897 (*S. hermannimuelleri* and *S. primitivum*); both species were found in a little forest near the city of Brașov, under dead leaves. The third species (*S. semenicensis*), collected from Mount Semenice, was described by Traian Ceuca in 1989.

STENOPHYLLUM TABACARUI. NOVA SPECIES

Holotype: Adult male. 16. 05. 2002. Vârghișului Keys, on the rocky slope called "Also Maltetö", in a cave of 6 meters development, located at approximately 42 meters below the Urșilor Cave (Cave no. 18). Leg. L. Vănoaica.

Short description of the habitat: mixed forest (coniferous and deciduous forest). The cave is situated on a steep slope with an inclination of more than 45°, at an altitude of approximately 65 meters above the talweg.

Etymology: this species is dedicated to Dr. Ionel Tabacaru.

Body length: approximately 14 mm.

Horizontal diameter of midbody segments: 1.81 mm.

Vertical diameter of midbody segments: 1.75 mm.

Number of podous segments: 52.

Number of apodous segments: 4.

Number of legs: 101 pairs.

Body shape: cylindrical; the vertical diameter slightly larger than the horizontal one.