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J.G.E.LEWIS

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## PREFACE

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This book is an attempt to bring together information on centipedes hitherto to be found only in old texts or scattered through the literature and in unpublished theses.

My interest in the group is due to Sir Eric Smith, FRS who, as Professor J. E. Smith, suggested that I carry out postgraduate research on littoral centipedes. Since that time I have had a great deal of advice and encouragement from Mr. J. Gordon Blower, Dr E. H. Eason, Dr R. E. Crabill, Jr and Professor J. L. Cloudsley-Thompson. Over the years, I have received much help from members of the Arachnid Section of the British Museum (Natural History) most notably, Mr K. H. Hyatt, Mr D. Macfarlane, Mr F. R. Wanless and the late Mr D. J. Clark and also from the library staff of the Museum.

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to S.J.C.