

THREE NEW LIZARDS FROM
SOUTH NYASALAND AND TETE.

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1963	677
Broadley	
Cordylidae	Chamaele
Geckonidae	Iguanida
Ayamidae	typica

DURING the last three weeks of 1962, L. Balarin and I collected some 750 reptiles and amphibians in Mozambique and south Nyasaland. Our collecting was selective, with a view to filling gaps in the collections made by Loveridge in the same area during 1948-9. Further expeditions will be made to Mozambique during the next two seasons and a report will then be published to cover the three-year project. In the meantime it seems advisable to publish the following descriptions.

Lygodactylus rec sp. nov. ✓

Holotype. UM. 4250, an adult male from Lujeri Estate, at the foot of Mlanje Mountain (approx. 2,500 feet), Nyasaland. Collected by D. G. Broadley and L. Balarin, December 23, 1962.

Paratypes. UM. 4251, a female with the same data as the holotype. UM. 4192-4 and 4206-8, three males and three females from the Ruo Gorge Forest, between 2,700 and 3,000 feet, Mlanje Mountain. Collected by Broadley and Balarin, December 19-20, 1962.

Diagnosis. This is the largest species in the genus, adults measuring 40-50 mm. from snout to vent. The only species of comparable size are *L. angularis* (maximum 46 mm.) and *L. picturatus* (max. 43 mm.), both of which have an entire mental and transversely enlarged subcaudals. *L. rec* belongs to the *L. capensis* group, having a mental with short lateral fissures (as in *L. bernardi*) and subequal subcaudals. The conspicuous eye-spot above the shoulder in this species is quite distinctive.

Description. (Paratype variations in parentheses.) Build moderate; head very broad and distinct from neck; snout long and broad, the distance from its tip to anterior border of the eye much greater than the inter-orbital distance anteriorly, much greater than the distance between eye and ear opening. Nostril pierced between rostral, first labial and three nasals, the lower posterior one narrowly excluded from (or just making contact with) the nostril; a single small internasal granule (which fails to separate the nasals in one paratype); mental with shallow lateral fissures, followed by two large postmentals, which are often somewhat fragmented mesially; upper labials 7; lower labials 7. Scales on the snout flattened, larger than those on the occiput, which are in turn much larger than the small convex dorsal granules; scales behind postmentals enlarged, decreasing in size towards base of throat, then increasing in size on chest and belly. Original tail covered below with large, subhexagonal, subimbricate scales. Preanal pores 11 (9-11 in males); six pairs of scansors under the fourth toe.

Coloration. Above, blue-grey (often with ill-defined dark wavy transverse markings, especially on tail), suffused with golden-yellow laterally; just above the shoulder is a conspicuous black patch with a cream spot in the centre. Below, throat white with irregular black stripes (3 or 4 pairs) which converge from the labials towards the base of the throat (basically similar to the throat markings of *L. angularis*): chest and belly cream. Original tail with a lateral line of minute cream spots.

Size. Length of holotype ♂ (UM. 4250), 101 (50+51) mm., but tail regenerated; largest perfect ♂ (UM. 4206) 105 (48+57) mm. Largest ♀ (UM. 4251) 91+ (46+45+) mm.

Habitat. The holotype was shot on a tree in the garden of C. Findlay's house. When first seen it was being chased by an *Holaspis g. laevis*. A female was caught on the verandah of the house. The rest of the series were basking on tree trunks along the path through the Ruo Gorge Forest from the Power House to the dam.

Afroedura transvaalica loveridgei subsp. nov.

Afroedura transvaalica ? *transvaalica* (not Hewitt), Loveridge, 1953, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 110, 171.

Holotype. UM. 4030, an adult male from five miles west of Tete, Mozambique. Collected by D. G. Broadley and L. Balarin, December 11, 1962.

Paratypes. UM. 4031-40 and six duplicates, with the same data as the holotype. UM. 3967-8 and 3988-98, Viola (Mazoe River Bridge). UM. 4017, 15 miles S.S.W. of Tete; UM. 4075-8 and two duplicates, 25 miles E.N.E. of Tete; UM. 4382-4, 30 miles E.N.E. of Tete. All collected in Mozambique, December 9-29, 1962, by Broadley and Balarin. Also MCZ. 50450, Kasumbadedza, Tete, collected by A. Loveridge, January 28, 1949.

Diagnosis. Readily distinguished from the typical form by the rostrum being widely separated from the nostril (in contact with the nostril in 144 specimens of the typical form examined), this northern race is also smaller in size. Other characters show no significant differences, as shown in the following table.

TABLE I.—Analysis of variation in *Afroedura transvaalica*.

Race	Series	Internasal granules	Upper labials	Lower labials	Scales in a caudal verticil		Prenatal pores in 55	Maximum body length	Maximum tail length
					Above	Below			
<i>A. t. transvaalica</i>	144	0-1	8-12	8-11	6-9	5-7	5-10	70	65
<i>A. t. loveridgei</i>	41	0	8-11	8-10	7-8	5-7	6-11	59	60

Description. Snout broad, the distance from its tip to the anterior border of the eye equal to the interorbital distance and slightly greater than the distance between eye and ear opening. Nostril pierced between three nasals and an upward prolongation of the first labial (which is excluded from the nostril in three paratypes), the anterior nasal is the largest and is in broad contact with its fellow behind the rostral; upper labials 9-10; lower labials 9. Supraorbital scales enlarged, larger than those on the snout and much larger than the granules on the occiput; centrals subhexagonal, subimbricate, much larger than the granules on the throat. Preanal pores 10, in a slightly curved series; proximal pair of scensors beneath digital expansion followed by a series of transversely dilated shields; tail much depressed, verticillate, with 8 scale rows in a vertical above and 6 below.

Coloration. Above, pale grey, mottled with grey-brown, with ill-defined broad dark cross bands on body and tail, tip of tail blackish with narrow pale crossbars. Below, uniform white.

Size. Length of holotype ♂ 115 (55 + 60) mm., but exceeded by U.M. 4267, which measures 119 (59 + 60) mm. Largest ♀ (U.M. 4031) 111 (54 + 57) mm.

Habitat. Common in rock crevices in sandstone and paragneiss outcrops. Some of the *Viola* series were caught after dark, when they leave their fissures to forage on the rock faces.

Distribution. The typical form is common throughout eastern Southern Rhodesia and we collected it at Magasso, ten miles inside Mozambique at 2,000 feet. The first *loveridgei* locality is Viola, 35 miles N.E. of Magasso and below 1,000 feet. It would appear that this race is confined to the Zambezi valley below 1,500 feet. It may occur in south Nyasaland, but we saw no sign of it at Mpatamanga, where the habitat is ideal.

Remarks. I take pleasure in naming this new form after Arthur Loveridge, who was the first to discover it, but wisely refrained from describing a new race on the basis of a single specimen.

Scelotes arnoldi mlanjensis subsp. nov.

Scelotes arnoldi (not Hewitt) Loveridge, 1953, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., **110**, 217.

Holotype. U.M. 4267, an adult female from the summit of Dzole Peak (8,900 feet), Mlanje Mountain, Nyasaland. Collected by D. G. Broadley, December 24, 1962.

Paratype. AMNH. 67825, a juvenile from Lichenya Plateau, Mlanje Mountain. Collected by the Vernay-Nyasaland Expedition, June-July, 1946.

Diagnosis. Close to the typical form of the eastern highlands of southern Rhodesia, but readily distinguished therefrom by its much longer limbs and digits and also by coloration.

Description. Snout blunt, the distance from its end to the anterior border of the eye much less than the interorbital distance. Lower eyelid eaily, opaque. Ear opening reduced to a very small longitudinal slit. Nostril pierced in the upper anterior corner of the rostral; four upper

labials anterior to subocular; a small postnasal; a loreal; three small preoculars; supranasals in broad contact behind the rostral; frontonasals in broad contact with the large bell-shaped frontal; parietals in contact behind the interparietal; four supraoculars; six supraciliaries; two pairs of enlarged nuchal shields bordering the parietals; lower labials 6. Midbody scale rows 23 (22 in paratype); limbs short, pentadactyle; fore limbs 17% (14.5%) of snout-vent length (8-11% in 23 specimens of typical *arnoldi*), hind limbs 25% of snout-vent length (14-17% in typical *arnoldi*). Digits much longer than in the typical form, 12 (11) lamellae under the fourth toe (6-8 in 31 typical *arnoldi*).

Coloration. Above, head dark brown, dorsal scales yellow-brown, broadly margined with black to give a reticulate effect. Sides of head and body bluish-white, heavily marked with black. Below, salmon pink, the tail variegated with black. Soles of feet black.

Size. Length of holotype ♀ (UM. 4267) 108 (60+48) mm., but tail regenerated.

Habitat. The holotype was found under a stone on a damp, steeply-sloping rock face.