



THE ORIGINAL DESCRIPTIONS AND FIGURES OF SRI LANKAN GEKKONID LIZARDS (SQUAMATA: GEKKONIDAE) OF THE 18TH, 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

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Abstract

Forty-two species/subspecies belonging to eight genera of geckos, family Gekkonidae, are recognized from Sri Lanka. Twenty of these were described in the period from Linnaeus's 10th edition of *Systema Naturae* 1758 to 1953. We provide the original text of the descriptions, images of the type specimens, and translations to English of eight descriptions that were written in Dutch, French, German, and Latin.

Key words: Type specimen, Taxonomy, English translation, Sri Lanka

Introduction

Sri Lanka is together with the Western Ghats of Southern India a biodiversity hotspot and the region is rich in herpetofaunal assemblages (Bossuyt *et al.*, 2004; Meegaskumbura *et al.*, 2002; Myers *et al.*, 2000). Forty-two species belonging to eight genera of geckos, family Gekkonidae, have been recognized from Sri Lanka and 31 (71%) of them

are endemic to the island (Batuwita & Bahir, 2005; Bauer *et al.*, 2007; Deraniyagala, 1953; Manamendra-Arachchi *et al.*, 2007; Wickramasinghe & Munindradasa, 2007). The genus *Cnemaspis* Strauch, 1887 is represented by 21 species (Bauer *et al.*, 2007; Deraniyagala, 1953; Manamendra-Arachchi *et al.*, 2007;

Wickramasinghe & Munindradasa, 2007). The other taxa include one species of *Calodactylodes* Strand, 1926 (Deraniyagala, 1953), six species of *Cyrtodactylus* Gray, 1827 (Batuwita & Bahir, 2005; Günther, 1864), three species of *Geckoella* Gray, 1867 (Beddome, 1870; Deraniyagala, 1945; Günther, 1864), one species of *Gehyra* Gray, 1834 (Wiegmann, 1834), eight species of *Hemidactylus* Oken, 1817 (Annandale, 1906; Daudin, 1802; Duméril & Bibron, 1836; Gray, 1829, 1845), one species of *Hemiphyllodactylus* Bleeker, 1860 (Bleeker, 1860) and one species of *Lepidodactylus* Fitzinger, 1843 (Duméril & Bibron, 1836).

Twenty of the Sri Lankan gekkonid species were formally described over a period of 162 years between 1792 and 1953, starting with *Hemidactylus platyurus* (Schneider, 1792), and ending with the description of *Calodactylodes illingworthi* (now *C. illingworthorum*) Deraniyagala, 1953. Only twelve of those original descriptions were written in English; the others appeared in Dutch, French, German or Latin. After more than a half century later five new species were described by Batuwita and Bahir in 2005: *Cyrtodactylus cracens*, *C. edwardtaylori*, *C. ramboda*, *C. soba* and *C. subsolanus*; one by Bauer, de Silva, Greenbaum, and Jackman in 2007: *Cnemaspis gemunu*; five by Wickramasinghe and Munindradasa in 2007: *C. alwisi*, *C. kumarasinghei*, *C. molligodai*, *C. ritigalensis*, and *C. samanalensis*, and eleven by Manamendra-Arachchi, Batuwita, and Pethiyagoda in 2007: *Cnemaspis amith*, *C. clivicola*, *C. kallima*, *C. latha*, *C. manikay*, *C. pava*, *C. phillipsi*, *C. pulchra*, *C. punctata*, *C. silvula* and *C. upendrai*. All of these were described in English.

Recent descriptions of new taxa are generally detailed and thus lengthy compared to those in the past that usually were quite brief. Original descriptions of the Sri Lankan geckos that were described up to 1953 were published in books and periodicals that today may be difficult to obtain even at libraries. In this paper we transposed the older original descriptions and when applicable, made English translations. We believe they will be useful for taxonomists and others dealing with these animals in any respect.

Materials and methods

In the transcription of the original extracts and in the translations we attempted to retain all pertinent text and figures, but format changes have been necessary, with some illustrations reduced in size and the original paginations have not been retained.

All the figures of the original descriptions and the photographs of each type specimen are shown in each plate accompanied with the referred species name (Plates 1-4). The English translation of each species description appears after the original language text.

The materials we examined were obtained from the **BMNH** (The Natural History Museum, London, UK); **MNHN** (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France) and **ZMB** (Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany). Ideally, specimens in the National museum of Sri Lanka, Colombo (NMSL) should have been consulted as well. However, due to the lack of curators to host scientists, we were not permitted to access the collections to photograph and measure type specimens there. The NMSL's collection is of enormous historical and scientific interest and it is our hope that in the future the NMSL will be able to more readily accommodate the research needs of herpetologists and other conservation scientists.

All the photographs of type specimen are displayed with the photographers' initials; Colin McCarthy (CM), Ivan Ineich (II), Mark-Oliver Rödel (MO) and Aaron Bauer (AB).

Additional information on some taxonomical and nomenclatural predicaments

Occurrence of the syntypes of *Hemidactylus leschenaultii* Duméril & Bibron, 1836, the syntypes of *Lepidodactylus lugubris* (Duméril & Bibron, 1836) and the holotype of *Hemidactylus triedrus* Daudin, 1802 in the MNHN collections has long been confirmed (Brygoo, 1990; Duméril & Duméril, 1851; Guibé, 1954). Deraniyagala (1953) recognized an endemic Sri Lankan subspecies *Hemidactylus triedrus lankae* (see appendix 01 of the present document), thus the holotype MNHN 2297 belongs to *H. triedrus triedrus* after 1953. Brygoo (1990) indicated that this type specimen originated from the natural history cabinet of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Vienna, Austria but it has no collecting locality. It is probable that this specimen came from India.

Hemidactylus frenatus was clearly attributed to Hermann Schlegel [1836?] by Duméril & Bibron (1836), but the authorship of Schlegel to the original description cannot be exactly assessed (Brygoo, 1990), thus only Duméril & Bibron are considered as authors of this taxon; the name *H. frenatus* was a shelf name accompanying the type

specimens that was sent from Leiden to Paris. Among the large series of syntypes only those from Cape (lost at MNHN?), Madagascar (lost at MNHN?) and Timor (Leiden Museum) were lacking in the 1851 catalogue of Duméril and Duméril; others are all still present in MNHN collections. Most authors erroneously considered the specimens from Java as the only original syntypes. Loveridge (1947) suggested Java as the *terra restricta* for the species and later Wells and Wellington (1985) designated MNHN 5135 from Java as the lectotype.

Hemidactylus brookii was described by Gray in 1845. Then in 1953 Deraniyagala described a subspecies from Sri Lanka as *Hemidactylus brooki parvimaculatus*. In the original description of *H. b. parvimaculatus*, “brookii” was misspelled as “brooki” (see Deraniyagala, 1953 and appendix 01 of the present document). However this subspecies is almost certainly a distinct species (Bauer *et al.*, in press).

Hemidactylus maculatus was described by Duméril & Bibron in 1836. We agree with Brygoo (1990) that although Duméril & Bibron (1836) do not explicitly mention Polydore Roux as collector of some of the syntypes (MNHN 2301, 2301A, 2301B, 2301C, and 2301D), they clearly mentioned

Bombay as the collection locality of their largest specimens, thus the Bombay specimens from that collector can be considered as syntypes. Smith (1935) considered the species as composite and designated Bombay as *terra typica restricta* and Guibé (1954) also recognized the type series as being composed of both *H. maculatus* and *H. brookii*. In 1937 Deraniyagala described a subspecies *Hemidactylus maculatus hunae* (see appendix 01 of the present document). However this subspecies may also be specifically distinct.

Calodactylodes illingworthorum is present with an uncatalogued specimen (plate 04, fig 31) in NMSL that seems to be the closest match to the holotype. The specimen collected on 15 to 20 March 1953 from Pollebeddhe-Mahaoya (NMSL – uncatalogued) is not the holotype and further research on this matter is required. Sometimes it may be a part of the paratype series.

Geckoella yakhuna is also represented with an uncatalogued specimen (plate 04, fig 32) in NMSL. Although labeled as the holotype, it is a poor match to the description and definitely not the holotype, because Deraniyagala (1945) clearly stated that the type is a spotted male with the tail broken off. Eventually this specimen may form part of the paratype series.

Original descriptions of Gekkonids occurring in Sri Lanka, with English translations

Calodactylodes illingworthorum (Deraniyagala, 1953) (Plate: 01)

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon (Tetrapod Reptilia), II, 1953: 49, Pl. XI; Fig a, b.; Fig. 34A. (Fig. 01, 02, 03).

Material examined: Paratype

Male (77 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1958.1.2.71; *Loc.* Nuvaragala, Eastern Ceylon, 1200 ft [360 m]; *Coll.* P. E. P. Deraniyagala. (Fig. 04)

Original description:

Calodactylodes illingworthi sp. nov.

Local name. (Sinhala) *Maha gal huna* = great rock gecko.

A new species named for Margaret and Percy Illingworth in appreciation of their keen interest in the fauna of Ceylon. This gecko is closely allied to the Indian *Calodactylodes aureus* (Beddome), from which it differs in possessing preanal pores, and a row of black and yellow vertebral spots. Head subovate, wider than body, snout longer than distance from eye to ear, ear an oblique slit, tail more or less segmented, feebly depressed, subovate in transverse section.

Scalation. Both supra and infra labials 12 or 13, one or two rows of enlarged, lateral gulars, two internasals, nostril between four scales, mental smaller than adjacent labials, ventrals subimbricate upon chest, subrectangular and juxtaposed upon abdomen, rectangular and more enlarged on tail.

Pores. Four preanals separated mesially by three scales, two to five femorals close to each knee joint. Pores surrounded by large scales.

Color. Dorsally a yellow ochre with dark brown dots and a neural row of six subovate dark brown spots somewhat smaller than the eye anteriorly larger posteriorly, with a bluish spot of equal size before and behind each and a lateral row of bluish spots. Tail mottled with brown and with ten yellow cross bands. Four irregular dark cross bars alternating with yellow ones from coarse reticulations upon each limb. Ventrally greyish white with a bright yellow gular patch.

Type. A male with pores as described above No. RG 17a. Paratypes 8 males, 7 females; a male with femoral pores 2/2 deposited in the British Museum.

Dimensions. (Type) Snout to vent 84 mm., tail 88mm.,(female) from snout to vent81mm.,tail87 mm.

Distribution. Upon Nuvara Gala rock 1,200 feet high, near Maha Oya in the Eastern Province. A nocturnal, rock dwelling species peculiar to Ceylon.

Reproduction. Communal nesting places are revisited each season. Eggs taken from Nuvaragala on February 14, 1953. Average dimensions of ten eggs in mm. were: length 14.19, breadth 11.8, depth 8.3. Feeds upon beetle larvae and glow-worms, and in captivity dies unless kept among moss covered stones.

***Cnemaspis kandiana* (Kelaart, 1852) (Plate: 01)**

Kelaart, E. F., *Prodromus faunae Zeylanicae*, 1852: 186.

Material examined: Lectotype (see Manamendra-Arachchi *et al.*, 2007)

Female (33.2 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 53.4.1.1; *Loc.* Ceylon; *Coll.* Kelaart. (Fig. 05)

Original description:

GYMNODACTYLUS KANDIANUS, *n.s. nobis.*

Fulvous, or ochry brown, marbled and spotted with dark brown. Beneath dark grey, or whitish. Black granular, sides with two longitudinal distant series of minute spine-like tubercles. Tail rather depressed, angular on the sides, flattened beneath, with cross series of minute spines on the upper surface and a central series of broad scutae on the under surface. Toes slender, compressed, moderately long, base slightly thickened, distinct transverse plates throughout the under surface; claws small, much curved. Lower rostral shield large; chin shields 2, large, four-sided, the rest granular. Pupil round. *Irides* golden. No femoral or preanal pore?

Head and body.....1. 8-10 inch.
Tail.....1. 6-10 “
Total length.....3. 4-10 inches.

Geographical Distribution. Kandian hills, Ceylon.

This Gecko is, we believe, identical with the species found at Newera Elia, of which we have not now a specimen. It is of a size smaller than *Hemidactylus frenatus*, and easily distinguished from that species by its slender, compressed and versatile toes, and the single series of plates on their under surface. The minute spine-like tubercles on the sides and tail retain a fulvous colour, even when the creature at times puts on a blackish or greenish hue in other parts. These spines are not very distinctly visible in specimens preserved in spirits. Mr. Gray's *Gonydactylus Indicus* would seem to be closely allied to this species, but that it is not described as spine-bearing on the back or tail.

The *Gymnodactyle* is found in the higher Kandian hills, in native huts and out-houses on Coffee Estates, where rarely is any other species seen.

***Cnemaspis scalpensis* (Ferguson, 1877) (Plate: 01)**

Ferguson, W., *Reptile Fauna of Ceylon*, 1877: 13.

Material examined: Neotype (see Manamendra-Arachchi *et al.*, 2007)

Male (29.7 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* NMSL 2004.1.1; *Loc.* Gannoruwa Forest Reserve, near Peradeniys; Kandy District; *Coll.* L. J. Mendis Wickramasinghe; *Date.* 27 – 12 - 2003. (Fig. 06)

Original description:

36. – *GYMNODACTYLUS SCALPENSIS*, Ferg., MS. Several specimens separated from Nos. 34 and 35 in consequence of having from 13 to 14 femoral pores on each side. The absence and number of femoral pores seem to be good specific characters in species of *Hemidactylus*, but my specimens of these three numbers, all from the Kandyan country and Hewissa, are otherwise so much alike that I feel convinced they are all one species, and must merge in to the oldest name, *G. mysorensis*, Jerdon. Dr. Günther informs me that all my specimens of the above three numbers sent to the British Museum, are for *G. Kandianus*, so that, Theobald's *G. Humei* must also merge into this one.

***Cnemaspis tropidogaster* (Boulenger, 1885) (Plate: 01)**

Boulenger, G. A., Catalogue of the Lizards in the British Museum, I, 1885: 69-70.

Material examined: Lectotype (see Manamendra-Arachchi *et al.*, 2007)

Male (31.4 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 71.12.14.49; *Loc.* Ceylon; *Coll.* G. H. K. Thwaites. (Fig. 07)

Original description:

The following specimens agree so well in structure and in their different modes of coloration with *G. kandianus* that I cannot consider them specifically distinct from the latter. However, as their ventral scales are keeled, they should be kept distinct from the typical form. They may be called the *tropidogaster* form.

α. ♂.	Ceylon.	G. H. K. Thwaites, Esq. [P.].
β. ♀.	Ceylon.	Col. Beddome [C.].
γ-θ, ι. ♂, ♀, & hgr.	Tinnevely.	Col. Beddome [C.].
κ. ♀.	Nilgherries.	Col. Beddome [C.].
λ-v. ♀, hgr., & yg.	Wynaad.	Col. Beddome [C.].

***Cnemaspis podihuna* Deraniyagala, 1944 (Plate: 01, 02)**

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., Journal of Royal Asiatic Society (Ceylon Branch), XXXVI, 1944: 226, Fig. 01. (Fig. 08).

Material examined: Holotype (see Amarasinghe & Bauer, 2009)

Male (25 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1946.8.1.20; *Loc.* Luhugala, Eastern Province, Ceylon; *Coll.* P.E.P. Deraniyagala. (Fig. 09)

Original description:

***Cnemaspis podihuna* sp. nov.**

The genus *Cnemaspis* is represented in Ceylon by *Cnemaspis kandianus* (Kelaart) with three sub-species and *Cnemaspis jerdoni* (Theobald). The new species is intermediate between these, and the relationships will be better understood by a brief comparison with them. *Cnemaspis podihuna* sp. nov. is identifiable by the following combination of characters:- Preanal and femoral pores present ; (fig. 1. 2 *p.f.*) pore bearing scales without tubercles; dorsal granules without tubercles; (fig. 1. 3) median subcaudals strongly enlarged ; four dark transverse markings from shoulders to hips inclusive; it is the smallest Ceylon species of gecko. The species name is derived from two Sinhala words *pod*-small; *huna*-gecko. Head subovates canthus rostralis, rounded, snout shorter than distance from eye to ear; tail rather flattened ventrally.

Philodosis – Dorsal granules rounded, smooth; those on snout strongly enlarged; those on occiput and back uniform and without enlarged tubercles; anterior supercillaries enlarged; rostral subquadrangular, cleft dorsally; mental subtriangular with two postmentals generally separated mesially by a single scale. three subconical tubercles well apart from each other on each flank; ventral scales smooth, subimbricate, mostly wider than long and with broadly rounded posterior margins. Median row of subcaudals strongly enlarged, subhexagonal, wider than long in anterior half of tail length, and as wide as long or a little longer than wide posteriorly (fig. 1. 2). Dorsally tail with imbricate scales and ringed at intervals with tubercles. Three enlarged, padlike scales under the basal phalanx of each digit.

Pores – Four preanal pores separated laterally by six glandular scales from the femoral pores that form a row of five on each thigh (fig. 1.2).

Color – Dorsally silvery grey with a dark lateral band from nostril to shoulder; a dark occipital blotch and several transverse W-shaped dark markings opening anteriorly and clouded with bluish grey; one such mark is nuchal; four are between shoulders and hips inclusive; about five on tail; limbs with two or three dark rings; ventrally pale yellow intensifying to canary yellow on tail. No ventral body scales with brown or light dorsal spots as in other Ceylon species.

Type – An adult male (fig. 1) with the distal half of the tail broken off. Length from snout tip to ear 8 mm.; snout tip to cloaca 26 mm. ; from axilla to groin 12 mm. ; tail (incomplete) 18 mm. The specimen is in the Colombo Museum.

Paratypes – An adult female measuring 25 mm. From snout tip to cloaca (tail missing), a half grown specimen, and two young ones.

Distribution – This is the only species known from the dry zone of the coastal plain of Ceylon. The others frequent the more elevated areas in the wet zone of this plain and also the two peneplains. Specimens were obtained between 9 and 12 a.m. on 7th April 1944, at Lahugala in the Eastern Province. This station is 8 kilometers from the sea at Lat. 6°50'N., Long. 81°41'E. The annual rainfall is 50" to 75" ; the temperature 80° to 81°F. The new gecko is essentially arboreal and generally frequents the boles of trees with buttress roots. The other two Ceylon species prefer mossy rocks or the moss covered roots of trees.

I here wish to express my indebtedness to Mr. H.A. Pieris, Divisional Agricultural Officer, for motoring me to Lanugala and for assisting me to obtain a guide.

Key to *Cnemaspis* species of Ceylon

1. Dorsal scales uniform smooth granules, median subcaudals enlarged, ventrals smooth –
 - a) preanal and femoral pores present..... *C. podihuna* sp. nov.
 - b) only femoral pores present..... *C. jerdoni*

2. Dorsal scales carinate granules intermixed with tubercles, median subcaudals not enlarged, some ventrals usually carinate, preanal and femoral pores present –
 - a) only throat scales carinate..... *C. kandianus kandianus*
 - b) all ventral scales carinate..... *C. kandianus tropidogaster*
 - c) all ventral scales smooth..... *C. kandianus gracilis*

***Cyrtodactylus fraenatus* (Günther, 1864) (Plate: 02)**

Günther, A., The Reptiles of British India, 1864: 113-114, pl. XII, Fig. D, D'. (Fig. 10)

Material examined: Lectotype (see Batuwita & Bahir, 2005)

Male (97 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 55.2.12.6; *Loc.* Ceylon; *Coll.* Cuming. (Fig. 11)

Original description:

GYMNODACTYLUS FRÆNATUS. (Plate XII. fig. D.)

Body granular, with six or eight series of very small tubercles; tail uniformly granular, without tubercles, and with enlarged subcaudals below. Eleven upper and nine lower labials; the median lower labial is of moderate size; the front pair of chin-shields form a long suture together. Nostril immediately behind the rostral. A group of enlarged scales and two pairs of pores in the preanal region; scales of the middle of the belly in about thirty-four longitudinal series. Pupil erect, denticulated. Limbs and toes moderately slender. The two terminal joints of the fingers and toes are much compressed, and distinct from the basal joints, which are provided with transverse disks below. Light brownish, with dark-brown markings: a broad band proceeds from behind the eye to the side of the neck, where it joins two irregular broad cross bars, the one behind the occiput, and the other between the shoulders; two or three similar cross bars on the back of the trunk, and broad brown rings round the tail. All these markings are much less distinct in old age than in immature specimens, being indicated only by irregular black outlines.

We have received this fine species only from Ceylon; it attains to a length of 7 inches. Figure D of Plate XII. represents the animal of the natural size, figure D' the anal region.

***Geckoella triedrus* (Günther, 1864)** (Plate: 02)

Günther, A., The Reptiles of British India, 1864: 113.

Material examined: Holotype

Male (50 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 55.2.12.7; *Loc.* Ceylon; *Coll.* Cuming. (Fig. 12)

Original description:

GYMNODACTYLUS TRIEDRUS.

Back granular, studded all over with small trihedral tubercles; (tail (reproduced) uniformly granular above, with small irregular scales beneath, rather thick, tapering). Ten upper and nine lower labials; nostril immediately behind the rostral; præanal or femoral pores none (in the single specimen observed); scales of the middle of the belly in about thirty longitudinal series. Limbs and toes moderately slender. The two terminal joints of the fingers and toes are compressed, not very distinct from the basal joints, which are provided with transverse disks below. Uniform brown; tail with four indistinct rings of irregular whitish spots.

Ceylon. The single specimen observed is in the British Museum; it is nearly 4 inches long, and not in a very good state of preservation.

***Geckoella collegalensis* Beddome, 1870** (Plate: 02)

Beddome, R. H., Descriptions of new Reptiles from the Madras Presidency. Madras Monthly Journal of Medical Science, Vol. 2: 179.

Material examined: Syntype.

Female (54.2 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1946.8.25.28; *Loc.* Balarangams, Mysore; *Coll.* Beddome. (Fig. 13)

Original description:

Gymnodactylus Collegalensis. (Bedd.) In every respect as in *Gymnodactylus speciosus*, but with a very different coloration; ground color, pale grayish, with four dark brown 8-shaped marks edged with white across the body, and a transverse band of large spots between each marking; head with eight irregular dark brown blotches on a light ground; tail with about six 8-shaped transverse blotches, becoming indistinct towards the tip.

Under stones on the lower slopes of Balarangams in dry forests near Yellundur.

These two lizards agree in every respect, except in coloration, which, however, is very different; they are both most beautifully marked species, and must be very rare. Only a single specimen of each has been obtained, and considerable search and expense has not rewarded me with a duplicate of either.

***Geckoella yakhuna* (Deraniyagala, 1945)** (Plate: 02)

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., Proceedings of 32nd Indian Science Congress, III, 1945: 114 (Abstract no. 69)

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., Spolia Zeylanica, Vol. 24, 1945: 100-102 (Full paper) (Fig. 14).

Material examined: Paratype (Type of the Variety *zonatus*).

Male (40 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1946.8.1.19; *Loc.* Manampitiya; *Coll.* P. E. P. Deraniyagala (Fig. 15)

Original description: (Abstract)

69. Some cross-banded geckoes of India and Ceylon.

P. E. P. DERANIYAGALA, Colombo (Ceylon)

Three South Indian and Ceylon species of cross-banded *Gymnodactylus* hitherto regarded as a single species have been separated into two by Malcolm Smith. One of these contains the Ceylon form. The Indian species have been separated from one another mainly on colour and the Ceylon form is now similarly treated.

The Indian *Gymnodactylus collegalensis* Beddome has two varieties, one with six or five transverse rows of dark spots between neck and hips, the other with dark transverse bands much wider than the interspaces. The Ceylon gecko possesses only 2 rows of spots and if banded, they are equal to or narrower than their interspaces. It is named *Gymnodactylus yakhuna* sp. nov. 'type' in Colombo Museum. It has evidently evolved by the recent isolation of the Indian gecko.

Original description: (Full paper)

Gymnodactylus yakhuna Deraniyagala

Gymnodactylus nebulosus (in part) Boulenger 1885. Cat. Liz. Brit. Mus.

Gymnodactylus collegalensis Smith 1935. Fauna Brit. Ind. (Reptilia), Vol. II, p. 57.

Gymnodactylus yakhuna Deraniyagala 1945. Proc. Thirty Second Indian Science Congress, III – (Abstracts), p. 114, No. 69. 'Type,' in Colombo Museum.

Head rather heavy; snout slightly longer than distance between eye and ear body and tail subcylindrical; no lateral fold; middle of tail as neck; limb; short.

Scalation.— Supralabials 10-9; infralabials 9-7; rostral sub-rectangular, touching two supranasals that are separated from one another by a single median scales dorsal scales rounded granules, sometimes about two or three are enlarged on each side near the hips; mental subpentagonal followed by two enlarged postmentals that are broadly in contact with one another mesially; ventrals subimbricate, some are apt to be subhexagonal; caudals and subcaudals imbricate; a few of the latter sometimes slightly enlarged; subdigital lamellae equal to half the width of the basal part of the digit.

Color.— Ground color dusky light red; the markings are chocolate, black-edged and outlined in brilliant light red, usually numerous black spots occur on the interspaces. Iris brown, head with an arrow shaped dark, median band which is interrupted in many specimens, and there are three or four supraocular blotches. A dark band runs laterally from snout to nape and is confluent with its fellow; ventrally a dusky grey, throat with a number of wavy dark lines running from gape to mid gular area.

In the *forma typica* there are two cross rows of dark blotches on the body, each row consisting of two subrectangular markings (fig. 1 Nos. 5, 6).

In the variety *zonatus* there are two cross bands on the body, which are equal to or shorter than the light interpaces (fig. 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9).

The caudal pigmentation which is known chiefly from *zonatus* is highly variable; in some individuals, the light ground color being almost completely replaced by the dark cross bands (fig. 1, Nos. 2, 4), while in others, the latter are almost absent. An adult male (fig. 1, No. 2) had such dark markings, whereas an adult female (fig. 1, No. 9) possessed only a few spots. Each of the two young bred from these two individuals resembled one of the parents (fig. 1, Nos. 3, 4).

Type (Forma typica).— A spotted male with the tail broken off (fig. 1, No. 5) collected at Kālivila in the North-Western Province on 3.5.44. Length from snout tip to cloaca 41mm. Supra labials 10; infralabials 7

Variety *zonatus* a male. The type (fig. 1, No. 2) collected at Manampitiya. Length from snout tip to cloaca 40 mm.; tail 33 mm.; supralabials 8; infralabials 7. Paratypes (fig. 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9). All these specimens are in the Colombo Museum.

Reproduction.—A *zonatus* male from Manampitiya and a similarly pigmented female from Kala vāva kept by Mr. G. M. Henry, the Museum's Assistant in Systematic Entomology, laid four eggs on 4.1.38. Two of these hatched out on 9.4.38. The male is text fig. 1, No. 2; the female is No. 9; the offspring are Nos. 3 and 4. One of these latter, No. 3, possesses an unbanded tail as in the mother; the other No. 4, possesses a strongly banded tail as in the male. This suggests that the caudal pigmentation is probably a sexual character.

Distribution.—A rare, nocturnal, ground dwelling species; slow moving, and inhabiting damp, rotten timber or heaps of dead leaves. The thick tail is very flexible and its tip is curled upwards. The animal's protective coloration renders it difficult to detect from the background. The similarity of *G. yakhuna* to the Indian *collegalensis* suggests that one is directly derived from the other. The fewer labials and spots in the Ceylon species suggests more progressive evolution, and that it is derived from *collegalensis*, while the occurrence of a spotted and a banded color variety in each species suggests that the separation of the two species occurred comparatively recently. *G. yakhuna* is known only from the arid low-country of the Northern half of Ceylon. A specimen obtained by Haly in 1900 is labeled Mātalé, but it is very probable that it came from arid low-country of Dambulla, which adjoins this mountainous district (fig. 1, No. 7). Boulenger's specimens as well as the ones here figured suggest that the '*forma typica*' is restricted to the

western part of this area, the race *zonatus* to the eastern. The '*forma typica*' is known from Manaar (Fide Boulenger), Kālivila, and Puliyankulam, in the Northern Province. The race *zonatus* is known from? Mātālē (probably Dambulla), Kala vāva and Manampitiya in the North-Central Province.

***Gehyra mutilata* Wiegmann, 1834 (Plate: 02)**

Wiegmann, A. F. A., Beiträge zur Zoologie, 1834: 238

Material examined: Lectotype (see Bauer & Günther, 1991)

Male (52.51 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* ZMB 370A; *Loc.* Manila (Philippines; *Coll.* F. J. F. Meyen. (Fig. 16)

Original description:

16. HEMIDACTYLUS (P.) mutilatus. **)

H. cauda depressa, ancipiti, acie acuta, serrulata; squamis laterum dorsales intermedias magnitudine superantibus; digitis plantarum mediis colligates; pollicibus omnibus mutilatus, muticis.

**) Im Spec. I. meiner *Herpet. Mexicana* p. 20 habe ich diese Art unter dem Namen *H. pristiurus* aufgeführt, halte es aber für besser, diesen zu unterdrücken, da die Zähnelung der Schwanzesschneide nicht immer gleich deutlich ist.

Schnautze, Scheitel und Hinterhaupt sind mit gleichartigen rundlichen Schuppen bekleidet; nur zwischen den Nasenlöchern liegen kleine Schnautzenschildchen. Das mässig grosse pentagone Kinnschildchen ist hinten von vier Schildchen begrenzt, von denen das mittlere Paar länglich-fünfeckig, die beiden seitlichen fast trapezisch sind. Hinter den Lippenschildchen der Unterkinnlade liegen mehrere kleine schildartige Schuppen. Die Schuppen der Rückenseite sind klein, rundlich-vieleckig, glatt; die auf der Mitte des Rückens gelegenen kleiner, als die an den Seiten des Rumpfes. An diesem verläuft, den Rücken vom Bauche trennend, eine kaum angedeutete Falte. Die Schuppen der Kehle sind klein, rundlich, die der Brust und des Bauches etwas grösser, sechseckig; jene, wie diese, ebenfalls glatt. Der Schwanz ist etwas kürzer als der Körper, gegen die Spitze allmähig verschmälert, plattgedrückt, zweischneidig, an der Schneide seiner ganzen Länge nach mit kleinen rückwärts gerichteten Spitzen, wie mit Sägezähnen besetzt und dadurch fein gezähnt. Seine obere convexe Seite bekleiden klein, rundliche Schuppen, welche, am Grundtheile in Querreihen stehend, 4 – 5 Absätze bilden, gegen das Endtheil des Schwanzes aber minder regelmässig stehen. Die Haftscheiben der Daumen sind nicht kleiner als die der übrigen Zehen, und ganz wie diese gestaltet; das zierliche zweite Glied nebst dem Nagelgliede ist ganz verkümmert, und nur eine schwache Spur desselben, wie es scheint, mit der Haftscheibe verwachsen. Die Farbe der Oberseite erscheint bei den in Weingeist bewahrten Exemplaren grau, mit verloschenen braunen Flecken; die Unterseite ist weisslich.

Die Länge des Körpers beträgt 1 7/8", des Schwanzes 1 7/12".

Manila.

English translation:

16. HEMIDACTYLUS (P.) mutilatus. **)

Tail depressed anteriorly, elongated, edges sharp, serrated; lateral dorsal scales of intermediate size extending beyond; underside of the digits gathered together medially; thumb reduced, muticous.

**) In the first part of my *Herpet. Mexicana* p. 20 I designated the name *H. pristiurus* for this species, however it is better to suppress this since the denticulations of the edge of the tail are not always entirely evident.

Snout, crown and posterior of head are covered in homogenous roundish scales; only between the nostrils there lie small snout scales. The moderately large pentagonal chin shield is bordered posteriorly by four small shields, of which the middle pair is oblong and five-sided and the lateral ones are nearly trapexoidal. Posterior to the infralabial scales lie several small shield-like scales. The scales of the dorsum are small, roundish to many-sided, smooth; those on the middle of the back are smaller than those on the sides of the trunk. At this junction of the back with the belly runs a barely distinguishable fold. The scales of the throat are small, roundish, those chest and the belly somewhat larger, hexagonal; these, like the others, likewise smooth. The tail is somewhat shorter, continually narrowing towards the tip, flattend, double-edged, along the edge for its entire length with small backwards-pointing points arranged backwards, as if covered with the denticles of a saw and thus finely toothed. Its upper convex side with small, roundish scales, which,

at the basal part are arranged in transverse rows, forming 4 - 5 segments, in contrast to the distal portion of the tail, which is less regularly scaled. The adhesive pads of the thumbs are not smaller than those of the remaining toes, and shaped completely like these; the delicate second phalanx together with the ungula phalanx are diminished completely, and only a weak trace of it, as it seems, is fused with the adhesive pad. The color of the dorsum appears grey in spirit-preserved specimens, with faded brown marks; the venter is whitish.

The length of the body amounts to 1 7/8", the tail 1 7/12".
Manila.

***Hemidactylus platyurus* (Schneider, 1792)**

Schneider, J. G., *Amphibiorum Physiologiae*, II, 1792: 30-31.

Material examined: Type lost

Original description:

7) *Stellio platyurus*, cauda supra convexa infra plana, media serie scutorum 6, initio leuiter verticillato; lamellis soli digitorum diuisis, lunulatis et imbricatis, unguibus nudis, corpore aequaliter squammulis conicis loricato, inferioribus maioribus.

Exemplum vnum Rebeltianum inspexi animalis nullibi memorati. Caudae infra planae margines vtrinque acuti squammis longioribus horrent; laterum suturam a laxa cuticula essiciputo; scutorum dorsi nullum adest vestigium. Dentes minuti sunt et conici; color cinereus, fascia brunea utrinque ad capitis latus per oculos ad artus anteriores deducta. Magnitudine naturali pictum alibi ponam.

English translation:

7) *Stellio platyurus*, tail convex above, flat below, with a median series of 6 scutes, slightly verticillate at the base; lamellae under the digits divided, crescentic and overlapping, claws exposed, body with uniform scalation of conical scales, largest on the venter.

Single specimen from the Rebelt collection is considered as an animal nowhere previously mentioned. Tail flat below, margins on both sides with elongate pointed scales giving bristly appearance; edge of the flanks with a flap of loose skin; do trace of dorsal scutes present. Teeth minute and conical; color ashy, brown stripes on both sides of the head extending through the eye to the forelimb. Depicted at natural size elsewhere.

***Hemidactylus triedrus* Daudin, 1802 (Plate: 03)**

Daudin, F. M., *Histoire Naturelle des reptiles*, IV, 1802: 155-157, pl. X.

Material examined: Holotype.

Male (81.5 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* MNHN 2297; *Loc.* Unknown; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 17)

Original description:

LE GECKO A ÉCAILLES TRIÈDRES (1).

Ce gecko, encore très – singulier par la forme extraordinaire de ses écailles, n'est cependant pas encore connu des naturalistes. Nous avons déjà remarqué que, parmi les agames, on en trouve une espèce dont le dessus du corps est parsemé d'écailles qui imitent parfaitement de petites pyramides tétraèdres ou à quatre faces; nous avons aussi découvert, parmi les geckos qui font partie de la belle collection du museum [sic] d'histoire naturelle, une nouvelle espèce qui a dessus le corps et les flancs jusqu'à dix-huit rangées longitudinales d'écailles assez grandes, rapprochées, et trièdres, c'est-à-dire, semblables à de petites pyramides à trois faces. Il n'y a que six rangées semblables dessus la base de la queue, et ensuite quatre seulement sur le reste.

Toute la peau de la tête, de la gorge, du dos, du dessus de la queue et des membres, est couverte d'écailles hexagones, infiniment petites et nombreuses.

On voit au moins vingt-huit rangées longitudinales d'écailles hexagones, assez distinctes sous le ventre. D'autres écailles, de même forme et de même grandeur, garnissent le dessous des membres et de la base de la queue, jusques derrière l'anus, qui est transversal.

Il y a plus de cinquante plaques étroites, lisses, transversales sous la queue, comme aux boas. Le dessous de chaque cuisse est marqué d'une rangée longitudinale de huit écailles, marquées sur leur centre d'un pore roux, oblong et un peu saillant. Toutes les écailles qui garnissent la peau de ce gecko sont parsemées, principalement dessus le corps, d'une multitude infinie de très-petits points ou d'atomes noirâtres, qu'on aperçoit très-facilement à la loupe.

Le gecko à écailles trièdres est d'une couleur jaunâtre pâle, un peu sale ; il a une tache brune oblongue, entre deux taches allongées [sic] blanchâtres, derrière chaque œil. On voit dessus le corps et l'occiput quelques petites teintes brunâtres, et vers les côtés du dos, plusieurs petites taches arrondies et blanchâtres. Les pieds sont un peu courts, avec leurs doigts séparés, allongés [sic], et semblables à ceux du gecko à gouttelettes.

Dimensions du gecko à écailles trièdres, qui est placé dans la galerie du museum d'histoire naturelle.

	pouc.	lig.
Longueur totale	7	6
Longueur de la tête	1	3
Sa largeur		10
Longueur du corps	2	3
Sa largeur	1	
Longueur de la queue qui s'amincit et se termine en pointe	4	
Sa largeur à la base		5

Je ne sais pas dans quel pays habite ce gecko.

(1) *Gecko triedrurus ; serieibus 18 squamarum pyramidalium triedrurum in parte superiore corporis, caudâ subtus scutellis transverses munitâ.*

English translation:

THE TRIEDRAL SCALED GECKO (1).

That gecko, again very – singular because of the extraordinary shape of its scales, has nonetheless not been known to naturalists until now. We have already noted that, among agamas, we find a species in which the body dorsum is covered by scales perfectly resembling small tetrahedral or four-faced pyramids; we have also discovered, among the geckos constituting part of the excellent collection of the museum of natural history, a new species which has on the dorsum and flanks as many as eighteen longitudinal rows of enlarged scales, juxtaposed, and triedral, that is to say similar to small three-faced pyramids. There are only six similar rows above the tail base, and then only four on the remainder.

All the skin of the head, throat, back, and dorsum of the tail and limbs is covered by hexagonal scales, infinitely small and numerous.

One can see approximately twenty-eight relatively distinct longitudinal rows of hexagonal scales on the venter. Other scales, of the same shape and size, cover the lower surface of limbs and tail base, to posterior of the anus, which is transversal.

There are more than fifty narrow, smooth, transverse plates under the tail, as in boas. The lower surface of each thigh is marked by a longitudinal row of eight scales, bearing at their centre a reddish-brown, oblong and weakly projecting pore. All the scales covering the skin of that gecko, principally on the dorsal surface, are sprinkled with an infinite multitude of tiny blackish points or dots, which can easily be seen with a lens.

The triedral-scaled gecko is of a pale, slightly dirty yellowish colour; it has a oblong brown marking, between two elongate whitish markings, behind each eye. There are on the body dorsum and above the occiput some small brownish marks, and toward the sides of the dorsum, several small rounded whitish spots. The feet are a little short, with their fingers separated, elongated, and similar to those of the droplet gecko.

Dimensions of the trihedral-scaled gecko which is in the gallery of the natural history museum.

	thumbs	lines
Total length	7	6
Head length	1	3

Its width		10
Body length	2	3
Its width	1	
Length of the tail which narrows and terminates in a point	4	
Width at its base		5

I do not know in which country this gecko lives.

(1) *Gecko triedrus; seriebus 18 squamarum pyramidalium triedrarum in parte superiore corporis, caudâ subtus scutellis transverses munitâ.*

***Hemidactylus depressus* Gray, 1842** (Plate: 03)

Gray, J. E., The Zoological Miscellany. 1842: 58.

Material examined: Syntype.

Male (78 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH RR1962.190; *Loc.* Unknown; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 18)

Original description:

Hemidactylus depressus, Gray. Tail depressed, rather broad, with a broad central groove above and below, lower broadest: back and hinder part of the thighs with rather distinct, large, oblong, triangular, keeled tubercles.

Inhabits Madagascar. Brit. Mus.

***Hemidactylus maculatus* Duméril & Bibron, 1836** (Plate: 03)

Duméril, A. M. C. & G. Bibron, *Erpétologie générale ou histoire naturelle complète des reptiles*, III, 1836: 358-359.

Material examined: Syntype.

Male (121 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* MNHN 6575A; *Loc.* Unknown; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 19)

Original description:

6. L'HÉMIDACTYLE TACHETÉ. *Hemidactylus maculatus*. Nobis.

CARACTÈRES. Dos gris, largement tacheté de noir et garni de tubercules subtrièdres, disposés en séries longitudinales. Une rangée de pores le long de chaque cuisse (chez les mâles).

DESCRIPTION.

FORMES. Cette espèce devient plus grande qu'aucune des précédentes. Ses bords orbitaires supérieurs sont presque aussi relevés que ceux de l'Hémidactyle de Leschenault. Aussi son front, comme celui de ce dernier, forme-t-il la gouttière. Les narines n'offrent rien de particulier ni dans leur situation, ni dans leur figure. Une dentelure, composée d'un seul rang d'écaillés, garnit le bord libre de la portion supérieure de la paupière. Les plaques labiales ressemblent à celles de l'espèce précédente. L'oreille est ovale et fort ouverte. Les doigts sont médiocrement élargis, et le pouce n'est que d'un tiers moins long que le second doigt. Les lamelles imbriquées qui revêtent leur face inférieure, n'ont pas cette forme en chevron qu'on remarque chez le plus grand nombre des autres espèces d'Hémidactyles. Elles sont rectangulaires, offrant une très faible échancrure triangulaire au milieu de leur bord antérieur. On compte neuf de ces lamelles sous chaque pouce, et de dix à treize sous les autres doigts antérieurs et postérieurs. La queue a un quart de plus en longueur que le reste de l'animal ; elle est forte et légèrement déprimée à sa base, grêle et arrondie à sa pointe. Des tubercules arrondis sont répandus sur le crâne et sur la nuque. A partir de celle-ci jusqu'à l'extrémité du tronc, le dos en offre de subtrièdres, disposés par rangées longitudinales laissant peu d'espace entre elles. D'autres tubercules de même forme entourent circulairement, de distance en distance, le dessus et les côtés de la queue, dont la face inférieure est garnie de grandes plaques hexagonales. Le long de

la région interne de chaque cuisse il y a chez les individus mâles une série de petits pores semi-subovales percés chacun assez près du bord antérieur d'une écaille pentagone.

COLORATION. Un gris cendré colore les parties supérieures de cet Hémidactyle dont le dos et le dessus du cou sont marqués en travers de grandes taches anguleuses noires. Ces taches forment des bandes de trois ou quatre chacune, qui souvent se confondent les unes avec les autres. Autour de la queue se montrent de larges anneaux noirs, séparés par des intervalles de couleur blanche. Les régions inférieures de l'animal offrent une teinte blanchâtre. Une bande flexueuse de la même couleur que les taches du dos se voit au-dessus de chaque ouverture auriculaire, d'où elle s'étend jusqu'au bout du nez, en passant par dessus l'œil. Deux raies également noires, formant un grand V, sont imprimées sur le museau. Nous possédons plusieurs jeunes sujets, sur le dos desquels il n'y a pas la moindre apparence de taches noires..

DIMENSIONS. *Longueur totale.* 24'' 1'''. *Tête.* Long. 3'' 1'''; haut. 1''; larg. 2''. *Cou.* Long. 1''. *Corps.* Long. 8''. *Memb. antér.* Long. 4'' 1'''. *Memb. post.* Long. 5'' 2'''. *Queue.* Long. 12''.

PATRIE. Les Indes orientales, les Philippines et l'île Maurice produisent cette espèce. Nos plus grands échantillons viennent de Bombay. Nous en avons de jeunes sujets qui nous ont été envoyés des Philippines, de l'Île-de-France, du Bengale et de Pondichéry par MM. Quoy, Gaimard, Dussumier, Duvancel, et Leschenault.

Observations. Les jeunes individus ayant leurs tubercules du dos un peu moins saillans que les sujets adultes, il en résulte qu'ils ont une certaine ressemblance avec l'Hémidactyle mabouya. C'est peut-être ce qui a fait dire à M. Cuvier (Règne animal, tom. 2) qu'il existe dans l'Inde des Hémidactyles si semblables au Mabouya, qu'on serait tenté de penser qu'ils y ont été transportés par des vaisseaux.

English translation:

6. THE SPOTTED HEMIDACTYLE. *Hemidactylus maculatus.* Nobis.

CHARACTERS. Back grey, largely spotted with black and covered with subtriangular tubercles, arranged in longitudinal series. One row of pores present along each thigh (in males).

DESCRIPTION.

SHAPE. This species reaches a larger size than any of the preceding. The upper borders of its orbits are nearly as elevated as those of Leschenault's Hemidactyle. Also its forehead, like that of the later, forms a concavity. The nares offer nothing particular either in their position, or in their shape. A small series of denticles, composed of a single row of scales surmounts the free border of the upper portion of the eyelid. The labial plates resemble those of the preceding species. The ear is oval and widely opened. The digits are weakly widened, and the thumb is only one third shorter long than the second finger. The imbricate lamellae that cover their lower surface are not chevron-shaped as they are in the largest number of other Hemidactyle species. They are rectangular, with a weak triangular indentation at the middle of their anterior border. There are nine of these lamellae under each thumb, and from ten to thirteen under other anterior and posterior digits. The tail is one quarter longer than the remainder of the animal; it is robust and weakly depressed at its base, slender and rounded at its tip. Rounded tubercles are widespread on the cranium and on the neck. From there to the end of the trunk, the back is covered in subtriangular scales arranged in longitudinal rows with little space between them. Other tubercles of the same shape are arranged circularly, from space to space, on the dorsum and sides of tail, whereas the ventral surface is covered by large hexagonal plates. Along the internal area of each thigh males exhibit a series of small semi-subovale pores each pierced relatively close to the anterior border of a pentagonal scale.

COLORATION. The dorsal parts of this hemidactyle have an ash grey colouring while the back and upper neck are transversally marked by large and angular black spots. These spots form bands of three or four each, which often blend into one another. Around the tail there are wide black rings, separated by white coloured intervals. Ventral areas of the animal display a whitish tint. A sinuous band of the same colour as the back spots can be seen above each auricular aperture, from where it extends to the end of the snout, passing above the eye. Two similarly black stripes, forming a large V, are present on the snout. We possess several juveniles specimens, on the back of which there is not even any appearance of black spots.

DIMENSIONS. *Total length.* 24'' 1'''. *Head.* Length 3'' 1'''; height 1''; width 2''. *Neck.* Length 1''. *Body.* Length 8''. *Forelimb* Length 4'' 1'''. *Limblimb* Length 5'' 2'''. *Tail.* Length 12''.

DISTRIBUTION. The East Indies, Philippines and Mauritius are home to this species. Our largest samples originated from Bombay. We have young subjects of it which were sent from the Philippines, from Ile-de-France [Mauritius], from Bengal and from Pondichery by MM. Quoy, Gaimard, Dussumier, Duvancel [sic, = Duvaucel], and Leschenault.

Observations. Young individuals having their back tubercles a little less prominent than adult subjects, resulting in a certain resemblance to *Hemidactyle mabouya*. This is perhaps what caused Mr. Cuvier to state (*Règne animal*, vol. 2) that there exist Hemidactyles in India so similar to the *Mabouya*, that we could be tempted to think that they were transported there by vessels.

***Hemidactylus leschenaultii* Duméril & Bibron, 1836 (Plate: 03)**

Duméril, A. M. C. & G. Bibron, *Erpétologie générale ou histoire naturelle complète des reptiles*, III, 1836: 364-365.

Material examined: Syntype.

Male (90 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* MNHN 6593; *Loc.* Unknown; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 20)

Original description:

9. L'HÉMIDACTYLE DE LESCHENAULT. *Hemidactylus Leschenaultii*. Nobis.

CARACTÈRES. Bords orbitaires saillans et prolongés sur le museau. Des petits tubercules épars au milieu des grains de la peau du dos. Celui-ci offrant une suite de grands cercles subrhomboïdaux. Pouce assez développé ; queue très légèrement déprimée. Vingt-six pores fémoraux (chez les mâles). Ils sont ovales et percés fort près du bord antérieur des écailles.

DESCRIPTION.

FORMES. Le bord orbitaire supérieur de cet Hémidactyle fait, au-dessus du crâne, une légère saillie qui se prolonge en avant, absolument de la même manière que chez le crocodile rhombifère ; en sorte que le front offre une surface enfoncée, ayant la figure d'un losange ouvert à ses deux extrémités. Trois plaques subquadri-latérales, dont une, un peu plus dilatée que les deux autres, bordent en arrière chaque ouverture nasale qui, en avant, touche à la scutelle rostrale et à la première labiale. Le dessous du menton est garni de deux plaques hexagonales oblongues, à droite et à gauche desquelles il y en a une autre d'un plus petit diamètre. La paupière forme presque un cercle complet autour du globe de l'œil, tant le bord inférieur en est peu rentré dans l'orbite. Les trous auriculaires sont grands et ovales. Les pouces, de moitié moins longs que les seconds doigts, ont leur surface inférieure garnie de sept lamelles imbriquées. On en compte neuf sous chacun des autres doigts, à l'exception des troisièmes et quatrièmes postérieurs qui en offrent une de plus. Il y a sur la face interne de l'une et l'autre cuisses un rang de treize écailles qui, tout près de leur bord antérieur, sont percées d'un pore ovale dont le plus grand diamètre est placé en travers. Ces deux lignes d'écailles crypteuses sont bien distinctes l'une de l'autre ; c'est-à-dire qu'elles ne se prolongent pas sur la région préanale pour s'y réunir comme cela se voit chez d'autres espèces et chez la précédente en particulier. La queue est forte et légèrement déprimée dans sa première moitié ; elle est au contraire très effilée et arrondie dans le reste de son étendue. Sa longueur totale fait environ la moitié de celle de l'animal. En dessus, elle présente de faibles plis transversaux ; sur les côtés, deux ou trois séries longitudinales de petites épines, et en dessous, une longue et large bande de plaques entuillées. Le dos est clair-semé de petits tubercules coniques au milieu des grains extrêmement fins qui garnissent la peau qui l'enveloppe, ainsi que celle de la gorge, du dessus des membres et de la queue. Ce sont des écailles plates, sub-hexagonales et légèrement entuillées qui revêtent la poitrine, le ventre et la face inférieure des quatre pattes.

COLORATION. Les régions inférieures de l'Hémidactyle de Leschenault sont blanches ; les supérieures ont pour fond de couleur un gris clair sur lequel se montre une teinte brunâtre, formant des bandes transversales sur les membres, et circonscrivant, sur le dos, une série de grandes taches ardoises. Ces taches ne ressemblent précisément, ni à des ovales, ni à des losanges, mais tiennent de l'une et de l'autre de ces figures. On en compte cinq ou six formant une espèce de chaîne qui règne depuis la nuque jusqu'à la racine de la queue. Les flancs offrent des raies brunes plus ou moins dilatées ou ramifiées.

DIMENSIONS. *Long. tot.* 16'' 4'''. *Tête.* Long. 3'' ; haut. 1'' 1''' ; larg. 1'' 7'''. *Cou.* Long. 5'''. *Corps.* Long. 5'' 7'''. *Memb. antér.* Long. 3'' 2'''. *Memb. post.* Long. 3'' 7'''. *Queue.* Long. 7'' 2'''.

PATRIE. La collection ne renferme que deux échantillons de cette espèce de *Platydactyle* ; l'un a été envoyé de Ceylan par M. Leschenault ; l'autre est sans origine connue.

Observations. L'espèce d'Hémidactyle décrite et présentée par M. Tilésius, pag. 334, pl. 11 du 7^{me} volume des Mémoires de l'Académie de St-Pétersbourg, est fort voisine de celle-ci. Peut-être même n'en est-elle pas différente. Il la nomme *Stellio argyropis*, et la dit originaire de l'île Nuckahiwa.

English translation:

9. LESCHENAULT'S HEMIDACTYLE. *Hemidactylus Leschenaultii*. Nobis.

CHARACTERS. Orbital borders projecting and extending on snout. Small tubercles interspersed amongst granules on the skin of the back. The latter forming a series of large subrhomboidal circles. Thumb relatively well developed; tail weakly depressed. Twenty-six femoral pores (in males). They are oval and pierced very near the anterior scale border.

DESCRIPTION.

FORM. The upper border of the orbit of this Hemidactyle forms, above the skull, a slight projection extending anteriorly, absolutely in the same way as in the rhombiferous crocodile; so that forehead presents a depressed surface, having the shape of a rhombus opened at both ends. Three subquadri-lateral scales, among which one is a little more broadened than the other two, border each nasal opening posteriorly, while anteriorly [the nostrils] contact the rostral scale and the first labial. The ventral surface of the chin is covered by two hexagonal oblong plates, to the right and left of which there is another one of a smaller diameter. The eyelid forms a nearly complete circle around the eye ball, with a small portion of the ventral border entering into the orbit. . The ear holes are large and oval. The thumbs, which are half the length of the second fingers, have their ventral surface covered by seven imbricate lamellae. There are nine under each of the other fingers, except for third and fourth of the hindfoot, which have one more. There is on the internal surface of both thighs a row of thirteen scales which are all pierced near their anterior border by an oval pore having its greatest diameter oriented transversely. Those two lines of pore-bearing scales are clearly distinct from one another; that is to say that they are not extended into the preanal area to meet, as can be seen in other species and in the preceding species in particular. The tail is robust and weakly depressed in its first half; in contrast, it is very slender and rounded along the remainder of its length. Its total length constitutes about half of that of the animal. Above, it shows weak transversal folds; on the sides, two or three longitudinal series of small spines and below, a long and wide band of imbricated plates. The back is weakly covered with small conical tubercles intermixed amongst extremely fine granules covering the skin around it, as well as that of the throat, top of limbs and tail. There are flat, sub-hexagonal, weakly imbricate scales that cover breast, venter and lower surface of four legs.

COLORATION. Ventral areas of Leschenault's Hemidactyle are white; dorsal surfaces have a light grey ground colour on which there is a brownish colour forming transverse bands on the limbs, and delimitating, on the back, a serie of large slate coloured spots. Those spots precisely resemble neither ovals, nor rhombuses, but rather something in between these two shapes. There are five or six forming a kind of chain that arises from the neck and extends to the tail base. The flanks present brown stripes that are more or less broadened or subdivided.

DIMENSIONS. *Total length.* 16'' 4'''. *Head.* Length 3'' ; height 1'' 1''' ; width 1'' 7'''. *Neck.* Length 5'''. *Body.* Length 5'' 7'''. *Foreleimb* Length 3'' 2'''. *Hindlimb* Length 3'' 7'''. *Tail.* Length 7'' 2'''.

DISTRIBUTION. The collection comprises only two samples of this *Platydactyle* species; one was sent from Ceylon by M. Leschenault; the other is without known origin.

Observations. The species of Hemidactyle described and presented by M. Tilésius, page. 334, pl. 11 of the 7th volume of the Memoirs of the Academy of St-Petersburg, is very close to this one. Perhaps it is even the same. He named it *Stellio argyropis* [*Gehyra oceanica*], and indicated that it originated from Nuckahiwa Island [Nuku Hiva Island, Marquesas Archipelago, French Polynesia].

***Hemidactylus frenatus* Duméril & Bibron, 1836** (Plate: 03)

Duméril, A. M. C. & G. Bibron, *Erpétologie générale ou histoire naturelle complète des reptiles*, III, 1836: 366-367.

Material examined: Syntype.

Female (52.5 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* MNHN 5135; *Loc.* Unknown; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 21)

Original description:

11. L'HÉMIDACTYLE BRIDÉ. *Hemidactylus frenatus*. Schlegel.

CARACTÈRES. Écailles de la peau parsemées le long des côtés du dos de quelques petits tubercules granuleux. Queue subarrondie, offrant en dessus des rangs transversaux de petites épines ; des écailles crypteuses, formant une seule et même ligne légèrement anguleuse au-devant de l'anus. Pouce court.

SYNONYMIE. *Hemidactylus frenatus*. Schleg. Mus. Leyd.

DESCRIPTION.

FORMES. Cet Hémidactyle est une petite espèce, que la forme presque arrondie de sa queue et la présence, sur les côtés du dos, de petits tubercules épars parmi les grains très fins de sa peau, suffiraient seules pour faire distinguer de la suivante ou de l'Hémidactyle de Garnot, de même que la brièveté du pouce et de la ligne continue que forment les pores des deux cuisses chez les mâles, doivent empêcher qu'on ne la confonde avec l'espèce précédente, chez laquelle on ne voit point d'écailles crypteuses au devant de l'anus, mais seulement sur les régions fémorales. Les narines et les plaques labiales ressemblent à celles des Hémidactyles Bordé et de Garnot. Le méat auditif est un tant soit peu plus petit. Il existe un très faible pli de la peau le long des côtés du ventre. Quatre petites scutelles soudées aux plaques labiales, deux d'un côté et deux de l'autre, garnissent le dessous de l'extrémité antérieure du maxillaire inférieur. Il arrive quelquefois qu'il y en a deux de plus. Les quatre pouces sont très courts ; les lamelles qui les revêtent en dessous sont au nombre de cinq ; on en compte une de plus aux seconds, aux troisièmes et aux quatrièmes doigts antérieurs ; sept aux seconds et aux derniers postérieurs, de même qu'au petit doigt antérieur ; enfin huit aux avant-derniers des pattes de derrière. Il y a vingt-six pores fémoraux disposés sur une seule ligne, s'étendant d'un jarret à l'autre en passant devant l'anus. Ces pores sont des trous subovales, dont l'ouverture occupe presque toute la surface des écailles dans lesquelles ils sont percés. La queue n'a pas précisément en longueur la moitié de celle de l'animal, mais peu s'en faut : elle est arrondie et offre en dessus des demi-cercles de petites épines.

COLORATION. Parmi les individus que nous possédons, il s'en trouve qui sont d'un gris foncé, ou bien d'un gris clair ; d'autres sont couleur de chair, piquetés de brun, avec des anneaux de cette dernière teinte autour de l'extrémité de la queue ; et ils ont sur chaque côté de la tête, une raie brune traversant l'œil pour se continuer jusqu'à l'épaule. Enfin il en est qui sont comme marbrés de brun sur un fond fauve. Quelques-uns ont une bande brune qui s'étend du bout du museau jusqu'à l'oreille, en passant par l'œil.

DIMENSIONS. Le plus grand des échantillons que nous avons examinés offre les mesures suivantes. LONGUEUR TOTALE : 9'' 4'''. Tête. Long. 1'' 5'''; haut. 5'''; larg. 9'''. Cou. Long. 4'''. Corps. Long. 3'' 3'''. Memb. antér. Long. 1'' 8'''. Memb. postér. Long. 2''. Queue. Long. 4'' 2''.

PATRIE. Cette espèce habite l'Afrique australe, et paraît être répandue dans tout l'archipel des grandes Indes. Delalande nous l'a rapportée du Cap ; MM. Quoy et Gaimard l'ont trouvée à Madagascar. M. Desjardins l'a envoyée de l'Ile-de-France, et M. Reynaud de Ceylan. On l'a reçue d'Amboine par les soins de MM. Lesson et Garnot ; et de Java et de Timor, par l'intermédiaire du Musée de Leyde. Nous en avons plusieurs échantillons recueillis aux îles Mariannes par M. Gaudichaud ; et d'autres envoyés du Bengale, par MM. Diard et Duvaucel.

Observations. Le nom de *Frenatus*, qui nous a servi pour désigner cette espèce, est celui sous lequel elle nous a été envoyée du Musée de Leyde.

English translation:

11. BRIDLED HEMIDACTYLE. *Hemidactylus frenatus*. Schlegel.

CHARACTERS. Scales of the skin along the sides of the back interspersed with some tubercular granules. Tail sub-cylindrical, showing transverse rows of small spines dorsally; pore bearing scales forming lightly single weakly angular line in front of anus. Thumb short.

SYNONYMY. *Hemidactylus frenatus*. Schleg. Mus. Leyd.

DESCRIPTION.

FORM. This Hemidactyle is a small species, which, by its nearly cylindrical shape of the tail and the presence on the sides of its back of small tubercles mixed among its fine skin granules, can be distinguished from the following or from Garnot's Hemidactyle, likewise the shortened thumb and the continuous line formed by the pores on both thighs of males serve to avoid confusion with the former species, in which no pore bearing scales can be seen anterior to anus, but only in the femoral areas. Nasal and labial scales are similar to those of Boreded and Garnot's Hemidactyles. Tympanum is a little bit smaller. A short skin fold can be seen along ventral sides. Four small scales fused to the labial scales, two on one side and two on the other side; cover the venter of the anterior part of the lower jaw. Sometimes there are two additional such scales. The four thumbs are very short; lamellae covering them ventrally are five in number; there is one more on the second, third and fourth anterior fingers; seven on the second and last posterior digits, as on the anterior little finger; finally eight on the next to last digit of the hind foot. There are 26 femoral pores arranged in a single line, extending from one jarret to the other and passing in front of anus. Those pores are suboval holes, with their aperture occupying nearly the whole surface of the scale in which they are pierced. The tail has not quite precisely half of animal's length, but nearly so: it bears round half-circles of small spines dorsally.

COLORATION. Among the specimens that we possess, some are dark grey, others light grey; others are flesh coloured, speckled with brown speckles, with rings of the last colour around the end of the tail; and they have, on each side of the head, a brown band crossing the eye and continuing to the shoulder. Finally, there are some which are marbled brown on a tawny ground colour. Some have a brown band extending from the tip of the snout to the ear, passing through the eye.

DIMENSIONS. The largest specimen that we have examined has the following measurements. TOTAL LENGTH: 9'' 4'''. Head. Length 1'' 5'''; height 5'''; width 9'''. Neck. Length 4'''. Body. Length 3'' 3'''. Forelimb Length 1'' 8'''. Hindlimb Length 2''. Tail. Length 4'' 2'''.

DISTRIBUTION. This species inhabits southern Africa, and seems to be widespread in the whole of the East Indian archipelago. Delalande has reported the species from the Cape; MM. Quoy and Gaimard found it on Madagascar. M. Desjardins sent it from the Ile-de-France [Mauritius], and M. Reynaud from Ceylon. We received it from Amboina through the courtesy of MM. Lesson and Garnot; and from Java and from Timor, through courtesy of the Leiden Museum. We have several samples collected on the Mariana Islands by M. Gaudichaud; and others sent from Bengal, by MM. Diard and Duvaucel.

Observations. The name of *Frenatus*, which we have used to designate this species, is the one under which it was sent to us from the Leiden Museum.

***Hemidactylus brookii* Gray, 1845 (Plate: 03)**

Gray, J. E., Catalogue of the Specimens of Lizards in the Collection of the British Museum, 1845: 153.

Material examined: Syntype.

Male (57 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1947.3.6.47; *Loc.* Borneo; *Coll.* Sir E. Belcher. (Fig. 22)

Original description:

BROOK'S HEMIDACTYLUS. *Hemidactylus Brookii*.

Pale, with irregular brown spots forming bands across the back; the head and nape brown-spotted; cheek with a broad streak from the nostrils to the eye, and 2 diverging streaks from the back of the eye, the lower to the ear; back with irregular longitudinal series of short broad ovate rather trigonal tubercles; tail with rings of triangular acute tubercles; lower rostral shortish; chin-shields 2-2, middle largest; femoral pores in a continued angular line.

a, b. In spirits. Borneo. Presented by Capt. Sir Edw. Belcher, C.B., R.N.

c. In spirits. Australia. Presented by the Earl of Derby.

***Hemidactylus scabriceps* (Annandale, 1906)** (Plate: 03)

Annandale, N., Notes on the Fauna of a Desert Tract in Southern India. Part I. Batrachians and Reptiles, with remarks on the Reptiles of the Desert Region of the North-West Frontier. Memoirs of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Calcutta, Vol. I, No. 10, 1906: 187.

Material examined: Syntype.

(32 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1946.8.22.40; *Loc.* Ramanad, Madras District; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 23)

Original description:

TERATOLEPIS SCABRICEPS, sp. nov.

Diagnosis.

Habit rather stout, limbs short; tail cylindrical, swollen at the base, tapering distally; head large, flat; forehead convex; snout slightly longer than orbit, rounded, blunt. Head, dorsal surface of neck and shoulders covered with small, highly convex, rounded scales, which are smallest on the vertex and largest just above the fore-limbs. Scales on dorsal surface of the trunk not much larger than those on the belly, leaf shaped, strongly imbricate, keeled or almost smooth. Two pairs of enlarged chin-shields, followed posteriorly by a number of irregular granules, the first pair meeting behind the mental; 7 to 8 upper, 6 to 8 lower labials; nostril between the rostral and several small scales. *Colour* pale grey, with a coarse and irregular reticulation of black and white on the back.

<i>Dimensions</i> ♀	Total length	...	...	75 mm.
	Head	...	...	14 „
	Body	...	...	31 „
	Tail	...	...	30 „
	Fore-limb	...	...	9 „
	Hind Limb	...	...	15 „

Two specimens from Rámanád; one an adult female containing two large eggs, the other half-grown.

The pupil is vertical, as it probably is in *T. fasciata* also. *T. scabriceps* is the second species of the genus to be described. The type form is only known from a few specimens, all of which appear to be in a bad state of preservation, from Central India and Sind. The new species differs from it (1) in its less graceful habit and shorter limbs; (2) in the possession of conical rounded scales on the head and fore-quarters; and (3) in having two pairs of distinctly enlarged chin-shields. Unfortunately the type of *T. fasciata*, the only other specimen of the genus to which I have access, is almost wholly disintegrated; but sufficient remains of the skin on the head and of the limbs to show that these differences are real ones.

Teratolepis and *Calodactylus* (the latter from North Arcot) are the only genera of their family peculiar to the Indian Fauna, both being highly specialized genera.

***Hemiphyllodactylus typus* Bleeker, 1860** (Plate: 03)

Bleeker, P., Natuurkundig Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsch Indie, XX, 1860: 327.

Material examined: Holotype.

Female (43.4 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1946.8.30.83; *Loc.* Agam, Sumatra; *Coll.* Dr. Bleeker. (Fig. 24)

Original description:

Hemiphyllodactylus Blkr.

” De bouw der teenen als bij *Hemidactylus*, doch een teen geheel rudimentair, bijkans niet zichtbaar en zonder nagel. Staart van onderen zonder schilden. De kin zonder tusschenkaakschilden. Staat in verwantschap tusschen *Platyodactylus* en *Hemidactylus*.

Hemiphyllodactylus typus Blkr.

” Twee overlansche reijen gele vlekken op den rug; de vlekken aan den grond van den start veel grooter dan de overage, driehoekig. Het midden van de ondervlakte van den start met een' gelen band in zijne geheele lengte. Ik bezit eene afbeelding dezer sort, afkomstig van de voormalige Natuurkundige kommissie, voorzien van den naam *Ptyodactylus gracilis* en naast welke aangeteekend is, dat de sort ook op den Goenong Parong (Java) leeft.

English translation:

Hemiphyllodactylus Blkr.

The structure of the toes as in *Hemidactylus*, but the first toe entirely rudimentary, almost not visible and without a claw. Ventral side of tail without enlarged scales. The chin without enlarged scales between the jaws. Its affinities lie between *Platydactylus* and *Hemidactylus*.

Hemiphyllodactylus typus Blkr.

Two longitudinal rows of yellow spots on the back; the spots on the base of the tail much larger than those anteriorly, triangular. The middle of the venter of the tail with a yellow stripe along its entire length. I have an image of this species, originating from the former Natural History Commission, provided with the name *Ptyodactylus gracilis* besides which it is noted that this species also lives on Goenong Parong (Java).

***Lepidodactylus lugubris* (Duméril & Bibron, 1836)** (Plate: 04)

Duméril, A. M. C. & G. Bibron, *Erpétologie générale ou histoire naturelle complète des reptiles*, III, 1836: 304-305.

Material examined: Lectotype (see Wells & Wellington, 1985)

Female (41.5 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* MNHN 5323; *Loc.* Unknown; *Coll.* Unknown. (Fig. 25)

Original description:

a. *Espèces à pouces mutiques ou sans ongles.*

**3. LE PLATYDACTYLE DEMI-DEUIL. *Platydactylus Lugubris*.
(Nobis.)**

CARACTÈRES. Pouches mutiques des lamelles en chevrons sous tous les doigts ; peau du dos finement granuleuse. Dessus du corps blanc, relevé de taches noires.

SYNONYMIE ?

DESCRIPTION.

FORMES. Cette espèce de *Platydactyle* est, parmi les Homolépidoles, la seule qui manque d'ongles aux pouces. Ses doigts sont conformés de la même manière que ceux des *Platydactyles* Tétronyx Hétérolépidoles, avec cette différence toutefois que les cinq ou six premières lamelles imbriquées qui en revêtent la surface inférieure sont anguleuses ou en chevrons, comme chez le plus grand nombre des *Hémidactyles*. Les doigts ont plus d'inégalité que dans les deux espèces précédentes ; ils sont un peu plus allongés et moins dilatés à leur base qu'à leur extrémité. Nous ignorons si les mâles sont pourvus de pores, n'ayant encore observé que deux individus de l'autre sexe, chez lesquels nous n'en avons pas aperçu. L'un a perdu sa queue, et l'autre en offre une qu'à sa forme en rave, nous supposons avoir été reproduite. Ce *Platydactyle* a une grande plaque rostrale rectangulaire, à chaque angle supérieur de laquelle se trouve située une des ouvertures nasales. Celles-ci sont circulaires et bordées en arrière par deux petites scutelles carrées ; inférieurement, elles le sont par la première plaque labiale. La lame écailleuse qui recouvre l'extrémité du maxillaire inférieur est en triangle et peu dilatée. Le dessous du menton offre de petites plaques polygones. La peau de la gorge est granuleuse, comme celle de toutes les parties supérieures du corps. Ce sont des écailles sub-hexagonales qui revêtent le ventre et la poitrine. Celles qu'on voit sur la queue, en dessus comme en dessous, sont d'un plus petit diamètre, de figure carrée, et disposées en verticilles.

COLORATION. Nous avons donné le nom de demi-deuil à ce *Platydactyle*, à cause de la couleur blanchâtre de son dos, qui est relevée par des points et des taches d'un noir d'ébène. Les premiers sont épars sur toute la surface du corps. Les autres se montrent au nombre de quatre ou cinq, ayant une forme anguleuse, sur les reins ; et en même nombre, mais ressemblant davantage à de petites raies, entre les deux épaules. Une bande noire, passant sur l'œil, est imprimée sur l'une comme sur l'autre partie latérale de la tête. Le dessous du corps est blanc.

DIMENSIONS. *Longueur totale.* 7''. *Tête.* Long. 1'' ; haut. 4''' ; larg. 5''' . *Cou.* Long. 4'' . *Corps.* Long. 3'' . *Memb. antér.* Long. 3'' 1''' . *Memb. post.* Long. 1'' 5''' . *Queue.* Long. 2'' 8''' .

PATRIE. Cette petite espèce nous a été rapportée de l'île d'Otaïti, par MM. Lesson et Garnot.

Observations. Elle est, parmi les Homolépidoles, le représentant des Platydaictyles Tétronyx de la division des Hétérolépidoles.

English translation:

a. *Species with a mutic or clawless thumb.*

3. THE HALF-MOURNING PLATYDAICTYLE. *Platydaictylus Lugubris.*
(Nobis.)

CHARACTERS. Thumbs clawless; lamellae chevron-shaped under all fingers; back skin finely granular. Upper body white, punctuated with black spots.

SYNONYMY ?

DESCRIPTION.

FORM. This Platydaictyle species is, among the Homolepidotes, the only one lacking claws on the thumbs. Its fingers are shaped in the same way as those of the Platydaictyles Tetronyx Heterolepidotes, except with the difference that the five or six first imbricating lamellae covering its inferior surface are angular or chevron shaped, as can be seen in most Hemidaictyles. The digits are more unequal than in the two preceding species; they are a little more elongate and less dilated at their base than at their extremity. We do not know if males possess pores, having yet only observed two individuals from the other sex, in which we have not seen pores. One has lost its tail, and the other has one in the shape of a radish, which we suppose to be regenerated. This Platydaictyle has a large rectangular rostral scale, at each upper corner of which one of the nostrils is located. These are circular and bordered posteriorly by two small squarish scales; ventrally by the first labial scale. The scale covering the tip of the lower jaw is triangular in shape and weakly dilated. The venter of the chin is covered by small polygonal scales. The throat skin is granular, like that of all of the upper parts of the body. There are sub-hexagonal scales that cover the venter and the breast. Those that can be seen on the tail, dorsally as ventrally, are of a smaller diameter, square shaped, and arranged in verticils.

COLOURATION. We have given the name half mourning to this Platydaictyle, because of the whitish colour of its back, which is accentuated by ebony black dots and spots. The first are dispersed over the whole body surface. Others number four or five, having an angular shape, over the sacrum; and in same number, but looking more like small stripes, between the shoulders. A black band, passing over the eye, is present on the lateral surfaces of the head. The body venter is white.

DIMENSIONS. *Total length.* 7''. *Head.* Length 1''; high 4'''; wide 5'''. *Neck.* Length 4''. *Body.* Length 3''. *Anter. memb.* Length 3'' 1'''. *Post. memb.* Length 1'' 5'''. *Tail.* Length 2'' 8'''.
DISTRIBUTION. That small species was given to us from the island of Otaïti [Tahiti Island, Society Archipelago, French Polynesia], by MM. Lesson and Garnot.

Observations. It is, among the Homolepidotes, the representant of the Platydaictyles Tetronyx of the Heterolepidotes division.

Appendix 01

***Hemidaictylus maculatus hunae* (Deraniyagala, 1937) (Plate: 04)**

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., Ceylon Journal of Science, XX, 1937: 186-187. (Fig. 26).

Material examined: Holotype.

Female (103 mm SVL); *Cat. no.* BMNH 1946.8.23.177; *Loc.* Okanda, Eastern Province; Ceylon; *Coll.* P.E.P. Deraniyagala. (Fig. 27)

Original description:

Hemidaictylus maculatus hunae, sub-sp. nov.

Snout obtuse; as long as or longer than distance from eye to ear. Supralabials ten to twelve, infralabials nine to ten. Mental subtriangular, wider than the rostral and usually as long as wide. Postmentals two pairs, the

inner enlarged. Gular scales fine, granular. Rostral subquadrangular, broader than high; nostril between rostral, first labial and several small scales; a pair of internasals. Snout with convex scales, occiput with granular scales and larger conical tubercles. Back with small scales and about fifteen to twenty longitudinal rows of tubercles, which are smallest along the mid dorsal line and are feebly trihedral. Ventrals smooth, imbricate, rounded scales which grade imperceptibly into the lateral postero-laterally, immediately anterior to the hind limbs. Digits free, moderately dilated with almost straight transverse lamellae, nine or ten under the inner toe, eleven to thirteen under the fourth toe. Tail feebly depressed, with about sixty wide subcaudals and dorsally with six or four longitudinal series of tubercles which are usually low and subconical, rarely trihedral. Males with nineteen to twenty-five femoral pores on each side, separated from those of opposite side by two to sixteen scales.

Colours. Dorsally silvery-grey with five broad transverse olive brown bands from neck to hips. Each band possesses a black margin and forms a rhomboid vertebral enlargement with a light centre containing a black ring. Tail with about six dark rings a little wider than interspaces. Limbs with five or six irregular rings on each. Two lateral bands on each side of head. Ventrally white, dusted with brown, especially on tail. Young with the dorsal cross bands without any light areas.

Type specimen: A female from Okanda, Eastern Province, Ceylon. Taken in a rock cave. Snout to ear 28 mm., snout to cloaca 105 mm., tail 115 mm. It has been deposited in the British Museum.

Range. Ceylon and South India comprising Malabar, Tinnevely, and Salem, near Madras.

***Hemidactylus brooki parvimaculatus* Deraniyagala, 1953 (Plate: 04)**

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon (Tetrapod Reptilia), II, 1953: 45.

Material examined: Access not permitted by the NMSL (Fig. 28)

Original description:

Hemidactylus brooki parvimaculatus ssp. nov

Hemidactylus brooki Gray 1845. Cat. Liz. Brit. Mus. (type loc. Borneo).

Local names. (Sinhala) *Pulli geval huna.* (English) *Common spotted gecko.*

The Ceylon race differs from the *forma typica* in possessing much smaller dark markings which never form cross bars on the body, and less pronounced tubercles. Snout as long as from eye to ear, hind limb does not reach axilla, tail depressed, chin shields two or three pairs, the postmentals being the largest, snout with a convex or carinate granules, occiput with granules and hemispherical tubercles, dorsal subtrihedral or conical tubercles in 16 to 20 longitudinal rows about one tubercle length apart from one another, tail with rows of 6 to 8 keeled acuminate tubercles; ventral smooth, rounded imbricate scales, tail with a uniserial row of enlarged subcaudals. Inner digits with 4 to 6 bifid lamellae, fourth with 6 to 8.

Type. No. RG. 15. A male from Colombo with head and body 45 mm. tail 54 mm. long and 24 femoral pores 12 on each side.

Pores. Males with a row of 7 to 12 preano-femoral pores on each side separated from the series of the opposite side.

Colors. A uniform light yellowish brown, or mottled, with 3 longitudinal rows of irregular dark brown spots which are smaller than eye. Young with a scattering of light colored tubercles. A broken lateral band of brown from snout to ear or axilla; labials brown, with light margins. Ventrals greyish pink dusted with brown.

Reproduction. Two eggs are laid at a time, 9 by 7 mm.; eggs taken on September 17, 1931, in a Colombo house contained mature embryos with tubercles well developed.

Dimensions. Snout to vent 52 mm., tail 55 mm.

Distribution. This race is common in Ceylon. The species exists as several sub-species in India, Assam, Burma, Singapore, Borneo, Flores, Australia, North Africa, West India.

***Hemidactylus triedrus lankae* Deraniyagala, 1953 (Plate: 04)**

Deraniyagala, P. E. P., A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon (Tetrapod Reptilia), II, 1953: 46-47, Pl. IX; Fig. 7, Pl. X; Fig. 3. (Fig. 29, 30).

Material examined: Access not permitted by the NMSL: The type is not mentioned by Kandamby (1997) and the type is probably lost or misplaced.

Original description:

Hemidactylus triedrus lankae ssp. nov.
Gecko triedrus Daudin 1802. Hist. Nat. Rept. IV (no type loc.).
Hemidactylus triedrus Lesson 1832 in Belang. Voy. Ind. Or. pl. V, fig.1. Boulenger 1885. Cat. Liz. Brit. Mus. I (partim). Deraniyagala 1932. Spolia Zeylanica XVI, p. 503, pl. LXIV.

Local name. (Sinhala) *Kimbul huna* = Crocodile gecko

The gecko *Hemidactylus triedrus* occurs as two subspecies and the Indian one is here designated the *forma typica*. The name *Hemidactylus triedrus lankae* is conferred upon the Ceylon form.

Pores. (a) Femoral pores in Ceylon specimens were as follows:-one gecko with 13 left and 13 right pores, one with 15/16, three with 16/16, one with 17/16, one with 18/18, one with 18/19 and one with 19/18.

(b) Indian specimens in the British Museum were 7/6, 6/7, 12/14 and 14/14, respectively.

Type. A male with 19/18 femoral pores in the Colombo National museum.

Paratypes with the other pore counts. Eight specimens.

Shape. Head large; body with indistinct lateral fold; tail subcylindrical, feebly depressed at base, nostril surrounded by rostral, first labial, supranasal and several small scales; eye with prominent supraorbital ridges and closer to ear than to snout tip. Ear subovate, oblique and a quarter or third of orbit. Rostral subquadrangular, its width greater than twice its depth, the median sulcus descending to mid-depth or lower. Supralabials 8 to 10, infralabials 7 to 8, mental triangular, with two enlarged postmentals contiguous behind its apex, followed by a smaller pair. (Plate IX, fig. 7) Snout 1.5 times orbit and covered with large convex granules, interorbital space flat or slightly concave; canthus rostralis prominent, rounded. Cephalic granules largest on snout, occiput with small tubercles; dorsally, body covered with small flat granules, and large trihedral tubercles which equal one-third of orbit and are in 16 to 20 longitudinal rows. These are small on head and neck, absent on arms, present on legs with six longitudinal rows on tail. Ventrals smooth imbricate, as large as quarter of eye, about 34 to 38 across mid-body; an enlarged row of subcaudals. Digits short, depressed, with bifid inferior lamellae, 4 to 6 on inner and 7 to 8 on fourth digit. In the Indian race there are 6 to 7 lamellae under the first and 7 to 8 under the fourth digit. Males usually with 13-19 preanal and femoral pores on each side, 3 scales separate the two rows.

Colors. Dorsally, a yellowish olive to purplish brown with 5 to 6 smoky black irregular cross bars as wide as interspaces and scattered with black ringed white spots which occupy the tubercles, on neck and body. Tail with ten to thirteen similar bands. A white band from nostril to eye, present or absent, and a dark band bounded by white spots beneath it, which may continue as an irregular lateral band; 4 to 5 cross bands of white spots on each limb. Ventrally a pale purplish grey. Iris golden brown. Only a few irregular dark marks appear dorsally in preserved specimens. Young with five "W" shaped black dorsal bands and a brown band along back of each thigh. The Indian subspecies possess a strong green color when alive (Annandale 1906) and dark chevrons across the body in preserved specimens. It also possesses strong tubercles on the limbs.

Dimensions. Snout 11 mm., snout to ear 22 mm., snout to vent 81 mm., axilla to groin 40 mm., tail (regenerated) 50 mm., arm 25 mm., leg 27 mm.

Reproduction. Lays two to six eggs 11.5 to 12 by 10 mm. weighing 445 to 550 mg. Eggs found in July. Newly hatched young with numerous transverse dorsal folds 22 mm. from snout to vent, tail 22 mm. long.

Distribution. Usually found in pairs inside termite hillocks or decayed logs. Ceylon.

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PLATE 01



Fig. 01: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1953). A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon, II. Pl. XI. Fig. a



Fig. 02: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1953). A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon, II. Pl. XI. Fig. b

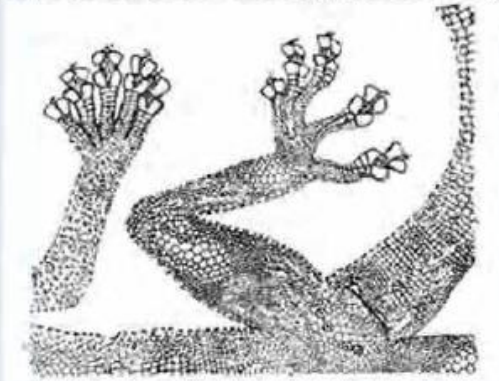


Fig. 03: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1953). A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon, II. Fig. 34A



Fig. 04: Paratype of *Calodactyloides illingworthorum*: BMNH 1958.1.2.71 (CM)



Fig. 05: Lectotype of *Cnemaspis kandiana*: BMNE 53.4.1.1 (CM)



Fig. 06: Neotype of *Cnemaspis scalpensis*: NMSL 2004.1.1 (WHT)



Fig. 07: Lectotype of *Cnemaspis tropidogaster*: BMNE 71.12.14.49 (CM)

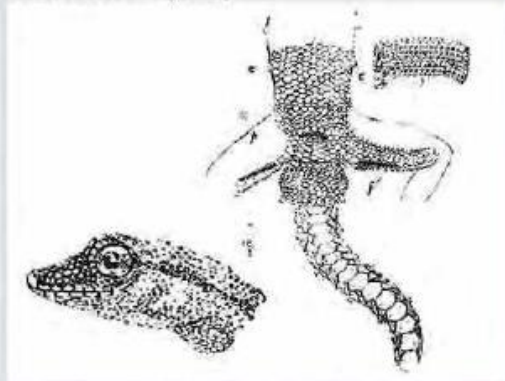


Fig. 08: Reprinted from J. of RAS (1944) (Ceylon Branch). XXXVI. Fig. 01

PLATE 02



Fig. 09: Holotype of *Cnemaspis podiluna*:
BMNH 1946.8.1.20 (CM)



Fig. 10: Reprinted from Günther (1864), pl. XII,
Fig. D, D'.



Fig. 11: Lectotype of *Cyrtodactylus frenatus*:
BMNH 55.2.12.6 (CM)



Fig. 12: Holotype of *Geckoella triedrus*:
BMNH 55.2.12.7 (CM)



Fig. 13: Syntype of *Geckoella collegalensis*:
BMNH 1946.8.25.28 (CM)

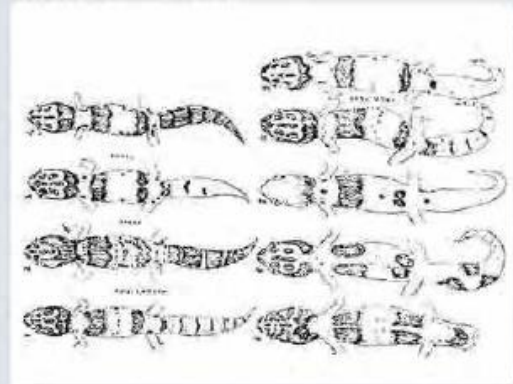


Fig. 14: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1945).
Spolia Zeylanica, Vol. 24, Fig. 01



Fig. 15: Paratype of *Geckoella yakhuza*:
BMNH 1946.8.1.19 (CM)



Fig. 16: Lectotype of *Gehyra mutilata*:
ZMB 370A (MO)

PLATE 03



Fig. 17: Holotype of *Hemidactylus triedrus*:
MNHN 2297 (II)

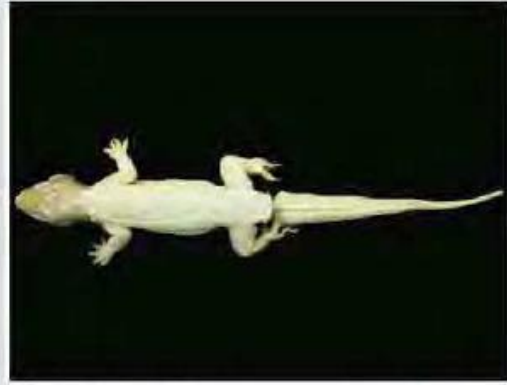


Fig. 18: Syntype of *Hemidactylus depressus*:
BMNH RR1962.190 (CM)



Fig. 19: Syntype of *Hemidactylus maculatus*:
MNHN 6575A (II)



Fig. 20: Syntype of *Hemidactylus leschenaultii*:
MNHN 6593 (II)



Fig. 21: Syntype of *Hemidactylus frenatus*:
MNHN 5135 (II)



Fig. 22: Syntype of *Hemidactylus brooki*:
BMNH 1947.5.6.47 (CM)



Fig. 23: Syntype of *Hemidactylus scabriceps*:
BMNH 1946.8.22.40 (CM)



Fig. 24: Holotype of *Hemiphyllodactylus typus*:
BMNH 1946.8.30.83 (CM)

PLATE 04



Fig. 25: Lectotype of *Lepidodactylus lugubris*: MNHN 5323 (II)

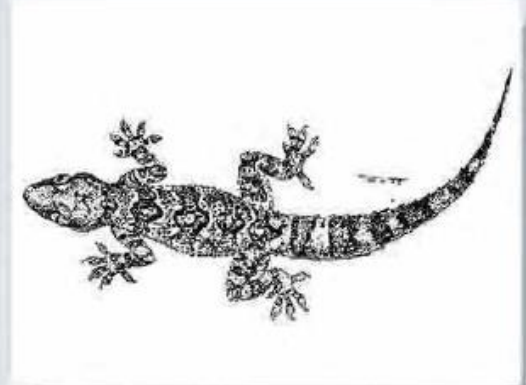


Fig. 26: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1937). Ceylon Journal of Science, XX, Fig. 01



Fig. 27: Holotype of *Hemidactylus maculatus huxiae*: BMNH 1946.8.23.177 (CM)



Fig. 28: Holotype of *Hemidactylus brooki parvimaculatus*: NMSL (uncatalogued) (AB)



Fig. 29: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1953). A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon, II. Pl. IX. Fig. 7

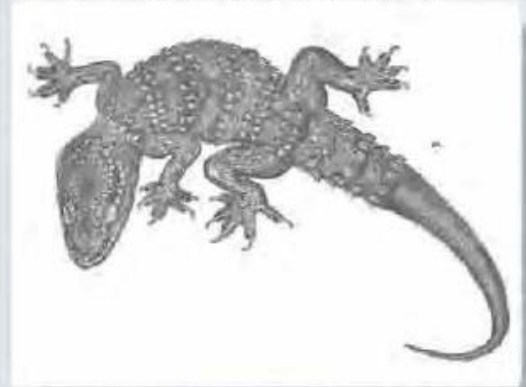


Fig. 30: Reprinted from Deraniyagala (1953). A Colored Atlas of Some Vertebrates from Ceylon, II. Pl. X. Fig. 3.



Fig. 31: Holotype of *Calodactylodes illingworthorum*: NMSL (Uncatalogued) (AB)



Fig. 32: A specimen of *Geckoeilla yakshuna* Labeled as the holotype: NMSL (Uncatalogued) (AB)