



## A synopsis of catalogs and checklists of harvestmen (Arachnida, Opiliones)

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### Abstract

An annotated synopsis is presented of the publications which offer species checklists and catalogs of the arachnid order Opiliones. Catalogs and checklists are included if they cover both (1) a suprafamilial group and (2) a country, continental or zoogeographical region. Standardized information is given on the number of species treated and the taxonomic and geographic scope. A total of 100 catalog works (7 of which are online only) are listed. They record from 4 to 6125 species, and they are classified into 3 categories: (1) manuals, which contain diagnoses and keys, (2) catalogs, which contain nomenclatural acts and synonymic literature headings and (3) checklists, which contain only a species list. Finally, a synopsis of key systematic works for each area in each zoogeographical region is given, and a species count is provided for all zoogeographical regions of the world.

**Key words:** Harvestmen, Europe, North America, South America, Asia, Africa

### Introduction

Summarizing what is known of a given taxon for a given area, gathered from scattered data in the literature, seems to be the best way to enhance respective knowledge. Regional lists of species are very common and make a substantial part of the taxonomic literature, and although there are numerous lists dealing with Opiliones or its subgroups, there is to date no publication that gives an overview of them.

The last monographic worldwide treatment of the species of Opiliones was by Roewer (1923), and there is also a worldwide species checklist of Opiliones on the web (Hallan 2005). Likewise, many local efforts exist in the literature dealing with major or minor subsections of the order on a continental or worldwide scale or listing all Opiliones of a country. The present work aims to summarize all these data into synoptic tables, and an annotated list is provided of all lists dealing with Opiliones or each of the 4 suborders from a given region, at least at the country level.

### Methods

The criteria for a paper to be included in the present compilation are that it deals with (1) a suprafamilial or larger group and (2) a country, continent or zoogeographical region. Inclusion here requires both. For example, a review of the Mitobatinae would not appear here because it fails to comply with 1; a list of the Opiliones of Yellowstone National Park or Eupnoi of South Dakota fails to comply with 2. Laniatores of Malaysia would satisfy 1 and 2. There are some works which lie in a gray zone: (a) both books by González-Sponga (1987 and 1992) fail condition 1 but satisfy condition 2, because together they treat only some selected families, excluding, for example, Stygnidae and Manaosbiidae, in Venezuela; (b) Staręga's (1984) catalog of Afrotropical Phalangiidae, because this family constitutes the bulk (but not all) of Eupnoi in this region (leaving aside the Caddidae and Neopilionidae, which would appear later in Staręga 1992); (c) Roewer's work on Gagrellinae (1953), which is similar to Staręga (1984), but for the Neotropics; (d) Benavides & Giribet (2007), because although it nominally treats only one family of Cyphophthalmi, this is virtually the only family that occurs in South America (excepted for two species of Pettali-

dae from Chile), so it is ultimately a catalog of South American Cyphophthalmi. Farzaliyeva & Eshyunin (1999) and Chevrizov (1980) also are wider treatments, but fail to encompass a whole country. Some of these works are included in the Tables, while others are only mentioned in their accompanying text.

For each country I have included the most recent checklist available and what I could compile of older ones (although the latter is not exhaustive). Internet lists that are mere repetitions of published works are not included. Dating of websites has two conventions: (1) a tilde has been used for websites which were established in a given year, but which have undergone updates, without definite versions/dates. For example, Giribet (2002~) was created in 2002, but is going through constant updating until today, and (2) where the content of the page refers to a specific version with number and/or date, only the last accessed version is cited. For example, Martens (2004) is cited as such because there were no smaller gradual updates, but whole versions that replaced the older. Regarding sites for which this information is unknown, I put only the date of my first access.

An overall view is given in Tables 1–15, featuring:

- (1) Reference.—a citation, for which detailed information can be found in the References section.
- (2) Taxon. —the taxonomic span of the considered work, usually referring to the whole order or to one of the sub-orders.
- (3) Region.—the geographic scope of the considered work, with details on the areas included or excluded (see remarks below).
- (4) Comment. —a categorization of the nature of the list and the number of species it lists (see remarks below).

**Remarks on species vs. subspecies.** For convenient use, the subspecies are here conventionally counted as full species; the count thus is of morphs, rather than species. Occasionally, when this information is available, the number of species listed in each is indicated by “spp” and subspecies by “sspp”. The concept of subspecies has been used very loosely in Opiliones taxonomy. It originally referred to 2 or more groups of allopatric populations with a potential hybridization fringe in the zone of contact. Under such a definition it is impossible to recognize subspecies, since such detailed information on areas of distribution is not usually available, especially for species/subspecies known from only 1 or 2 specimens, the general rule in harvestmen. In the literature, sometimes subspecies are listed separately, sometimes not. See for example the internet list of the European fauna by Martens (2004), where the “display species” button takes us to a list of “(sub)species”, conflating all together in the same list. Another problem in counting species vs. subspecies is when a morph is counted twice as a species and subspecies, for example Winiarska (2008) acknowledges a total of “36 species” for Poland, but in the section of *Ischyropsalididae* he puts “2 species (1 subspecies)” listing separately *Ischyropsalis hellwigi* (Panzer, 1794) and *Ischyropsalis hellwigi hellwigi* (Panzer, 1794), but counting them in the total account as only one.

**Remarks on the nature of the lists.** Species lists in the literature fall basically into three categories of works which are used here:

- a) *Manual*. Contains descriptions and/or identification keys, diagnoses, illustrations, list of new material examined.
- b) *Catalog*. A systematic arrangement with synonymy, literature, indication of nomenclatural acts, records.
- c) *Checklist*. Provides a bare list of species names, which may be annotated, commented or otherwise further detailed.

**Remarks on the geographic areas used here.** For clarity, the world is divided into the 6 traditional zoogeographic regions, which are covered in each Table 2 to 15. Only the Palearctic is further subdivided, due to the sheer bulk both of its area and literature. For convenience, the following countries/areas are assigned to only one zoogeographic region, although each of these has faunal elements of two different such regions: Arabian Peninsula (Palearctic over Afrotropical), Japan (Palearctic over Indo-Malayan), Mexico (Nearctic over Neotropical), Nepal (Indo-Malayan over Palearctic) and China (Palearctic over Indo-Malayan). It would not be practical to try defining which parts of each of these areas belong to which zoogeographic regions, because checklists in the literature are typically politically oriented instead, and we would have to consider the fluid administrative divisions of countries. For example, Southeastern China clearly has Indo-Malayan affinities (Epedanidae, Gagrellinae), while the rest is Palearctic (Opilioninae, Sabaconidae), but there is no such paper as “a checklist of the Palearctic part of China” in the literature.

A summary of the countries included in the world zoogeographical regions is as follows:

Afrotropical (Table 2): Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Réunion, Rwanda, Saint Helena, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Paleartic region 1—Northern Africa (Table 3): Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia and Western Sahara.

Paleartic region 2—Southern Europe (Table 4): Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia and Spain.

Paleartic region 3—Western Europe (Table 5): Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands and Switzerland.

Paleartic region 4—Northern Europe (Table 6): Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Paleartic region 5—Central Europe (Table 7): Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Poland and Slovakia.

Paleartic region 6—Eastern Europe (Table 8): Belarus, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, Russia (European part) and Ukraine.

Paleartic region 7—Southwest Asia (Table 9): Anatolian Peninsula [Turkey], Arabian Peninsula [Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen], Caucasia [Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia], Levant [Gaza Strip, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Sinai (eastern Egypt), Syria, West Bank], and Mesopotamia [Iraq].

Paleartic region 8—Central Asia (Table 10): Afghanistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Paleartic region 9—Northern Asia (Table 11): Russia (Asiatic part).

Paleartic region 10—East Asia (Table 12): People's Republic of China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, Mongolia, Republic of China (Taiwan).

Indo-Malaya (Table 13): Indian subcontinent [Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tibet], Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.

Australasian region (Table 14): Australia, French Southern and Antarctic Lands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Melanesia [Bismarck, Fiji, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu], Micronesia [Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Northern Marianas, Palau] and Polynesia [American Samoa, Cook Islands, Easter Island, French Polynesia, Hawaiian Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu].

Neotropical (Table 15): Central America [Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama], South America [Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela] and West Indies/Caribbean [Bahamas, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, Florida Keys, Haiti, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Puerto Rico, Tortuga island, U.S. Virgin Islands, Windward Islands].

Nearctic (Table 16): Canada, Mexico, U.S.A.

## Results

In Section 1 the most comprehensive catalog works are listed, and in Sections 2-15 are listed the regional catalogs. As expected, European countries are much better covered than the rest of the world. Asia and Pacific Islands are mostly uncovered. A summary of the current status of information for each region is also given.

### Worldwide or continental (Table 1)

Roewer (1923) is the classic reference on Opiliones in German (actually the text itself contains so many abbreviations, it is a kind of new, artificial language). Roewer compiled information on all species known at the time, re-describing most of them and organizing the species in larger groups; the work contains a great number of original

illustrations, and keys. Despite being almost 90 years old, it is still usable as the most comprehensive species manual on a worldwide scale. Roewer published numerous supplements to this manual during at least 30 years. These supplements deal with taxa and not regions, and are not listed here.

Crawford (1992) wrote a very good catalog of the world Phalangioidea, which comprises the bulk of Eupnoi. Unfortunately, the catalog is limited only to the type species of each genus.

Giribet (2000) is a follow-up of the Rosas Costa (1950) catalog of the suborder Cyphophthalmi, followed by subsequent publications that contribute to an online checklist of this suborder (Giribet 2002~). The work includes a fine historical introduction to the group and distribution maps.

Kury (2003) deals with the scattered literature of the New World Laniatores, which includes around 40% of all Opiliones species. Some taxonomic changes are introduced, including a new family and a new subfamily. Multiple checklists of species by country or province are given at the end.

European faunal lists are in Tables 4 through 8. A total of 353 species of Opiliones have been recorded from Europe (Martens 2004).

**TABLE 1.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones on a supracontinental level.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Roewer (1923)	Opiliones	Worldwide	manual, 1615 spp.
Hallan (2005)	Opiliones	Worldwide	checklist, 6125 spp.
Rosas Costa (1950)	Cyphophthalmi	Worldwide	catalog, 59 spp.
Giribet (2000)	Cyphophthalmi	Worldwide	catalog, 113 spp.
Crawford (1992)	Eupnoi (part. only) Phalangioidea	Worldwide	catalog, only down to genera and their type species, 283 spp.
Kury (2003)	Laniatores	New World	catalog, 2372 spp.

### Afrotropical (Table 2)

Major descriptive works for Afrotropical Opiliones in the mid-20th century have been made by Roewer and Lawrence in a number of partly substantial papers. The only published manuals are those of Madagascar and South Africa. Staręga's (1984; 1992) catalogs cover all Sub-Saharan Africa and provide a very good approximation of the *status quo*, for recent publications on the area are scarce. Staręga's 1992 catalog provided formal descriptions for many formerly unavailable genera described by Roewer and Lawrence. There are still 10 countries of Sub-Saharan Africa without a single record of Opiliones (Staręga 1992; Santos & Prieto 2010). Beyond the prolific production of Lawrence, only scattered papers have recently been published on Sub-Saharan Africa, dealing with the fauna of (1) Cameroon – Bauer & Prieto (2009), Giribet & Prieto (2003), Staręga & Snegovaya (2008a; 2009); (2) Equatorial Guinea – Bauer & Prieto (2009), Santos & Prieto (2010) and (3) South Africa – Bivort & Giribet (2010), Kury (2004; 2006a), Lotz (2011), Schönhofer (2008), Staręga (2008a; 2008b; 2009). A new Afrotropical family has recently been named by Sharma, Prieto & Giribet (2011). Kauri (1985), despite being a large paper, cannot be classified as a checklist, as it consists basically of descriptions of several new species in the collection of the Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren.

**TABLE 2.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in the Afrotropical region.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Staręga (1984)	Phalangiidae	Afrotropical	catalog, 84 spp.
Staręga (1992)	Opiliones (excepting Phalangiidae)	Afrotropical	catalog, 623 spp.
Lawrence (1959)	Opiliones	Madagascar	manual, 68 spp.
Lawrence (1931)	Opiliones	South Africa	manual, 90 spp.
Kauri (1961)	Opiliones	South Africa	partial manual, 148 spp.
Lotz (2009)	Opiliones	Southern Africa	checklist, 218 spp.

### Palaearctic region 1—Northern Africa (Table 3)

This region is typically semi-arid and thus poor in Opiliones, which are highly sensitive to humidity. There are some fine plates of Egyptian species in the classic work of Audouin (1826). Algerian species have been treated in Lucas (1846). A few additional reports from of Algeria and Tunisia can be found in Simon (*e.g.*, 1874; 1884; 1885), the last named contains supplements to Pavesi's (1880; 1884) lists for Tunisia, inflating the total number to 14 species, before some of them were synonymized.

**TABLE 3.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palaearctic region 1 (Northern Africa). No lists have been found for Algeria, Libya, Sudan or Western Sahara.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Cokendolpher (1990)	Opiliones	Egypt	annotated checklist, 6 spp.
Lépiney (1940)	Opiliones	Morocco	checklist, 9 spp.
Pavesi (1880)	Opiliones	Tunisia	catalog, 4 spp.

### Palaearctic region 2—Southern Europe (Table 4)

There are a number of good recent checklists for the fauna of Southern Europe, as cited in Table 4. However, no recent checklist was found for Greece. Other than the catalogs cited in Table 4, older descriptive/revisionary work for this region may be exemplified by Thorell (1876), Simon (1879, France), Babić (1916, Croatia), Bacelar (1928, Portugal), Roewer (1935, 1956, Laniatores, Eupnoi).

**TABLE 4.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palaearctic region 2 (Southern Europe). No lists have been found for Cyprus, Macedonia, Malta, San Marino.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Mitov (2000)	Opiliones	Albania (listed only 20 species examined by author; the other 11 are not even named)	checklist, 31 spp.
Karaman (2009)	Cyphophthalmi	“Balkans” (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia)	checklist (plus new species), 30 spp.
Novak (2005)	Opiliones	Bosnia and Herzegovina	catalog, 54 spp. + 2 sspp.
Novak (2004)	Opiliones	Croatia	catalog, 66 spp. + 1 sspp.
Pavesi (1878)	Opiliones	Greece	checklist, 18 spp.
Canestrini (1872)	Opiliones	Italy	manual, 27 spp.
Chemini (1995)	Opiliones	Italy	checklist, 120 spp.
Kraus (1961)	Opiliones	Iberian Peninsula (Portugal, Spain)	checklist, 123 spp.
Alonso-Zarazaga (2002)	Opiliones	Iberian Peninsula	checklist, 141 spp.
Prieto (2003; 2008)	Opiliones	Iberian Peninsula (including Andorra, Balearic Isles, Gibraltar and part of France)	checklist, 127 spp.
Nosek (1904)	Opiliones	Montenegro	checklist, 6 spp.
Rambla (1967)	Opiliones	Portugal	catalog, 46 spp.
Karaman (1995)	Opiliones	Serbia and Montenegro (actually he only listed the genera and indicated the number of species of each)	checklist, 66 spp.
Blick & Komposch (2004)	Opiliones	Slovenia	checklist, 58 spp.
Novak <i>et al.</i> (2006)	Opiliones	Slovenia	checklist, 64 spp. + 2 sspp.
Hadži (1928)	Opiliones	former Yugoslavia	number only, 72 spp.
Hadži (1973b)	Opiliones	former Yugoslavia	checklist, 164 spp. + 27 sspp.

In the late 20th century there were also many non-catalog descriptive/faunistic works, such as Marcellino (1965; 1967, Italy, Spain), Martens (1966, Greece), Hadži (1973a, former Yugoslavia), Rambla (1973, Spain), Gruber (1978, Greece), Chemini (1985, Greece, Italy), Mučalica (1989, Montenegro, Serbia), and Tedeschi & Sciaky (1997, Italy).

In the 21st century, the Southern European opilionofauna has been treated most notably by Bivort & Giribet (2004, Cyphophthalmi only), Prieto (2004, Dyspnoi, Spain), Boyer *et al.* (2005, Balkan Cyphophthalmi), Karaman (2005, Serbia), Mitov (2008, Balkans), and Schönhofer & Martens (2010, Dyspnoi).

### **Paleartic region 3 – Western Europe (Table 5)**

This region has been extensively covered by many checklists. Examples of recent taxonomic/faunistic work on Western Europe are Muster (2007, Luxembourg), Delfosse & Iorio (2007), and Wijnhoven *et al.* (2007). There are many active online groups featuring distribution-recording projects of Opiliones (*e.g.*, Blick & Komposch 2004).

**TABLE 5.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Paleartic region 3 (Western Europe). No lists have been found for Monaco.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Becker, L. (1879)	Opiliones	Belgium	checklist, 13 spp.
Vanhercke (2004)	Opiliones	Belgium	checklist, 26 spp.
Simon (1879b)	Opiliones	France, excluding overseas colonies	manual, 101 spp.
Delfosse (2004)	Opiliones	France, excluding overseas colonies	annotated checklist, 120 spp.
Blick & Komposch (2004)	Opiliones	Belgium – Netherlands –Switzerland	checklist, 27 – 27 – 41 spp.
Müller (1962)	Opiliones	Luxembourg	checklist (key format), 14 spp.
Spoek (1963)	Opiliones	Netherlands	manual, 20 spp.
Spoek (1975)	Opiliones	Netherlands	manual, 21 + 5 spp.
Wijnhoven (2005)	Opiliones	Netherlands	checklist, 27 spp.
Wijnhoven (2009)	Opiliones	Netherlands	checklist, 30 spp.
Lebert (1877)	Opiliones	Switzerland	checklist, 25 spp.
Lessert (1917)	Opiliones	Switzerland	manual, 36 spp.

### **Paleartic region 4—Northern Europe (Table 6)**

This region has been extensively covered by many checklists. The United Kingdom has a steady tradition of publishing faunistic works on a regional scale. The Norwegian Stol (*e.g.*, 2010) is one of the most prolific recent authors on the region. Online groups featuring distribution-recording projects of Opiliones include Hylliard (2000).

### **Paleartic region 5—Central Europe (Table 7)**

This region has been extensively covered by many checklists. The alpine fauna is since long intensively researched in several papers, a few examples are Ausserer (1867), Hammelbacher (1987), Franz & Gunhold (1954), Hadži (1957), and Thaler (1966; 1984). Besides the checklists, a great number of local authors produced faunistic/taxonomic works on the region, of which some examples are: the Austrians Gruber (2000) and Komposch (1993); the Czechs Bartoš (1938), Bezděčka (1996), and Klimeš (2006); the Slovak Stašiov (2000); the Germans Baumann *et al.* (1992, Bayern), Bliss (1981, Germany), and Schönhofer (2005, additions to regional faunas); and the Hungarian Kolosváry (1932).

**TABLE 6.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palearctic region 4 (Northern Europe). All countries have checklists.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Blick & Komposch (2004)	Opiliones	Denmark – Norway – Sweden – Finland	checklist, 19 – 17 – 20 – 12 spp.
Heinäjoki (1944)	Opiliones	Finland	manual, 12 spp.
Pack-Beresford (1926)	Opiliones	Ireland	checklist, 12 spp.
Cawley (2002)	Opiliones	Ireland	catalog, 18 spp.
Tumšs (1963)	Opiliones	Latvia	checklist, 14 spp.
Spunģis, (2008)	Opiliones	Latvia	checklist, 16 spp.
Stol (1993; 2007)	Opiliones	Nordic [Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, The Faroe Islands and Iceland]	checklist, 24 spp. (total, with many repeated in each country)
Strand (1900)	Opiliones	Norway	catalog, 13 spp.
Staręga (1978)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	catalog, 110 spp: Estonia, 10; Latvia, 14; Lithuania, 1.
Sankey & Savory (1974)	Opiliones	UK	manual, 22 spp.
Hillyard & Sankey (1989)	Opiliones	UK	manual, 23 spp.
Hillyard (2005)	Opiliones	UK	manual, 24 spp.

**TABLE 7.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palearctic region 5 (Central Europe). No lists have been found for Liechtenstein.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Kritscher (1956)	Opiliones	Austria	catalog, 80 spp.
Komposch & Gruber (2004)	Opiliones	Austria	annotated checklist, 61 spp.
Komposch (2011)	Opiliones	Austria	checklist, 64 spp.
Blick & Komposch (2004)	Opiliones	Austria – Czech Republic – Germany – Hungary – Slovakia – Poland	checklist, 61 – 33 – 49 – 33 – 32 – 36 spp.
Kratochvíl (1934)	Opiliones	Czechoslovakia	checklist, 50 spp.
Šilhavý (1956)	Opiliones	Czechoslovakia	manual, 64 spp.
Klimeš (2000)	Opiliones	Czech Republic and Slovakia	checklist, 39 spp.
Bezděčka (2008)	Opiliones	Czech Republic	checklist, 34 spp.
Kästner (1928)	Opiliones	Germany	manual, 42 spp.
Martens (1978)	Opiliones	Germany (nominal, but covers all central Europe)	manual, 40 spp. (for Germany only)
Bliss & Hiebsch (1984)	Opiliones	Germany (DDR only)	checklist, 30 spp.
Bliss & Martens (1995)	Opiliones	Germany	checklist, 45 spp.
Herman (1879)	Opiliones	Hungary (in 1879 it was much larger than today, including Transylvania, Croatia and Slovakia)	checklist, 26 spp.
Kolosváry (1929)	Opiliones	Hungary	manual, 43 spp.
Szalay (1968)	Opiliones	Hungary	manual, 55 spp.
Komposch (2004)	Opiliones	Hungary	checklist, 33 spp.
Rafalski (1960)	Opiliones	Poland	catalog, 31 spp.
Staręga (1976a)	Opiliones	Poland	manual, 34 spp.
Rafalski & Staręga (1997)	Opiliones	Poland	checklist, 36 spp.
Staręga (2000)	Opiliones	Poland	checklist, 36 spp.
Winiarska (2008)	Opiliones	Poland	checklist, 36 spp.

### Palaearctic region 6—Eastern Europe (Table 8)

Non-catalog works useful for this region are Chevrizov (1978; 1979; besides the checklist 1980). There are numerous works for Romania, including a bibliography (Dumitrescu 1979), descriptions of species (Avram 1964 to 1978 and Cîrdei 1942 to 1971), and faunistic and biological works (Babalean, e.g., 1999; 2001; 2004; Weiss 1996). Morin (1931; 1934) contributed on the Ukrainian fauna. The work of Roşca (1930) on Bukowina includes what is today Romania and Ukraine.

**TABLE 8.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palaearctic region 6 (Eastern Europe).

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Shavanova (2004)	Opiliones	Belarus	checklist, 24 spp.
Staręga (1976b)	Opiliones	Bulgaria	manual, 42 spp.
Mitov (1998)	Opiliones	Bulgaria	number only, 46 spp.
Herman (1879)	Opiliones	“Hungary” (in 1879 it was much larger than today, including Transylvania, Croatia and Slovakia)	checklist, 26 spp.
Babalean (2005)	Opiliones	Romania	checklist, 56 spp.
Redikortsev (1936)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	checklist, 62 spp + description of 12 new species = 74 spp.
Staręga (1978)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	catalog, 110 spp: Belarus, 8; Russia (7 regions each with: 12, 8, 9, 23, 4, 8, 11 spp.); Moldova, 0; Ukraine, 33.
Chevrizov (1980)	Opiliones	Soviet Union (European part)	checklist, 42 spp.

### Palaearctic region 7—Southwest Asia (Table 9)

Southwest Asia includes the fauna of Caucasus, of which some Nemastomatidae have been described by Redikortsev (1936). This family has also been more recently studied in a major work by Martens (2006). There are also other works by Chemeris on cave fauna (2009) and Snegovaya (2010a). The fauna of Georgia has been studied by Mkheidze (e.g., Mkheidze 1952).

The Turkish fauna has been more intensely studied by Gruber, especially the *Dyspnoi* (e.g., Gruber 1976).

The semi-arid environment of most of this area is not favorable to Opiliones, so their diversity in the region is low. Yemenite harvestmen appeared briefly in Pocock (1903). Levantine harvestmen were treated in many works by Staręga (e.g., Staręga 1967; 1973), and Iraqi ones were also recorded by Staręga (e.g., Staręga 1970).

**TABLE 9.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palaearctic region 7 (Southwest Asia). No lists have been found for Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, the Levant (except Israel).

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Snegovaya (2004)	Opiliones	Azerbaijan	checklist, 17 spp, with maps and redescriptions of some.
Snegovaya (2008)	Opiliones	Israel	checklist, 13 spp (+ 2 new), with maps and redescriptions of some.
Staręga (1978)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	catalog, 110 spp: Georgia, 30; Armenia, 3; Azerbaijan, 6.
Bayram <i>et al.</i> (2010)	Opiliones	Turkey	checklist, 50 spp. + 3 sspp.

### Palaearctic region 8—Central Asia (Table 10)

This region is undersampled and understudied. For the ex-USSR republics, non-catalog relevant works are, beside scattered descriptions in Roewer’s articles: Gritsenko (1979a), Chemeris & Snegovaya (2010), Snegovaya (2010b), and Snegovaya & Staręga (2008). Likewise, Gritsenko (1979c), in spite of not being precisely a catalog of this area



(it includes also Siberia and Far East Russia), is a good synopsis and contains illustrated keys to the harvestmen of Soviet Asia.

An early study of opilionofauna of Afghanistan and Iran is in Thorell (1876). Caporiacco (1934) studied the fauna of Karakoram (mainly in Pakistan). Another example of a harvestmen study from this area is Šilhavý (1966, Afghanistan).

**TABLE 10.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palearctic region 8 (Central Asia). No lists have been found for Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Staręga (1978)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	catalog, 110 spp: Kazakhstan, 8; Kyrgyzstan, 7; Tajikistan, 15; Turkmenistan, 2; Uzbekistan, 6.
Gritsenko (1979c)	Opiliones	Soviet Union (Asian part) [= part of Central Asia + Northern Asia of this paper]	manual with keys, 48 spp.

### Palearctic region 9—Northern Asia (Table 11)

What is here called Northern Asia is a large but depauperate region that includes 3 of the 12 ecological/climatic regions of Russia (West Siberian, East Siberian and Far Eastern), the Asiatic part of the country.

Examples of non-catalog works in this regions are Banks (1898a, Kamchatka Krai), Nakatsudi (1937, Kuril Islands), Gritsenko (1979b, Primorsky Krai) Chemeris & Logunov (2001, Dyspnoi, Southern Siberia), Tsurusaki & Crawford (2001, Kuril Islands), Marusik (2005, fringe of the Sea of Okhotsk), and Crawford & Marusik (2007, Moneron Island).

Chemeris *et al.* (1998) is crucial because includes a review of records, maps, and redescriptions of some species from Siberia. This, together with Chemeris (2000), which studies harvestmen of the Russian Far East and adjacent regions of Eastern Siberia, may be regarded as a guide for Northern Asian Opiliones.

**TABLE 11.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palearctic region 9 (Northern Asia).

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Farzalieva & Esyunin (1999)	Opiliones	Russia (Ural Region)	manual, 10 spp.
Redikortsev (1936)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	checklist, 62 spp + description of 12 new species = 74 spp.
Staręga (1978)	Opiliones	Soviet Union	catalog, 110 spp: Russia (7 regions each with: 12, 8, 9, 23, 4, 8, 11 spp.).

### Palearctic region 10 – East Asia (Table 12)

Staręga (1964) is an important paper, with numerous records, from collections to revisions of the fauna from Eastern Asia (Korea, Mongolia), as well as some species distributed in Siberia. Martens & Suzuki (1966) reviewed the East Asian Ischyropsalidoidea. There are pictorial keys to Japanese and Chinese Opiliones (Suzuki & Tsurusaki 1991 and Tsurusaki & Song 1998, respectively).

Besides the 2 catalogs cited for China, records and new species of Chinese harvestmen may be found in Roewer (1911), Schenkel (1944; 1953; 1963), Suzuki (1941a), Tsurusaki & Song (1993a-b), Schwendinger & Martens (2006), and Wang (1941). In the past few years, Chinese authors such as Zhu have produced a few alpha-taxonomy works (Zhu & Song 1999; Zhu *et al.* 1999), and Lian and Zhang have started a series of descriptions and reviews of Chinese Laniatores (*e.g.*, Lian *et al.* 2008; 2011; Zhang & Zhang 2010). It should be noted that the latter works deal with the Indo-Malayan component of Chinese fauna, in spite of being listed here in this section. Species from Taiwan have been described by Roewer (1915; 1927b) and Suzuki (1977b).

Knowledge of Opiliones in Korea has always been limited to isolated reports, (*e.g.*, Kharitonov 1957; Staręga 1965a; Suzuki 1966; 1972; 1975; 1983). More recently, besides the catalog of Korean Opiliones by Kim *et al.* (2006), the Opilioniinae of Korea have been studied by Ban *et al.* (2010).

Opiliones in Mongolia have also only appeared in scattered publications (*e.g.*, Staręga 1965b; Gritsenko 1980). An important early work for China but especially Mongolia is Kulczyński (1901).

Japanese harvestmen were superficially studied by Roewer (1927b) and still less by older authors such as Hirst (1911). There are a great number of papers on the Japanese fauna, specially by Japanese authors, the most important by far being Suzuki (examples of his local work are: Suzuki 1953, Eupnoi; Suzuki 1963, Dyspnoi; Suzuki 1964, Laniatores) and Tsurusaki (examples of his local work are: Tsurusaki 1983, Eupnoi; Tsurusaki 1985, regional guide; Tsurusaki 1989, geographic variation of chromosomes, Dyspnoi).

As an update to the published list (Tsurusaki 1993), there is a checklist of Japanese Opiliones updated in 2009, which contains 86 species plus 20 subspecies, totaling 106 morphs, by Nobuo Tsurusaki (ongoing work, pers. comm.).

**TABLE 12.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in Palearctic region 8 (East Asia). No lists have been found for Mongolia.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Wang (1953)	Opiliones	China (incl. Hong Kong and Taiwan)	checklist, 60 spp.
Li & Song (1993)	Opiliones	China (incl. Hong Kong and Taiwan)	catalog, 105 spp.
Tsurusaki (1993)	Opiliones	Japan	checklist, 95 spp.
Kim <i>et al.</i> (2006)	Opiliones	Korea (South + North)	checklist, 17 spp.

### Indo-Malaya (Table 13)

The bulk of the descriptive material of this region is authored by Roewer. The larger collections of Indian material have been dealt in Roewer (1927a; 1929b). A review of the Indian Gagrellinae is in Roewer (1929a), one of his rare papers written in English. Coming very close to a manual of the Indo-Malayan Eupnoi is the series of 4 papers by Roewer on Indo-Australian Gagrellinae (Roewer 1954a; 1954b; 1955a; 1955b), since there are only few Opilioniinae and Leiobuninae in the region, which may be excluded as Holarctic elements. Suzuki published a series of fine papers on local collections from SE Asia, exemplified by Suzuki 1977a (Philippines) and Suzuki 1969b, (multiple countries).

In the last decades, more specific collecting techniques focused on soil-dwelling Opiliones have provided abundant material that has enhanced our knowledge on taxonomy of hitherto obscure groups of the region, some of which have been used as biogeographical models: Martens & Schwendinger (1998) on Sandokanidae, Sharma *et al.* (2009, mite-harvestmen, Sri Lanka; Sharma, Kury & Giribet 2011, Zalmoxidae), Clouse & Giribet (2010, Southeast Asia).

**TABLE 13.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in the Indo-Malayan region. No lists have been found for Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka or Vietnam.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Thorell (1889)	Opiliones	Burma	checklist, 44 spp.
Suzuki (1985a)	Cyphophthalmi and Laniatores	Thailand	partial catalog/manual, 1 + 34 spp.
Suzuki (1985b)	Palpatores (only Eupnoi)	Thailand	partial catalog/manual, 50 spp.

### Australasian region (Table 14)

There is a catalog of zalmoxids by Sharma, Kury & Giribet (2011) including Indo-Pacific species. Non-catalogue notable works for this region are: Forster (1948a, New Zealand, 1949b, Solomon Islands, 1952, Australia). More

recently, works by Hunt (1985, Laniatores, Australia) and Taylor (2011, Australia and New Zealand) dealt with Australasian opilionofauna. There is an internet resource with up-to-date information on Australian species (ABRS, 2003~).

The Polynesian opilionofauna is extremely poorly known. Isolated species of harvestmen from Micronesia have been described by Roewer and the Goodnights, as well as Suzuki (1941b). Melanesia is much better known, with a great deal of work by Roewer and Suzuki. Sharma & Giribet (*e.g.*, 2009) produced lots of work on Cyphophthalmi of New Caledonia, as did Boyer & Giribet (*e.g.*, 2007) on Australia and New Zealand. Kury & Machado (2009) recently reviewed the few Laniatores known from Vanuatu. Also only recently, mite harvestmen have been reported from New Guinea (Clouse & Giribet 2007).

**TABLE 14.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in the Australasian region. No lists have been found for Melanesia, Micronesia, Papua, Polynesia.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Forster (1949a)	Opiliones	Australia	manual, 59 spp.
ABRS (2003~)	Opiliones	Australia	checklist, 210 spp.
Forster (1948b)	Cyphophthalmi	New Zealand	manual, 15 spp.
Forster (1954)	Laniatores	New Zealand	manual, 152 spp.+ sspp.

### Neotropical (Table 15)

The extremely diverse fauna of the Neotropics has been studied since early on in the history harvestmen taxonomy, in such comprehensive works as Perty (1833), Koch (1839), Sørensen (1884), and Simon (1879a). Entering in the Roewer era, descriptions of species were published by the dozens (*e.g.*, Roewer 1912). Led by Mello-Leitão in the 1920s, a number of Brazilian authors produced a large (although rather chaotic) corpus of important work on Neotropical Opiliones (*e.g.*, Mello-Leitão 1923; 1935; Piza 1938; Soares & Soares 1946).

Soares & Soares (1948; 1949; 1954; 1992) produced a lengthy catalog of the “Neotropical Opiliones,” of which only the 4 parts on Gonyleptidae were published. In the late 1950s these authors moved from Rio de Janeiro to Botucatu and spent 12 years without publishing. When they restarted their work in 1966, they focused on alpha taxonomy and set aside the “monograph” project. Benedicto Soares died in 1985. One of Helia Soares’s students, R. Jim, joined forces with her to produce the fourth and final part of the Gonyleptidae, almost 40 years after the third part. By then, however, Helia’s health was already compromised, and this fourth part turned out to be their swan song, Helia passing away in 1999.

Roewer’s (1953) paper on Gagrellinae could be used as a manual of Neotropical Eupnoi, which, to be complete, would also have to include many species then placed in Phalangiidae, such as (1) some austral Neopilionidae from Chile, *e.g.* *Thrasychirus* Simon, 1884, transferred to Neopilionidae by Šilhavý 1970, and (2) many Leiobuniinae (an Holarctic component), which reach Mexico and Guatemala and were already known as early as Banks (1898b) and Mello-Leitão (1933). The two large volumes by González-Sponga (1987; 1992) provide a useful overview of many families of Laniatores in Venezuela. A recent thread on South American Eupnoi is being followed by Tourinho & Kury (*e.g.*, 2003, Gagrellinae), and even the Cyphophthalmi, rather neglected in South America, gained an important work (Benavides & Giribet 2007).

The pivotal work by Cokendolpher & Camilo-Rivera (1989), besides providing an annotated bibliography, gave separate checklists for each country in the Caribbean. There is a checklist with a key to species of Cosmetidae from Central America (Towsend *et al.* 2010).

Kury’s catalog (Kury 2003) is quickly becoming outdated due to a flurry of new works (see also Kury & Alonso-Zarazaga, 2011 for a complete list) on South American Laniatores, such as: Capocasale (2003, Uruguay), Vasconcelos (2005, Gonyleptidae), Acosta (2006; 2008, Pachylinae), Tourinho & Pérez (2006, Fissiphalliidae), Pinto-da-Rocha & Villarreal-M. (2009, Stygnidae), Pinto-da-Rocha & Hara (2009, Agoristenidae, Cranidae), Pinto-da-Rocha & Bragagnolo (2010, Gonyleptidae), and Ferreira & Kury (2010, Cosmetidae). Besides these smaller works, there are quite a few recent substantial reviews of large genera or subfamilies, such as: Yamaguti, H.Y. & Pinto-da-Rocha, R. (2009, Bourguyiinae), DaSilva & Gnaspini (2010, Goniosomatinae), Hara & Pinto-da-

Rocha (2010, one genus of Pachylinae), Pinto-da-Rocha & Bragagnolo (2011, Sodreaninae) and Mendes (2011, Heteropachylinae).

**TABLE 15.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in the Neotropical region.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Benavides & Giribet (2007)	“Neogoveidae” (but actually Cyphophthalmi)	South America	manual, 8 spp. + 37 undescr. spp.
Ringuelet (1959)	Opiliones	Argentina	manual, 94 spp.
Acosta & Maury (1998)	Opiliones	Argentina	checklist, 115 spp.
Mello-Leitão (1932)	Opiliones	Brazil	manual, 396 (+ 20 in addendum) spp.
Cekalovic (1986)	Opiliones	Chile	catalog, 89 spp.
Florez & Sánchez (1995)	Opiliones	Colombia	checklist, 77 spp.
Caporiacco (1948)	Opiliones	Guianas	checklist, 58 spp.
Soares & Soares (1985)	Opiliones	Paraguay	catalog, 11 spp.
Capocasale (2003)	Opiliones	Uruguay	checklist, 26 spp.
Cokendolpher & Camilo (1989)	Opiliones	West Indies	checklist, 192 spp.

### Nearctic (Table 16)

Cokendolpher & Lee (1993) presented a fine summary of what was then called the “Cyphopalpatores” (*i.e.*, Opiliones less Laniatores) from the Nearctic. Their work has lots of information on distributions, the authors of the records, and a checklist by provinces. It also features a complete systematic bibliography for all Opiliones of North America. Together with Kury (2003) they cover all of North American Opiliones. Shear produced a review of Nearctic Cyphophthalmi (1980) and many important papers on Nearctic Dyspnoi (*e.g.*, 1975; 1986; 2010).

**TABLE 16.** Summary of catalogs and checklists for Opiliones in the Nearctic region.

Reference	Taxon	Region	Comment
Banks (1893)	Laniatores	USA	manual, 9 spp.
Banks (1901)	Opiliones	entitled “North America”, but actually USA only	checklist (key format), 61 spp.
Shear (1980)	Cyphophthalmi	entitled “USA and Mexico”, but essentially North America	manual, 6 spp.
Cokendolpher & Lee (1993)	Cyphophthalmi + Eupnoi + Dyspnoi	North America	catalog, 225 spp.
Kury & Cokendolpher (2000)	Opiliones	Mexico (which is a crossroad between Nearctic and Neotropical)	checklist, 227 spp.

### Fossil species

Dunlop (2007) offered a classic, thorough, and detailed review of the 25 valid fossil species of Opiliones, although there are a number of more recent publications with information on new species, such as Dunlop & Mammitzsch (2010), Dunlop & Mitov (2009; 2011), Huang *et al.* (2009). An online update may be found in Dunlop *et al.* (2008–2011).

## Discussion

The ideal situation to treat the taxonomic impediment for Opiliones would be to have updated manuals (with keys and adequate illustrations) for every region of the world, as well as a worldwide catalog, so new researchers could establish themselves more easily. Even in the absence of those, local checklists form an important resource for taxonomy.

The main drawbacks of checklists are:

- (1) Heterogeneity of sources—The specimens and literature examined in each study depends on the goals of the project, the experience of the author in the taxon and region, the time available to prepare the list, and access to collections. In general, a local author has much easier access to obscure local information than foreigners.
- (2) Varied degrees of taxonomic reliability—Since in many cases vouchers are not cited, and checklists are copied over and over, identification errors tend to propagate for long periods.

Faunal lists of European Opiliones are reaching a saturation point, as is clearly visible in the checklists, the numbers of which have increased very slowly over time. Europe is a notch above the rest of the world in faunistic papers (myriads on locally important minor works), with numerous new records for very small administrative units.

The opilionofauna of the tropics is much less known, and descriptions of many new species per year are commonplace. South America has by far most heavily revisionary works and a recent catalog. The main holes are in Asia (both Tropical and Temperate), where not even a simple general checklist is available.

For countries like Mongolia, Afghanistan, Indonesia, the reader interested in compiling a checklist would require extracting information from works such as Roewer (1923), numerous smaller, scattered papers, Hallan (2005), and the Zoological Record.

To give the reader an idea of the described diversity, I have prepared a count of Opiliones species for each of the zoogeographical realms of the world (Table 17). The Neotropical realm is by far the most diverse (more than 41% of the diversity), followed by the Indo-Malayan (more than 20%). The Nearctic, although being much more intensely sampled, is the less diverse, with little more than 5% of the species. Almost 90% of the Dyspnoi are Palearctic, greatly increasing the diversity of this realm. Laniatores are the vast majority of the Opiliones in the Neotropics (87%), Afrotropics (83%) and in Australasia (79%). Given that Sub-Saharan Africa has highly diversity for many other organisms, it is surprising to see that it is less diverse than the Eurasia/Mediterranean realm for Opiliones, but this is surely due to extremely low sampling in Africa relative to the Palearctic.

**TABLE 17.** Summary of the diversity of Opiliones in each zoogeographical realm.

	Palearctic	Nearctic	Neotropical	Afrotropical	Indo-malayan	Australasian	World
Cyphophthalmi	44	9	21	25	39	51	189
Eupnoi	384	184	314	98	745	63	1788
Dyspnoi	314	38	0	0	1	0	353
Laniatores	59	134	2319	616	558	440	4126
Opiliones	801	365	2654	739	1343	554	6456

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