A remarkable new Gecko from South-Africa and a new Stenocercus-species from South-America

in the Natural Museum in Wiesbaden.

By

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With plate III.

Among a collection of reptiles and batrachians which was sent to me for determination from Mr. Ed. Lampe, Custos of the Natural Museum in Wiesbaden, there were two new species: a remarkable gecko from South-Africa, apparently representing a new genus, and a new Stenocercus-species from the highlands of Peru. Some notes on a few other species are also added; besides, I am able to state that the species Paludicola alpina, established by myself in 1906, is identical with P. borelli Per. All the specimens from South-America are collected by Mr. K. Seyd in the year 1907.

Palmatogecko Nov. genus.

A new genus of the family Geckonidae. Digits almost to the points included in a thick skin, forming a large palmar surface, below and above densely covered with small uniform granules without any traces of lamellae; the short free distal joint with a faint obtuse claw. The whole animal uniformly granulated. Eyelid distinct all around the eye; pupil vertical. Male without praeanal and femoral pores.

Palmatogecko rangei n. sp.

Plate III, Fig. 1a—c.

Head large, oviform; nose broad, triangular, a little longer than the diameter of the orbit, which is as long as the distance between eye and ear; ear-opening small, oval, only one-third of the eyeball. Nostrils

on the upper part of the nose, one-third nearer the tip of the snout than the orbit, swollen, and pierced between two larger raised posterior and two smaller anterior nasals. Forehead and the interorbital space with a longitudinal groove. Temporal region thick and swollen; the greatest breadth of the animal is at the temples. Body and limbs slender. On the hand the free distal joints are comparatively long, on the 3th finger as long as the diameter of the ear-opening; a low ridge limits the palmar surface behind, giving it a scooplike appearance. On the foot the free distal joints are considerably shorter; the outer toe, to some extent separated from the broad disc formed by the four other toes, makes the hind rim of the deeply concave palmar surface. A broad but low rostral in contact with a regular six-sided internasal; 14—16 upper labials, 12 lower labials; a large oval mental, no chin-childs; all other scales small and granulated, except a row of ten pointed conical tubercles on each side the thick base of the tail, probably a male-character. Greyish white above, head and tail lighter than body; two faint dark stripes on the sides of the back, vanishing on the base of the tail; several faint cross bands unite the longitudinal stripes; above the ear a dark transversal spot, and on the nose a semicircular streak running behind the nostrils to below the eyes; the lower parts of the sides between the limbs, a triangular patch in front of the shoulder, the angle between thighs and tail, and the eyelid citrine; lower parts white, greyish white on the head.

Measurements: Total length 110 mm; from nose to ear 17,5 mm; diameter of the orbit 6 mm, greatest breadth of head 14 mm, length of humurus 9 mm, from elbow to the tips of toes 17 mm, length of femur 12 mm, from knee to tips of toes 20 mm.

This singular gecko is from Lüderitzbucht in the German South-West Africa and collected by Dr. P. Range; the colour, the large palmar surfaces and the general appearance indicate its occurrence in arid regions; in habit it rather much resembles another sand-gecko from South-Africa, Ptenopus garrulus, also collected at the same place, to which it probably is related, but the large palmar surfaces, formed as broad adhesive organs, seem to indicate that its habits at least to some extent are different; perhaps it may be living on rocks, but without knowing the nature of the place where it is collected, I do not find it proper to go further into the matter.

Stenocercus seydi n. sp.

Plate III, fig. 1 and 2.

No pterygoid teeth, no denticulation on the anterior border of the ear. Nostril large, above the canthus rostralis, directed upwards. Interorbital space slightly grooved; supraocular region with four or five longitudinal series of scales; the scales of the two median rows are much larger than those of the lateral rows and about twice as broad as long. All the plates of the head, especially on the hind part, distinctly corrugated. Temporal scales keeled; four upper and five lower labials; four pairs of postgulars; the first in contact with each other. A distinct dorsal denticulation, disappearing at the middle of the tail. A fold with raised pointed scales runs from the upper angle of the ear along the sides of the body to the base of the tail, where it vanishes. A distinct antehumeral fold and another parallel to and running before that one to below the ear. Also these folds have the scales raised and pointed and narrower than the dorsals, which are moderate, broad and smooth on the base, but on the distal part they have a keel ending in a sharp mucro; the scale-rows almost parallel to the dorsal crest; the lateral scales but little smaller than the dorsals (thirteen corresponding with ten); they are of the same shape as these, but the keels become fainter and the mucros shorter towards below. The ventral scales as large as the dorsals, smooth, broad, and obtusely pointed; the gulars like the ventrals, but under the neek the scales are larger, longer, and narrower. The tail is nearly twice as long as head and body, tapering and distinctly compressed. Caudal scales considerably larger than the dorsals (seven corresponding with ten), sharply keeled and pointed, forming rings; on the proximal part three rings with large scales alternate with one with considerably smaller scales, but on the distal part of the tail all the scales are alike. The scales on the limbs like those on the body; the scales on the upper surface of the tibia larger and more distinctly mucronated and more keeled than on the remaining parts of the extremities. The adpressed hind limb reaches the eye; fifth toe not extending as far as second; toes and fingers with sharply keeled lamellae inferiorly, somewhat fringed laterally.

The upper surfaces and the sides are dark brown; the cheeks, the lower temporal region, the lateral longitudinal fold, and small numerous oval spots on the sides whitish; a dark streak from the eye

to the angle of mouth. Broad dark crossbands on the upper surface of the distal part of tail. Under surfaces white, with the exception of the throat, belly, and under parts of the tail, which are beautifully pink.

Measurements: Total length 290 mm; length of the body 100 mm. From nose to ear 24 mm, from nose to eye 10 mm; length of fore limb 50 mm; length of hind limb 80 mm; length of 4th toe from the angle between 4th and 5th toe 34 mm.

Habitat: Peru, La Merced. 1000 m above the sea-level.

Liolaemus signifer Dum. Bibr.

Bell, Zool. Beagle. Rept. p. 8, pl. 4, fig. 1. — Boulenger, Cat. Liz. II, p. 154. — Koslowsky, Revista del Museo de la Plata, Tom 8.

5 specimens from Guaqui, Peru. 140—207 mm in total length; 4 males and 1 female

In three specimens the ground-colour is grassgreen, in one (the female) light brown, and in the fifth one brown with a nice tint of greyish blue. In all there are two rows of dark spots regularly arranged on each side of the body and of that shape which is characteristic for the species; in some specimens, however, the spots are less distinct and more irregular than in other. The upper part of the head is in all uniform brown and the whole lower surface whitish with green longitudinal spots, especially on breast and chin. The scales are very small and numerous, varying from 78 to 90 around the body. Generally the scales of the sides are distinctly smaller than those of the back, but in two specimens this difference in the size of the scales is almost invisible, and I was very much in doubt wether these specimens should be reckoned to Cope's species L. multiformis, but being in other respects completely similar to the other specimens with distinctly unlike-sized scales, I could not distinguish them specifically. Later on I have seen Koslowsky, though with ?, refer L. multiformis Cope as a synonym to one of the numerous varieties he gives of L. signifer Dum. Bibr., and it seems to me very probable that the two forms are not to be maintained as distinct species, but the L. multiformis Cope being instead reckoned as a more large-scaled variety of the very much varying L. signifer. The difference between the forms, being stated on account of the number of the anal pores, also seems to have no value. In Boulengers Catalogue these are mentioned to be five or six in L. multiformis but only four in L. signifer; in all my specimens, however, also in the typical signifer-specimens, they are six, possibly five in one, but never four.

Liolaemus lativittatus Werner.

Werner, Ergebnisse der Hamburger Magelhaensischen Sammelreise. Heft 7, Hamburg 1904, p. 8.

Three Liolaemus-specimens, male, female and a young one, from Yauli 4000 m and Arapa 4500 m, Peru, probably belong to this species. The type-specimen Werner's is a female, and his description and figure agree completely with the female in this collection, except that the whole lower surface of the latter is uniform bluish gray; nor there is any well marked frontal, these being, however, differences of no specific value. In the male the lateral band is narrower, the hind part of the belly and the lower surface of the thighs black, and besides there are black longitudinal spots on the bluish gray underparts. The male has 58, the female 54 scales round the middle of the body; all the scales pointed, ending in an acute angle but not mucronated as in the following species. In the female some of the temporals are feebly keeled, in the male they are all quite smooth. The young one is dark brown with very distinct lateral stripes; below dark bluish gray without dark marbles. The male has 4 anal pores.

Measurements of the male: Total length 91 mm (the tail regenerated); from nose to vent 46 mm, from nose to eye 4 mm, from nose to ear 11 mm, from nose to fore limbs 17 mm; length of fore limbs 16 mm; length of femur 7,5 mm; from knee to the extremity of the 4th toe 19 mm. The breath of head 9 mm. The total length of the female is 132 mm, the length of the body 50 mm; the length of the young respectively 53 and 22,5 mm.

Liolaemus cyanogaster Dum. Bibr.

Boulenger, Cat. Liz. II, p. 145. — Bell, Zool. Beagl. Rept., p. 12, pl. 5, fig. 2. — Koslowsky, Revista del museo de la Plata, Tom. 8.

6 specimens from Guaqui, Peru; two males, one female, three young. I was very much in doubt wether they ought to be referred to this species or to the nearly allied L. bibronii Bell. They agree very well with the descriptions of both these species and also in general with Bell's figures of them. Yet, the dark lateral spots, which are described in L. bibronii, are very faint, instead there is a well marked light coloured lateral band, said to exist in L. cyanogaster; the small number of scales round the middle of the body (40—46) also seems to be a cyanogaster-character, but the scales of the head are

striated only in one of the specimens, as they are stated to be in L. cyanogaster, in all the others they are quite smooth as in L. bibronii. Thus, the differences between these species are very unimportant, and finding Koslowsky consider them as synonyms I cannot see but he has good reason to do so. In the young there are on each side two very distinct lateral bands with copper gloss, a broad one from above the eye to somewhat out on the tail, and another more narrow from beneath the eye above the tympanum to the groin. Anal pores 3—4. Length of the specimens: 49 + 66 mm (the tail a little mutilated), 52 + 58 mm, 50 + 62 mm, 34 + 36 mm (the tail mutilated), 29 + 51 mm, 34 + 24 mm (the tail mutilated).

Mabuia comorensis Peters.

Peters, Mon. Ber. Berl. Ac. 1854, p. 619, and Reise nach Mosamb., III, p. 72, pl. 10, fig. 3. — Boul. Cat. Liz. III, p. 163.

One specimen from Mombassa, British East-Africa; Captain F. Seyd. Body and head 90 mm; the tail mutilated. It differs from Peters' and Boulenger's descriptions only somewhat in colour; the two rows of dark spots we find in Peters' figure are wanting and also the lateral band. Back and sides are olive-brown without any sharp border and merging in the light colour of the lower surface. There is however no doubt that it is a Mabuia comorensis Peters, the occurence of which on the African continent thus is stated. In Catalogue of Lizards Boulenger marks with ? Mozambique as locality for this lizard, but living at Mombassa it probably exists also at other places of the East-African coast.

Mabuia raddoni Gray.

Boulenger, Cat. Liz. III, p. 165.

6 specimens, Bibundi, Cameroons (J. Weiler and O. Rau).

A very large specimen, 310 mm in total length, is distinguished from the others in having on the scales of the back several fainter keels beside the three ordinary strong ones. The 4 th upper labial is divided into two, causing that the number of labials before the supraocular becomes five, and in colour it also differs in the want of the dark broad lateral band and the narrow light stripe below it. All the upper parts are uniform dark brown without limit merging into the light under surfaces.

Chalcides sepoides Aud.

Boulenger, Cat. Liz. III, p. 407. — Andersson, The Zoology of Egypt.

One specimen from Egypt (L. Geisenheyner).

It differs in having very short limbs, the fore ones being shorter instead of longer, as Andersson states, than the distance between the tip of the snout and the eye; furthermore, the hind limbs are considerably shorter than the distance between eye and axil, thus smaller than hitherto stated. All the extremities have only four digits, of which on the right hand the outermost finger is very small and reduced and on the left hand the innermost also very short; there are on that hand only two fingers not reduced; the toes of the hind limbs are alike on both sides, the innermost being rather small and the others regularly increasing in length to the outermost, which is the longest. Andersson says that he has never seen any specimen from Egypt, having the fingers and toes reduced to such a degree, although such specimens are known from other countries. The whole limbs, however, are in this specimen more reduced than hitherto found at any place.

Length of body 105 mm; the tail is broken. Length of fore limbs 5,3 mm, length of hind limbs 14,5 mm; distance between the tip of the snout and the eye 5,6 mm; distance between the eye and the axil 16 mm.

Telmatobius peruvianus Wiegm.

Wiegm., Nova Acta Leopold. 1835, p. 262, pl. 22, f. 2. — Peters, Mon. Berl. Ac. 1873, p. 413, pl. 2, f. 3. — Boul., Cat. Batr. sal., p. 191.

6 specimens from Titicaca.

The ground-colour is plumbeous gray; some are uniform, but in some the ground-colour is mingled with small indistinct light spots; the dark longitudinal band and the two cross-bands, said to exist, do not appear in any specimen. In one specimen the whole upper surface is covered with very small yellowish horny points; in the other specimens there are such ones only somewhere on the body, but they are always to be found, at least to some extent. All the specimens are females.

Measurements of the largest specimen: From nose to vent 77 mm. Lenght of the nose 11 mm, lenght of the orbit 6,2 mm, from nose to angle of mouth 25,5 mm. Breadth of head at the angle of mouth 29 mm. Humerus 14 mm, from the elbow to the tip of third finger 35 mm, femur 36 mm, tibia 33 mm, tarsus with 4th toe 53 mm.

Paludicola borelli Per.

Five specimens from La Paz, Bolivia, and eleven from Guaqui, Peru.

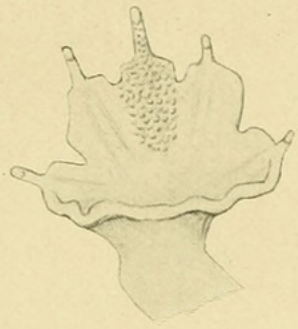
The specimens are kindly determined by Dr. G. A. Boulenger. They agree completely with the specimens from Casabindo (Puna de Jujuy, Andes of Argentine), in Arkiv för Zoologi, Bd. 3, Nr. 12, 1906 described by myself as a new species, Paludicola alpina, which species, thus, is not to be maintained.

Bufo spinulosus Wiegm.

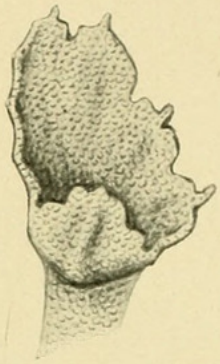
Wiegm., Nova Acta Leopold. XVII, t. 22, f. 3. — Bouleng., Cat. Batr. Sal. p. 302. — Werner, Fauna Chilensis, Heft 1, p. 277.

23 specimens from several localities in Peru and Bolivia, among which there is a beautiful variety from Arapa, Peru, 4500 m above the sea-level, that I have not seen described. All the five specimens from this latter locality are distinguished in having the warts very closely arranged and ending in obtuse horny tubercles instead of acute spines. The large black spots that generally appear in the typical form are wanting; a distinct light median dorsal stripe runs from the tip of the snout to the vent; the ground colour above brown with dark warts, sometimes small light spots on the sides of the dorsal stripe. The foot with 4 th toe is shorter than in the typical form. As all specimens from this locality, the large as well as the small ones, are of the same appearance, and as I have not found one like these among all the specimens of this species I have seen, I think it possible that they may represent a constant colour-variety, which I will name arapensis. Of the three varieties Werner establishes in Fauna chilensis the variety ornata seems also to have a light dorsal band, but the figure Werner gives does not agree with my form.

Length of the variety arapensis 25—43 mm between nose and vent.



1 b



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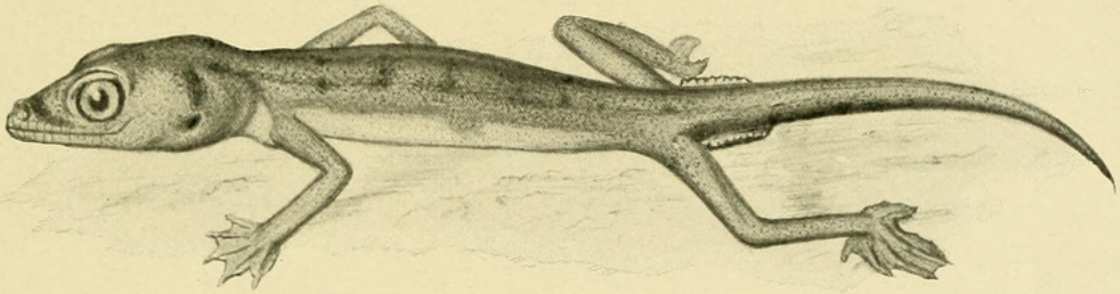
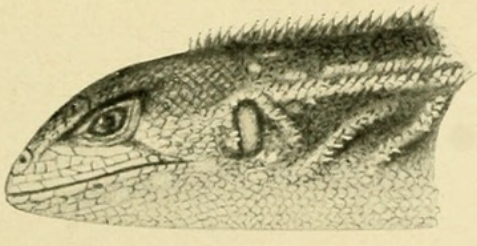
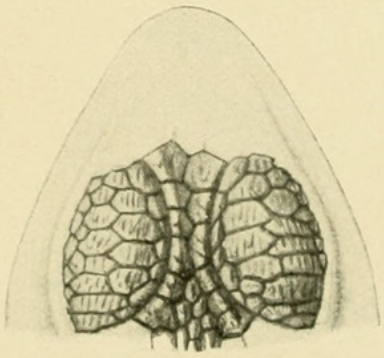


1 a

Palmatogecko rangei n. g. n. sp. $^1/_1$; 1 b under surface of hand $^3/_1$; 1 c under surface of foot $^3/_1$.



2 a



2 b

Stenocercus seydi n. sp.

2 a Head and anterior part of body $^1/_1$.

2 b Upper view of head $^2/_1$.

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