

AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Number 325

Published by
THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
New York City

Sept. 15, 1928

59.81 (51)

FOUR NEW SNAKES AND A NEW LIZARD FROM SOUTH CHINA¹

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Since recently describing a new lizard and 6 new snakes collected for the Third Asiatic Expedition of The American Museum of Natural History in Fukien Province, China (American Museum Novitates, June 23, 1928), I have found 5 more new forms, 3 of which I describe here as new species, 2 as new subspecies. Four of the 5 were collected for the Third Asiatic Expedition, 3 by myself in Kiangsi and Fukien Provinces, and 1 by Walter Granger in Yunnan Province. The fifth, also from Yunnan, was secured for the Museum by Mr. John Graham.

The American Museum's earlier reptile collections from China were reported by Karl P. Schmidt in 1927. A report on all the more recently collected Chinese reptiles, now in manuscript form, will appear shortly. It will contain an account of all the Museum's Chinese reptiles not already treated by Schmidt.

Kuatun, from where many species have been described, is a village in the mountains of Ch'ungan Hsien, the type locality for two of the forms described herein.

SAURIA

Gekko japonicus hokouensis, new subspecies

TYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 35090; ♂; Hok'ou, northeast Kiangsi Province, China; June 28–July 12, 1926; Clifford H. Pope.

DIAGNOSIS.—Differs from typical *japonicus* chiefly in having a large, undivided tubercular scale on each side of the base of the tail.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Head moderately large; snout longer than distance between eye and ear-opening, about twice diameter of eye; ear-opening suboval, oblique. Digits moderately expanded with slight but distinct rudiments of web; the single pair of chin-shields longer than broad, bordered in front and on the sides by mental, 2 lower labials, and 2 shields each half as large as the chin-shields; bordered behind by 4 small, subequal shields. The back and limbs are covered with small, granular scales intermixed with numerous, small, subconical tubercles which are

¹Publications of the Asiatic Expeditions of The American Museum of Natural History. Contribution No. 82.

larger and more numerous along the upper sides than down the center of the back; preanal pores 6; single tubercular scale on each side of base of tail three-fourths as long as diameter of eye. Length from snout to vent 56 mm., from vent to end of tail (which has a bit of end missing) 65 mm.

The color is grayish brown with 5 very indistinct, slightly darker cross-bands on the back, and 9 rather distinct ones across the tail.

There are 14 paratypes from the type locality (Nos. 35087-100), and 1 from Ch'ungan Hsien (No. 33491).

SERPENTES

Colubridæ

Zaocys dhumnades montanus, new subspecies

TYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 34334; ♀; Ch'ungan Hsien, northwest Fukien Province, China. April-September, 1928; Clifford H. Pope.

DIAGNOSIS.—Distinguished from the typical form by a higher ventral and caudal count. The ventrum is much darker than in typical *dhumnades*.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Rostral broader than deep, visible from above; internasals shorter than the prefrontals, which are not as long as their distance from end of snout; frontal almost as long as its distance from tip of snout, just as long as parietals which are nearly as broad as long. Loreal longer than deep; a large preocular with a small one below; 2 postoculars; 2 anterior, and 2 posterior temporals. Eight upper labials, fourth and fifth entering eye; 10 lower labials, first 5 in contact with anterior chin-shields. Scales reduced from maximum of 16 to minimum of 14 at a point opposite 103d ventral; smooth on neck, 2 rows sharply keeled at midbody and before vent. Ventrals 195; anal divided; subcaudals 123+. Total length 1475 mm.+, about 0.28 occupied by tail.

The posterior half of the body above and below is slaty black. The milky color of the throat and ventral surface of the head merges with the darkening belly color. Anteriorly, on either side of the 2 mid-dorsal rows of scales, is a black stripe, itself covering 2 scale rows. Below this stripe the scales have black borders and bluish centers. The lateral tips of the ventrals are edged with black. Some distance posterior to the head the scales of the third row lose their light centers forming a narrow, black stripe that is soon lost in the uniform black of the posterior section of the snake. The top and upper sides of the head are slate-colored.

There are 11 paratypes from the type locality (Nos. 33627-632 and 34329-333), and 1 from Yenping (No. 33242). I also place A. M. N. H. Nos. 17445, 17452 and 24621 from Changsha, Hunan Province, here. The Changsha specimens were collected by Mr. J. W. Williams.

Dinodon flavozonatum, new species

TYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 34371; ♂: Ch'ungan Hsien, northwest Fukien Province, China; April-September, 1926; Clifford H. Pope.

DIAGNOSIS.—Closely allied to *rufozonatum* from which it differs chiefly in having yellow instead of red cross-bands.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Rostral broader than deep, plainly visible from above; internasals much shorter than prefrontals, which are a little shorter than frontal; frontal slightly longer than broad, just as long as its distance from rostral; length of

parietals equals their distance from end of snout. Loreal longer than deep, not entering eye. One pre- and 2 postoculars; temporals 2-3. Eight upper labials, third, fourth, and fifth entering eye; 10 lower labials, first 5 in contact with anterior chin-shields which are as long as, and slightly broader than, posterior. Scales in 17 rows to a point opposite seventy-first ventral plate from anus where fourth row drops out; in 15 rows posterior to this; 7 rows feebly keeled at midbody; all scales smooth on neck. Ventrals 218; anal entire; subcaudals 87; apical pits double. Total length 965 mm., 0.20 of which is tail length.

The uniformly black ground-color of the dorsum is crossed anterior to the vent at regular intervals by 68 narrow, yellow bands each about half as wide as a scale is long. Every band divides on the fifth scale-row, each half joining a branch from the adjacent ones before descending to the ventrals. This lateral pattern is not very distinct and encroaches slightly on the white ventrals. Most of the 21 tail-bands are as wide as a scale is long, and none of them splits laterally. The subcaudals are black, weakly light mottled. The top of the head is black save for a yellow stripe from behind the eye to the angle of the mouth; narrow yellow borders on some of the plates, and a nuchal, V-shaped, yellow band with its apex on the posterior tips of the parietals. The first 2 and the eighth or last upper labials are black, the rest black and yellow. The throat is white, except for black trimmings on the anterior lower labials. The yellow of the dorsum fades with preservation into a dirty white.

The 19 paratypes (Nos. 33641-647, 34370 and 34372-382) come from the type locality.

***Bungarus wanghaotingi*,¹ new species**

TYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 35230; ♀; Yuan Kiang, southwestern Yunnan Province, China; November, 1926; Walter Granger.

DIAGNOSIS.—Allied to *caudidus* from which it differs chiefly in having a higher ventral count. The dorsal bands are much more numerous than in *multicinctus*.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Rostral much broader than high, touching 6 scales, its suture with first upper labial about one-fifth as long as that with nasal; internasals two-thirds as long as prefrontals, which in turn are three-fourths as long as frontal; frontal slightly shorter than its distance from tip of snout, just as wide as parietals, which are as long as their distance from rostral; a single scale between nasal and eye. Seven upper labials, third and fourth entering orbit; 2 postoculars, upper twice as large as lower; one temporal; 7 lower labials, first 4 in contact with anterior chin-shields, fourth much the largest; posterior pair of chin-shields shorter than anterior. Scales in 15 rows throughout. Ventrals 228; subcaudals 53. Total length 484 mm., 0.13 occupied by tail; anal and subcaudals entire.

The black ground-color is crossed by 23 white bands on the body, 11 on the tail. These white bands cover 3 mid-dorsal scales on the neck where they are 16 scale-lengths apart, while posteriorly they are only half as wide and 4 scale-lengths apart. All of them expand before joining the uniform white of the belly, and near the center of each, at its juncture with the belly, there is a small, dark spot. Many of the white bands have a few black-centered scales. The black of the ground-color barely encroaches on the tips of the ventrals. Above the upper labials, the top and sides of the

¹Named for Mr. Wang Hao-t'ing, of Peking, who for two years faithfully painted reptiles and amphibians from life for the Third Asiatic Expedition.

head are black. On either side of the neck, just back of the parietals, the scales are dimly white-tipped.

The single paratype (No. 35229) comes from the type locality.

Amblycephalus niger, new species

TYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 22703; ♀; Yunnanfu, Yunnan Province, China; John Graham.

DIAGNOSIS.—An *Amblycephalus* with a black tail and a large amount of black on the dorsum. The loreal is excluded from the eye, and at midbody 7 rows of scales are keeled.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Rostral as broad as deep; internasals in contact with loreal and half as large as prefrontals which enter the orbit; frontal, without its posterior projection, about as broad as deep, much shorter than, but about as wide as parietals which are as long as their distance from tip of snout. Loreal widely separated from eye by a distinct preocular and enlarged end of a subocular; a long, narrow scale separates eye from upper labials; anterior temporals 2, separated from eye by narrow scale below, wider one above; posterior temporals 3-3. Upper labials 7-7; lower, 7-7, first pair narrowly in contact behind mental; first 4 in contact with anterior chin-shields which are longer than broad; second pair slightly broader than long, third much broader than long; diameter of eye equals half interorbital space. Scales in 17 rows, vertebral row not enlarged. Ventrals 165; subcaudals 64; anal entire. Total length 502 mm., 0.22 occupied by tail.

The solid black of the top of the head extends down about to the loreal and lower anterior temporal where it begins to break into profuse spots which in turn become less profuse until, on the upper labials, they are sparse. On the lower labials and chin-shields the spots are reduced to a little scattered speckling. The neck and back are black but the black is broken on the sides by very irregular, light areas extending upward from the light ventrals, and suggesting the remnants of bands that have all but disappeared. Toward the tail these light areas are much more marked than they are anteriorly. The belly is light except for very irregular, sparse mottling mostly in the form of spots or narrow intrusions of the black of the dorsum. The tail is uniformly black with a little light mottling on the first 10 to 12 subcaudals.

The type is unique and was reported by Schmidt in 1927 as *chinensis*.

A. niger differs markedly in color from all the other Chinese species. In addition it is distinguished from all but *yunnanensis* and *stanleyi* by its keeled scales. In *yunnanensis* the loreal reaches the eye and the vertebral row is enlarged, so from this species *niger* is amply distinct. The low caudal count in *stanleyi* separates it not only from *niger* but the rest of the Chinese species as well.