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VAST MIGRATING ARMIES OF THE MILLIPEDE, *PSEUDO-POLYDESMUS SERRATUS* (SAY) IN THE DAYTON REGION.<sup>1</sup>

During late June of the summers of 1963 and 1964 several localities a few miles north of Dayton, Ohio have displayed the unusual sight and behavior of mass migration movements of both mature and immature forms of the millipede, *Pseudopolydesmus serratus* (Say).

The author has investigated four such phenomena and a fifth was reported. In each case the conditions and circumstances were quite similar. Residences which were overrun border upon low, moist, scrubby woods or thickets through which a small ditch or stream runs. The woodland areas contain considerable fallen, dead wood and it is these areas that appear to be the source of the migrating hordes. Movement takes place at night and a number of lawns revealed extensive masses of these myriapods, the maximum density reaching approximately eight hundred per square meter. They attempt to seek concealment during the day. The animals have been a source of aggravation and alarm to a number of property owners.

Such a phenomenon has been known to occur, though uncommonly, among millipedes. Many aspects of the behavior appear to be unexplained though there is probably an association with a period of extremely favorable conditions resulting in an abnormally high reproductive output, an evidence of which was the approximate adult-immature ratio of one to seven.—J. M. RAMSEY, *Department of Biology, University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio.*

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