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RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Checklist of taxa of Enchytraeidae (Oligochaeta), update 2015–2025

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## Abstract

This update of previously published checklists of accepted species of Enchytraeidae lists three new genera and 106 new species of Enchytraeidae, erected and described between 2015 and 2025. Included are invalidations and revalidations of names, transfers of species to other genera, and fossile taxa. The complete census of accepted and extant taxa of Enchytraeidae yields 826 species in 34 genera. The number of species per genus is presented in tabular form.

**Keywords** Enchytraeidae | list of genera | species list | species census

## 1 Introduction

This update of previous checklists of accepted species of Enchytraeidae (Schmelz & Collado, 2012, 2015) gives a list of new genera and species described since 2015. Included are also invalidations and revalidations of names, transfers of species to other genera, fossile taxa, and previously unpublished taxonomic opinions insofar as they affect the species census. When a species name has more than two authors, only the first author is mentioned and the rest is expressed as „*et.al.*“, following Recommendation 51C of the Code (ICZN, 1999). A supplement lists the accepted species of Enchytraeidae.

## 2 New genera

*Claparedrilus* Klinth *et al.*, 2017
Type species: *Claparedrilus semifuscoides* Klinth *et al.*, 2017

*Decimodrilus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al.*, 2019
Type species: *Decimodrilus diverticulatus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al.*, 2019

*Paralumbricillus* Klinth & Rota, 2024
(in Klinth *et al.*, 2024)
Type species: *Enchytraeus arenarius* Michaelsen, 1889a

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## 3 Revalidated and invalidated genus names

*Cognettia* Nielsen & Christensen, 1959, revalidated (ICZN, 2018)
*Chamaedrilus* Friend, 1913, invalidated (ICZN, 2018)

**Remark.** *Cognettia* Nielsen & Christensen, 1959 was given „conditional precedence" over *Chamaedrilus* Friend, 1913 by the International Commission on Nomenclature, Opinion 243 (ICZN, 2018). Schmelz *et al.* (2015) had proposed an application towards ICZN to conserve the name *Cognettia*, because it had been replaced by the older but long-forgotten *Chamaedrilus* (Martinsson *et al.* 2015). „Conditional precedence" means here that whenever the type species of both genera are placed in the same genus, the correct name of this genus is to be *Cognettia*, and not *Chamaedrilus*, even though *Chamaedrilus* is the older name. The two type species in question are *Chamaedrilus chlorophilus* Friend, 1913 and *Pachydrilus sphagnetorum* Vejdovský, 1878. They are very close morphologically and genetically (Martinsson *et al*., 2014, 2015) — actually they were considered one and the same species before the works of Martinsson and co-authors — therefore a ‚resurrection' of *Chamaedrilus* is extremely unlikely though not impossible. Species of this genus described in the period from 2015 to 2018 were published using the generic name of *Chamaedrilus.*

Apart from *Chamaedrilus*, the proposal included *Euenchytraeus* Bretscher, 1906, to avoid replacement of *Cognettia* by this genus name as well. Species of these genera are morphologically similar, and the genera are phylogenetically close to each other (Martinsson *et al.,* 2017).

## 4 New species

*Achaeta florens* Schmelz *et al*., 2024
*Achaeta gemmata* Schmelz *et al.,* 2024
*Achaeta koreana* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018
*Achaeta macroampullacea* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018
*Achaeta multisacculata* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2019a
*Achaeta tothi* Dózsa-Farkas & Felföldi, 2017a

*Bryodrilus hallasanensis* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018

*Cernosvitoviella buekkhati* Dózsa-Farkas, 2015b
*Cernosvitoviella farkasi* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2017

*Claparedrilus semifuscoides* Klinth *et al*., 2017
*Claparedrilus torquatus* Klinth & Rota, 2024

*Cognettia asloae* (Martinsson et al. 2018)
*Cognettia baekrokdamensis* (Dózsa-Farkas et al. 2018)
*Cognettia koreana* Felföldi et al. 2020
*Cognettia ozensis* (Torii, 2015)

*Decimodrilus bulbosus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2022
*Decimodrilus diverticulatus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2019c
*Decimodrilus globulatus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2019c

*Enchytraeus adrianensis* Nagy *et al*. 2023
*Enchytraeus albellus* Klinth *et al.,* 2019 (in Erséus *et al.* 2019)
*Enchytraeus andrasi* Nagy *et al*., 2023
*Enchytraeus andrasiformis* Nagy *et al*., 2023
*Enchytraeus demutatus* Schmelz *et al*., 2019
*Enchytraeus ohtakai* Torii, 2023
*Enchytraeus polatdemiri* Arslan & Timm, 2018

*Enchytronia holochaeta* Dózsa-Farkas, 2019
*Enchytronia pygmaea* Graefe & Schmelz, 2017
*Enchytronia seongpanakiensis* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018

*Fridericia alpica* Dózsa-Farkas & Felföldi, 2018
*Fridericia baradlana* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2019b
*Fridericia connatiformis* Dózsa-Farkas, 2015b
*Fridericia cusanicaformis* Dózsa-Farkas, 2015a
*Fridericia floriformis* Dózsa-Farkas, 2019a
*Fridericia gongalskyi* Degtyarev, 2023
*Fridericia granulocyta* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2015a
*Fridericia granulocytoides* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2025
*Fridericia jeoksangsaniensis* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2022
*Fridericia korobushkini* Degtyarev, 2025
*Fridericia longiducta* Dózsa-Farkas, 2015b
*Fridericia phaeostriata* Dózsa-Farkas, 2015b
*Fridericia raxiensis* Dózsa-Farkas & Felföldi, 2018
*Fridericia samurai* Degtyarev, 2022
*Fridericia spelaeophila* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2019b
*Fridericia sphaeric*a Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2015a
*Fridericia sphaericoides* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2022
*Fridericia szoevenyii* Dózsa-Farkas & Felföldi, 2017b
*Fridericia ventrochaetosa* Nagy *et al*., 2018
*Fridericia zicsii* Dózsa-Farkas & Felföldi, 2016

*Grania bekkouchei* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania brasiliensis* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania capensis* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania carolinensis* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania chilensis* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania cryptica* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania hinojosai* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania simonae* Prantoni *et al*., 2016
*Grania unitheca* Prantoni *et al*., 2016

*Hemienchytraeus tenuiculus* Chen *et al*., 2022
*Hemienchytraeus wuhanensis* Chen *et al*., 2021

*Henlea bidiverticulata* Felföldi *et al*., 2020
*Henlea magnaampullacea* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2015a
*Henlea petushkovi* Rota *et al*., 2018
*Henlea rodionovae* Rota *et al.,* 2018

*Lumbricillus bibulbus* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al.* 2024)
*Lumbricillus boreas* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al.* 2024)
*Lumbricillus elisae* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al.* 2024)
*Lumbricillus finisafricae* Klinth *et al*., 2021
*Lumbricillus latithecatus* Klinth *et al*., 2017
*Lumbricillus nivalis* Klinth *et al*., 2021
*Lumbricillus scandicus* Klinth *et al*., 2017
*Lumbricillus sejongensis* Lee *et al*., 2019

*Marionina fusca* Klinth *et al*., 2021
*Marionina orbifera* Felföldi *et al*., 2024
*Marionina puntaalensis* Felföldi *et al*., 2024
*Marionina reicharti* Felföldi *et al*., 2024
*Marionina sambugarae* Schmelz, 2015 (in Martin *et al.* 2015)

*Mesenchytraeus calyx* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2015a
*Mesenchytraeus digitalisdiverticulus* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus duodiverticulus* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus fokulen* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus globiferus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2022
*Mesenchytraeus infradiverticulus* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus jeombongensis* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2025
*Mesenchytraeus jungsaihoi* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018
*Mesenchytraeus laojunensis* Chen *et al*., 2016
*Mesenchytraeus liberothecus* Zhang *et al*., 2018
*Mesenchytraeus longidiverticulatus* Felföldi *et al*., 2020
*Mesenchytraeus manchu* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus ngulen* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus nivalis* Torii, 2015
*Mesenchytraeus parvidiverticulus* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus racemosus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2025
*Mesenchytraeus rijina* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus similiduodiverticulus* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus similigigachaetus* Chen *et al*., 2024
*Mesenchytraeus spermatoglomeratus* Zhang *et al*., 2018
*Mesenchytraeus tschukotensis* Dózsa-Farkas, 2025
*Mesenchytraeus zhenggulen* Chen *et al*., 2024

*Paralumbricillus bicornis* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al*. 2024)
*Paralumbricillus bilobatus* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al*. 2024)
*Paralumbricillus lofotensis* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al*. 2024)
*Paralumbricillus sanguineus* Klinth & Rota, 2024 (in Klinth *et al*. 2024)

*Xetadrilus aphanoides* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018
*Xetadrilus jejuensis* Dózsa-Farkas *et al*., 2018
*Xetadrilus prolixglandus* Chen *et al*., 2022

## 5 Revalidated species

*Enchytraeus moebii* (Michaelsen, 1885)
Invalidated in Michaelsen (1900) as junior synonym of *Enchytraeus albidus* Henle, 1837, revalidated in Erséus *et al*. (2019).

*Enchytraeus sabulosus* Southern, 1906
Tentatively syonymized with *E. albidus* by Nielsen & Christensen (1959), omitted in Schmelz & Collado (2012), considered as valid in Erséus *et al.* (2019).

*Fridericia paranemoralis* Dózsa-Farkas, 1982
Invalidated in Schmelz (2003) as „nomen dubium“, revalidated in Dózsa-Farkas (2019).

*Lumbricillus rubidus* Finogenova & Streltsov, 1978
Invalidated in Koßmagk-Stephan (1985) and Coates (1989) as junior synonym of *L. enteromorphae* von Bülow, 1957, revalidated in Klinth *et al*. (2024).

*Lumbricillus verrucosus* Claparède, 1861
Invalidated in Nielsen & Christensen (1959) as junior synonym of *Lumbricillus lineatus* Müller, 1774, revalidated in Klinth *et al*. (2017).

*Lumbricillus cervisiae* Koßmagk-Stephan, 1983
Invalidated in Koßmagk-Stephan (1985) and Coates (1989), revalidated in Klinth *et al.* (2017), now in *Paralumbricillus*, see below.

*Lumbricillus christenseni* Tynen, 1966
Invalidated in Koßmagk-Stephan (1985) and Coates (1989), revalidated in Klinth *et al.* (2017), now in *Paralumbricillus*, see below.

## 6 Species transferred to other genera

*Claparedrilus semifuscus* (Claparède, 1861)
ex: *Lumbricillus* (Klinth *et al.* 2017)

*Marionina aestuum* Stephenson, 1932
Transferred to *Lumbricillus* in Nielsen & Christensen (1959), re-combined with *Marionina* in Klinth *et al.* (2021).

*Paralumbricillus arenarius* (Michaelsen, 1889a)
*Paralumbricillus cervisiae* (Koßmagk-Stephan, 1983)
*Paralumbricillus christenseni* (Tynen, 1966)
*Paralumbricillus crymodes* (Stephenson, 1922)
*Paralumbricillus dubius* (Stephenson, 1911)
*Paralumbricillus eltoni* (Stephenson, 1924)
*Paralumbricillus eudioptus* (von Bülow, 1955)
*Paralumbricillus muscicola* (Stephenson, 1924)
*Paralumbricillus nielseni* (Nurminen, 1965)
*Paralumbricillus westheidei* (Koßmagk-Stephan, 1983)

**Remark.** All species of *Paralumbricillus* listed in this section were removed from *Lumbricillus* in Klinth *et al*. (2024). *P. westheidei* had also been placed previously in *Randidrilus* (Coates, 1989). The specific epithet „*muscicola*" restores the original spelling. Klinth *et al.* (2024) use „*muscicolus"*, following Nielsen & Christensen (1959), but „*muscicola*" is an undeclinable noun in apposition, therefore the original spelling prevails (see ICZN 1999, Art. 31.2.2). The pertinent hint of an anonymous referee is kindly acknowledged.

## 7 Taxonomic comments

The following comments are new (i.e. previously unpublished) taxonomic opinions; they affect the species census.

*Cernosvitoviella microtheca* Rota & Healy, 1999. The inclusion of *C. microtheca* in *C. atrata* in Schmelz & Collado (2010) was based on an erroneous assumption of high character variability in *C. atrata*, see Dózsa-Farkas (2019) for a redescription of *C. atrata*. *C. microtheca* is considered as a valid species here.

*Fridericia digitata* Cognetti, 1901 and *Fridericia glandulosa* Southern, 1907. Both names were listed as junior synonyms of *Fridericia galba* (Hoffmeister, 1843) in Schmelz (2003). *F. digitata* was later treated as valid in Erséus *et al*. (2010), and *F. glandulosa* was considered as valid in Rota *et al*. (2003) and Toschki *et al*. (2021). *F. galba* is a heterogeneous group of species with inconclusive character variation, but the inclusion of *F. digitata* and *F. glandulosa* into this group was unjustified, because they do have diagnostic characters that separate them from the rest of the *F. galba*-group. They are considered as valid species here. Redescriptions are in preparation.

## 8 Fossile taxa

*Palaeoenchytraeus* Poinar, 2017
*Palaeoenchytraeus dominicanus* Poinar, 2017
*Palaeoenchytraeus sepultus* (Menge, 1866)

**Remarks.** The genus was erected for worms considered to be enchytraeids and found in fossile amber of the Dominican Republic (*P. dominicanus*) and the Baltic region (*P. sepultus*). The genus is conceived as a „collective group", which means that fixation of a type species is not necessary (ICZN, Art. 42.3.1) (Poinar 2017). The two species are understood as collective taxa as well. According to Michaelsen (1935: 86), *Enchytraeus sepultus* is certainly an oligochaete and possibly an enchytraeid. The species was transferred to *Palaeoenchytraeus* by Poinar (2017).

## 9 Species numbers

This update lists 106 new species of Enchytraeidae and three new genera, plus one new fossile genus and species, respectively, described and erected from 2015 to 2025. The numbers of extant (= non-fossile) species and subspecies in the accepted genera are given in Table 1. Species-richest is *Fridericia* (134 species) followed by *Marionina* (102 species) and *Mesenchytraeus* (101 species). Eight genera are monotypic.

The updated species census yields 826 accepted and extant species taxa of enchytraeids, 836 when the subspecies are included (Supplement). It includes data of Schmelz & Collado (2015) and a revision of the list in Schmelz & Collado (2012). In the latter, species marked as controversial were not counted except the ones reconsidered above in „Taxonomic comments". Also a few errors had to be corrected. For example, *Henlea groenlandica* Černosvitov, 1929 had been omitted inadvertently in Schmelz & Collado (2012), as well as *Marionina aporus* (Stephenson, 1925); the latter error was detected by Degtyarev *et al*. (2020). Other species were excluded: For example, *Enchytraeus lieefdeensis* Stephenson, 1924, listed as valid in Schmelz & Collado (2012), had been synonymized with *E. kincaidi* in Birkemoe & Dózsa-Farkas (1994). Also *Lumbricillus imakus* Nurminen, 1970, listed as valid in Schmelz &

**Table 1.** Current numbers of extant and accepted species in the genera of Enchytraeidae. Numbers in brackets: additional subspecies (nomino-typical subspecies not counted).

| Genus name, author(s) and year | Number of accepted species |
|---|---|
| *Achaeta* Vejdovský, 1878 | 50 |
| *Aspidodrilus* Baylis, 1914 | 1 |
| *Barbidrilus* Loden & Locy, 1980 | 1 |
| *Bryodrilus* Ude, 1892 | 17 |
| *Buchholzia* Michaelsen, 1886 | 5 |
| *Cernosvitoviella* Nielsen & Christensen, 1959 | 23 |
| *Christensenidrilus* Dózsa-Farkas & Convey, 1998 | 1 |
| *Claparedrilus* Klinth *et al.*, 2017 | 3 |
| *Cognettia* Nielsen & Christensen, 1959 | 21 |
| *Decimodrilus* Dózsa-Farkas *et al.*, 2019 | 3 |
| *Enchylea* Nielsen & Christensen, 1963 | 1 |
| *Enchytraeina* von Bülow, 1957 | 1 |
| *Enchytraeus* Henle, 1837 | 53 |
| *Enchytronia* Nielsen & Christensen, 1959 | 12 |
| *Euenchytraeus* Bretscher, 1906 | 3 |
| *Fridericia* Michaelsen, 1889b | 134 (+2) |
| *Globulidrilus* Christensen & Dózsa-Farkas, 2012 | 2 |
| *Grania* Southern, 1913 | 81 |
| *Guaranidrilus* Černosvitov, 1937 | 18 |
| *Hemienchytraeus* Černosvitov, 1934b | 26 |
| *Hemifridericia* Nielsen & Christensen, 1959 | 3 |
| *Henlea* Michaelsen, 1889b | 43 (+1) |
| *Lumbricillus* Ørsted, 1844 | 80 (+3) |
| *Marionina* Michaelsen (in Pfeffer), 1890 | 102 |
| *Mesenchytraeus* Eisen, 1878 | 101 (+4) |
| *Oconnorella* Rota, 1995 | 6 |
| *Paralumbricillus* Klinth & Rota, 2024 | 14 |
| *Pelmatodrilus* Moore, 1943 | 1 |
| *Randidrilus* Coates & Erséus, 1985 | 2 |
| *Sinenchytraeus* Liang & Hsü, 1979 | 1 |
| *Stephensoniella* Černosvitov, 1934a | 3 |
| *Stercutus* Michaelsen, 1888 | 1 |
| *Tupidrilus* Righi, 1974 | 4 |
| *Xetadrilus* Schmelz *et al.*, 2011 | 9 |

Collado (2012), had been declared previously as a junior synonym of *L. viridis* (Koßmagk-Stephan, 1985). This species is not considered here, even though it appears in one of the species lists of *Lumbricillus* groups in Klinth *et al.* (2017). A certain level of taxonomic uncertainty cannot be avoided and may lead to slight changes of numbers, depending on the author. In order to make this census transparent, the species and subspecies taxa considered here as accepted are listed in a supplement, together with their original references.

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## Supplementary Online Material

**Supplement**. List of accepted species and subspecies taxa of Enchytraeidae: https://doi.org/10.25674/507.

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