

ON A NEW TYPHLOPS PREVIOUSLY CONFOUNDED
WITH *TYPHLOPS UNGUIROSTRIS*, PETERS.

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(Communicated by Edgar R. Waite, F.L.S.)

In preparing the first Volume of the Catalogue of Snakes, I referred to Peters's *Typhlops unguirostris*, a specimen which differed only from the description and figure in the number of scales round the body (22 instead of 24) and in the position of the first labial shield entirely in advance of the nasal cleft. The former discrepancy I attributed to individual variation, the latter to inaccuracy on the part of the artist—Peters, on this occasion, having omitted to describe the exact position of the anterior labials. The resemblances seemed to me to outweigh the differences and I concluded to specific identity.

After reading a note on the subject by Mr. Edgar R. Waite (Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. ix. 1894, p. 13) I feel compelled to alter my view. The disagreement which Mr. Waite has observed between Peters's figure and my description is due to no oversight on my part, but to the fact that Peters's and my type are of different species, as becomes evident now that further examples of *T. unguirostris* have come to light.

I must therefore establish a new species for the specimen which I have referred to *T. unguirostris*, and I cannot do better than to connect with it the name of the author whose remarks have led to the discovery of the error in which I had fallen. The specimen in the British Museum should in future stand as *Typhlops waitii*.

The three closely allied species which are now sufficiently diagnosed may be easily distinguished as follows :—

Typhlops unguirostris, Ptrs. Nasal cleft proceeding from the first labial. 24 scales round the body. Tail nearly as long as broad.

Typhlops waitii, Blgr. Nasal cleft proceeding from the second labial. 22 scales round the body. Tail nearly as long as broad.

Typhlops affinis, Blgr. Nasal cleft proceeding from the second labial. 18 scales round the body. Tail longer than broad.



Boulenger, George Albert. 1895. "A new Typhlops previously confounded with Typhlops unguirostris." *Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales* 9, 718–719. <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.18138>.

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