

XXI.—*Note on Toxotes microlepis*, Gthr., and *Toxotes microlepis*, Blyth. By G. A. BOULENGER.

THE important collection of reptiles and fishes recently made at Toungoo by Mr. E. W. Oates and presented by him to the British Museum, among which I found the new frog described above, contained several examples of a *Toxotes* which has appeared on all lists of Burmese fishes as *Toxotes microlepis*; Day * attributing the species to Blyth, Vinciguerra † to Günther. The fact is that two fishes were described independently and almost simultaneously by Günther ‡ from Siam and by Blyth § from Burma under the name of *T. microlepis*. Day assumed the two species to be identical, in which view he was followed by Bleeker || and by Vinciguerra. Having compared the Burmese specimens with the Siamese types of *T. microlepis*, Gthr., I find them to be easily distinguishable both as regards structure and coloration. As Günther's name was published before Blyth's I propose to change the name of the Burmese species to *T. Blythii*. The diagnoses I have drawn up show the distinctive characters of the two species.

1. *Toxotes microlepis*, Gthr.

Depth of body one half total length (without caudal); fourth dorsal spine considerably longer than third; third anal spine but slightly longer than second dorsal, and shorter than the soft rays. Four black blotches or vertical bars on the upper part of the side.

2. *Toxotes Blythii*.

Toxotes microlepis, Blyth.

Depth of body not half total length (without caudal); fourth dorsal spine not or but slightly longer than third; third anal spine as long as third dorsal and nearly as long as the soft rays. Irregular black longitudinal blotches or stripes running along the body; a small black spot below the axilla.

* 'Fishes of India,' p. 117 (1875).

† Ann. Mus. Genova, (2) ix. 1890, p. 165.

‡ Cat. Fishes, ii. p. 68 (1860).

§ Journ. As. Soc. Beng. xxix. 1860, p. 142 (1861).

|| Atl. Ichthyol. ix. p. 2.

Dimensions.

	<i>T. microlepis.</i>		<i>T. Blythii.</i>	
	Ad. millim.	Yg. millim.	Ad. millim.	Yg. millim.
Total length.....	150	80	163	78
" " (without caudal)	127	66	140	64
Depth of body	64	32	59	29
Length of head	44	26	48	26
Diameter of eye	12	8	13	8
Length of 1st dorsal spine	9	5	9	4½
" 2nd " " 	17	10	17	9
" 3rd " " 	21	14	25	?
" 4th " " 	26	16	26	13
" 5th " " 	25	13	25	13
" 1st anal " 	13	6	13	6
" 2nd " " 	17	9	19	10
" 3rd " " 	18	11	25	14

XXII.—On *Strauch's* *Triton longipes*.

By G. A. BOULENGER.

IN my revision of the newts, published in 1882*, I expressed the opinion that *Strauch's Triton longipes* † from Astrabad, N. Persia, should probably be considered a variety of *Molge cristata*, agreeing with var. *Karelinii*, *Strauch*, except in the more elongate digits. This view was endorsed shortly afterwards by *Camerano* ‡, who referred some Italian specimens (from the Gran Sasso) to subsp. *longipes*, not, however, without some hesitation. I am now in a position, thanks to the kindness of Dr. F. S. Monticelli, who sent me numerous specimens of *M. cristata* from near Naples, to state that *T. longipes* represents merely an individual variation of *Molge cristata*, var. *Karelinii*. Among the Naples specimens there is one, a male *post nuptias*, which is in every respect referable to *T. longipes*; its digits are extremely slender and elongate, all the fingers except the first extending beyond the snout when the fore limb is stretched forwards, and the longest toe reaching the elbow when the limbs are pressed against the body. As there exists in the same locality every passage between such a specimen and a normal *M. cristata*,

* Cat. Batr. Grad. s. Caud. 1882.

† Rev. Salam. Gatt., Mém. Ac. St. Pétersb. xvi. no. 4, 1870, p. 44.

‡ P. Z. S. 1884, p. 423, and Mon. Anf. Urod. Ital., Mem. Acc. Tor. (2) xxxvi. 1884.



Boulenger, George Albert. 1892. "Note on *Toxotes microlepis* Gthr. and *Toxotes microlepis* Blyth." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 9, 143–144.

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