

## Remarks on the species *Dendrobaena jeanneli* Pop, 1948 and its proposed synonymy with *Octolasion cyaneum* (Savigny, 1826) (Oligochaeta: Lumbricidae)

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**Abstract.** The type specimen of the dubious species *Dendrobaena jeanneli* Pop, 1948 was found in the Zoological Museum, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj. An investigation of the somewhat softened and fragmented specimen allowed us to recognise its most important taxonomic characters such as the position of the clitellum and tubercles, the setal arrangement, the structure of the calciferous glands and the nephridial bladders. According to these characters this species belongs to the genus *Octolasion* Örley, 1885, and on the position of the clitellum and tubercles it is clearly identical with *O. cyaneum* (Savigny, 1826).

The earthworm species *Dendrobaena jeanneli* was described by Pop (1948) from a cave material collected by René Jeannel in Grotte du Rochefort, France. Since the first description it has not been recollected although this species' name regularly occurs in the earthworm literature. Bouché (1972) mentions this species as valid in his book on the French earthworms, also Mršić (1991) and Blakemore (2005) cite this name among the *Dendrobaena* species. The last checklist in which this species name occurs is by Qiu & Bouché (1998).

During a search for the type species of *Allolobophora dugesi* var. *getica* Pop, 1947 in the Zoological Museum of the Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj we happened to find the type specimen of *Dendrobaena jeanneli* as well. Eventhough the specimen is not well preserved, its condition enabled us to give a short redescription

### *Dendrobaena jeanneli* Pop, 1948

*Dendrobaena jeanneli* Pop, 1948: 15., Pop 1968: 244., Bouché 1972: 404., Zicsi 1982: 443., Blakemore 2005: 25., Mršić 1991: 550., Qiu & Bouché 1998: 194.

*Material examined.* *Dendrobaena jeanneli*

**Typus.** CZMB No. 589 (Grotte de la Rochefort,

Dépt. De la Mayenne, comm. De Thorigné, France. Leg. R. Jeannel, 30. XI. 1912. The specimen is softened and broken in two parts just at the clitellum.

*Diagnosis. External* – Body length cca 100 mm, diameter 3-4 mm. Colour brown (due to the preservation?), but pigmentation seems to be lacking. Head epilobous, dorsal pores cannot be found. Setae in closer pairs laterally and somewhat wider ventrally; setal arrangement after the clitellum: aa:ab:bc:cd:dd = 4.2:1.8:2:1:11 Clitellum extends on segments 29–34, saddle-shaped. Tubercles as white bands on  $\frac{1}{2}29$ – $\frac{1}{2}34$ . Male pore on 15 between setae *b*–*c*, great, usually intruding into the neighbouring segments. Nephropores not seen. *Internal* – Septa clearly seen but not tickened. Four pairs of seminal vesicles in 9–12. Spermathecae two pairs in 9/10, 10/11, open in setal lines *cd*. Calciferous glands in 10–14, with well-detached lateral diverticula in 10. Last pair of hearts in 11 and a pair of extraoesophageals in 12. Excretory system holoic. Nephridial bladders ocarina-shaped.

*Remarks.* Perhaps the darker brown colour of the specimen misled Pop (1948) in identifying its real generic placement. However, due to the shape of

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nephridial bladders and the structures of calciferous glands this species could not belong to *Dendrobaena* but to *Octolasion*. On the position of the clitellum and tubercles, this specimen is clearly identical with *O. cyaneum*, therefore *Dendrobaena jeanneli* Pop, 1948 must be regarded as synonym of *Octolasion cyaneum* (Savigny, 1826).

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