



## ISOPODS IN A CHANGING WORLD

EDITED BY

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*Mesoniscus graniger* (Frivaldszky, 1865)

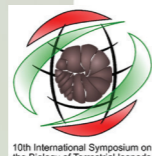
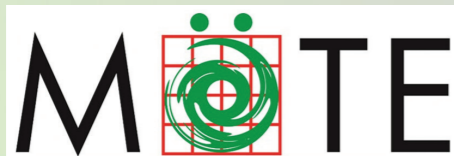
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Terrestrial isopods (Oniscidea) are the most successful crustacean colonizers of land habitats. From an evolutionary point of view, they are excellent examples for morphological, physiological adaptation to terrestrial life. Functionally as surface dwelling, epigeic invertebrates play an important role in decomposition processes, making a significant contribution to nutrient cycling and bioturbation, that is they are key system regulators in soil ecosystem services. Isopods are relevant models also in soil ecotoxicology, both in laboratory toxicity tests, in field monitoring and bioindication studies.

Isopodological research nowadays includes studies on ecology, behavior, nutritional biology, anatomy, functional morphology, neurology, physiology, biogeography, systematics, and phylogenetic analyses based on morphological and molecular data. These topics are included in the present volume, the Proceedings of the 10th International Symposium on Terrestrial Isopods Biology, held in Budapest, Hungary in 2017. The meeting was hosted by the University of Veterinary Medicine (UVM) and by the Hungarian Natural History Museum. The main organisation activity was undertaken by the Hungarian Biological Society.

The title of the present Special Issue of ZooKeys, 'Isopods in a Changing World', reflects the growing interest of the science community and public in the potential responses of biota, including isopods, to the global environmental change. Woodlice species are very diverse not only in their appearance but also in their ecological needs. Their ecological character is reflected in geographical, regional, and within habitat presence and distribution. As they have low dispersion abilities, due to their environmental tolerance, they are useful indicator organisms for habitat quality. Their presence, abundance and morphological traits reflect abiotic environmental conditions in a wide range from natural conditions to human disturbance.



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