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# A NEW EMYDID TURTLE OF THE GENUS GEOCLEMYS FROM KWANGTUNG PROVINCE, CHINA<sup>1</sup>

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### Geoclemys kwangtungensis, new species

Clemmys nigricans MELL, 1922, Archiv Naturg., LXXXVIII, Abt. A, Heft 10, p. 109 (Lofaoshan, 300-400 meters; Tinghushan, 400 meters; and Hsiaokeng, 400 meters; three Kwangtung localities) (not of Gray, 1834); 1929, 'Beiträg. Fauna Sinica,' IV, p. 192 (breeding) (not of Gray, 1834).

TYPE.—Berlin Museum No. 34955; adult, probably 9; Lofaoshan, Kwangtung, 300-400 m. altitude; collected by R. Mell, August, 1916.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.-Head large, broad; snout pointed, projecting, its vertical profile oblique; edges of jaws not denticulate; upper jaw without hooks or median notch, its median, anterior profile concave; alveolar surface of both jaws very broad, without longitudinal ridges; bony choanae immediately posterior to orbits; mandibular symphysis slightly longer than diameter of eye; anterior part of head covered by a large, smooth shield on crown and snout, another on each side covering the whole temporal area; posterior upper surface of head with granular skin; shell moderately depressed, slightly wider posteriorly than anteriorly; carapace with a strong median keel; nuchal shield small, elongate, narrowed anteriorly, emarginate posteriorly; first vertebral pentagonal, much broader in front than behind, just as broad as the fourth but broader than the second, third, and fifth which are subequal in breadth; ninth marginal deepest, edges of third to eighth more or less turned up; posterior edge of carapace not serrated, almost smooth; plastron not concave, truncate in front, with a rounded notch behind; posterior lobe slightly broader than long, as broad as anterior lobe, distinctly narrower than opening of shell; entoplastron intersected by humeropectoral suture; abdominal suture longest, as long as pectoral and humeral sutures taken together; humeral suture shortest, pectoral equal to femoral and anal barely shorter than gular; axillary scarcely half as large as inguinal; toes webbed to tips.

Carapace chestnut brown, without pattern, traces of yellow evident along its margins and median lateral angles; plastron yellow, irregularly marked with chestnut brown which is most conspicuous laterally, anteriorly, and posteriorly; bridge chestnut brown; head uniform mahogany brown above, with fine, yellow vermiculations and a few irregular, narrow yellow stripes laterally; jaws and throat with dark spots and vermiculations; limbs and tail predominantly blackish, many of the shields on anterior aspect of fore limbs yellow and some yellow evident on the skin near the shell.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Publications of the Asiatic Expeditions of The American Museum of Natural History. Contribution No. 121.

Greatest length of carapace	142.5 mm.
Greatest width of carapace	100.5
Greatest length of plastron	124
Length of hind lobe of plastron	48
Width of hind lobe of plastron	56.5
Width of bridge	42
Depth of shell	59.5
Width of head	30
Diameter of eye	10
Length of tail from vent	32

The measurements of the carapace do not take into consideration its curve.

The shell is worn smooth, so the type is undoubtedly quite mature.

G. kwangtungensis is best described as a southern, mountain relative of G. reevesii. The two species may be readily distinguished by the following table.

## *reevesii* Alveolar surface of jaws moderately wide.

Median anterior profile of upper jaw

Skin of posterior dorsal surface of head divided into small polygonal shields.

Carapace with three longitudinal keels. Lower jaw and sides of head with

straight, or straight with a weak notch.

conspicuous yellow lines and markings.

#### *kwangtungensis*

Alveolar surface of jaws very wide.

- Median anterior profile of upper jaw concave.
- Skin of posterior dorsal surface of head granular.
- Carapace with a single median keel.
- Lower jaw and sides of head with relatively inconspicuous and weak yellow lines and vermiculations.

The bony choanae appear to be situated slightly more posteriorly in *kwangtungensis*, but this character is variable and difficult to determine.