

Meiosis and Chromosome Complement of *Atractomorpha lata* (= *A. bedeli*) (Mochulsky, 1866) (Orthoptera: Pyrgomorphidae) Collected in Cameroon.

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ABSTRACT:

This article presents detailed information on the meiotic process and karyotype of *Atractomorpha lata* (= *A. bedeli*), a Pyrgomorphidae grasshopper endemic to the West and North-West Regions of Cameroon. It includes chromosome number, morphology and chromosome lengths. The meiotic process in the species was normal and chiasmate with a mean chiasma frequency of 12.874 ± 0.29 . The percent rod shaped bivalents present was significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) than percent ring shaped bivalents. Percent bivalents with 1, 2 and 3 chiasmata were in the series: 1 chiasmata > 2 chiasmata > 3 chiasmata. The X chromosome revealed the reversal type of heteropycnosis. The detailed karyotype of *A. lata* from Cameroon (Africa) is here described for the first time. The species has a diploid karyotype of 23 and the sex mechanism is XX – XO. Short chromosome arms were visible in mitotic Metaphase chromosomes hence the chromosomes in the species were acrocentric. The karyotype revealed three large, five medium and one small chromosomes (3LL – 5MM – 1SS). Chromosome lengths varied from 8.40 to 2.10 μm and the haploid set was 56.39 μm . The X chromosome was 5.6 μm and medium in size.

Keywords:

Atractomorpha lata, Pyrgomorphidae, karyotype, meiosis.