

XVI. A SYNOPSIS OF THE SAURIAN GENUS PRIONODACTYLUS.

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Since the genus *Prionodactylus* was treated by Boulenger in the Catalogue of Lizards in the British Museum ten more species have been discovered, making a total of fifteen which are assigned to the genus. On account of the trebling of the membership of the genus I hope that the following assemblage of the species in the form of a key will serve a useful purpose.

I. Nostril pierced in the middle of a single or partly divided nasal.

1. Ventrals in four longitudinal rows.

Twenty-seven scales around the middle of the body, thirty scales from occiput to base of tail.....*P. quadrilineatus* (Böttger) 1876.

2. Ventrals in six longitudinal rows.

a. Prefrontals not forming a suture.

Twenty ventral series, twenty-nine scales around the middle of the body, thirty-one scales from occiput to base of tail, two anterior and two posterior pre-anal scales.....*P. argulus* (Peters) 1862.

aa. Prefrontals forming a suture.

b. Posterior chin-shields separated.

c. Two anterior pre-anal scales.

Eighteen to nineteen ventral series, thirty-three to thirty-five scales around the middle of the body, thirty-eight to forty scales from occiput to base of tail, two anterior and two posterior pre-anal scales.....*P. oshaughnessyi* Boulenger, 1885.

Eighteen to nineteen ventral series, forty-three scales around the middle of the body, thirty-five to thirty-eight scales from occiput to base of tail, two anterior and three posterior pre-anal scales.....*P. manicatus* (O'Shaughnessy) 1881.

Eighteen ventral series, twenty-nine scales around the middle of the body, thirty-one scales from the occiput to base of tail, two anterior and four posterior pre-anal scales.

P. eigenmanni Griffin 1917.

Seventeen ventral series, twenty-seven scales around the middle of the body, twenty-one scales from occiput to base of tail, two anterior and two posterior pre-anal scales.

P. albostrigatus Griffin, 1917.

cc. One anterior pre-anal scale.

Thirty-seven scales from occiput to base of tail, one anterior and three posterior pre-anal scales..*P. champsonotus* Werner, 1910.

bb. Posterior chin-shields in contact.

Nineteen ventral series, thirty-nine scales around the middle of the body, twenty-six scales from occiput to base of tail, one anterior and three posterior pre-anal scales. . . . *P. kocki* Lidth de Jeude, 1904.

3. Ventrals in eight longitudinal rows.

Nineteen ventral series, twenty-six scales around the middle of the body, twenty-nine scales from occiput to base of tail, four pre-anal scales in the form of a cross. *P. leucostictus* Boulenger, 1900.

Eighteen ventral series, thirty-three scales around the middle of the body, thirty-two scales from occiput to base of tail, two anterior and four posterior pre-anal scales. *P. bolivianus* Werner, 1899.

4. Ventrals in twelve longitudinal rows.

Nineteen to twenty-one ventral series, thirty-eight to forty-five scales around the middle of the body, thirty-nine to forty-six scales from occiput to base of tail, two anterior and four to six posterior pre-anal scales.

P. spinalis Boulenger, 1911.

II. Nostril pierced in the suture between two plates, scales of outer and middle rows of ventral scales smaller than the others.

1. Ventrals in six longitudinal rows.

Twenty ventral series, thirty-seven scales around the middle of the body, thirty scales from occiput to base of tail.

P. vertebralis (O'Shaughnessy) 1879.

Twenty ventral series, fifty scales around the middle of the body, thirty-one scales from occiput to base of tail. *P. palmeri* Boulenger, 1908.

2. Ventrals in eight longitudinal rows.

Eighteen to twenty ventral series, thirty-six to thirty-eight scales around the middle of the body, thirty-five to thirty-eight scales from occiput to base of tail, three or four pre-anal scales in a single row.

P. ockendeni Boulenger, 1907.

8. Ventrals in ten longitudinal rows.

Twenty-seven ventral series, thirty-seven scales around the middle of the body. *P. ocellifer* Werner, 1901.

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