

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A SMALL HERPETOLOGICAL COLLECTION FROM
EASTERN PERU.

EMMETT REID DUNN, *Haverford College.*

Dr. Doris Cochran of the United States National Museum recently sent me for identification a Caecilian and twelve snakes from Peru. The material was sent in by Mr. J. G. Sanders in 1944, and bears the data "Fundo Sinchono, 4600-5000 feet, Prov. Loretta, Peru." This cinchona plantation is in the Province of Loreta, in the northeastern part of Peru. The nearest town is Tinga Maria in Huanuco Province over the Andean Divide, 72 Km. to the west.

Caecilia pachynema Gqnter. No. 119008. A specimen 1030 mm. long, with 146 primaries and no secondaries.

Tropidophis taczanowskyi (Steindachner). No. 119009. This seems to be the first South American *Tropidophis* to reach this country, and the seventh to be recorded. It is a female 268 mm. long, tail 33 mm. Dorsals 23-21, keeled save for the lower four rows; ventrals 152; anal single; caudals 27; upper labials 8, third and fourth in orbit on right side, third in orbit on left; lower labials 10, two in contact with genaeals; suture between internasals very indistinct; two cross rows of plates between internasals and frontal, five in the anterior one (=two loreals and three anterior prefrontals), two in the posterior (=posterior prefrontals); one preocular; three postoculars, the lower almost a subocular; temporals 3-3; parietals entire; rich brown above, yellow below; black markings on temporals and as vague dots on adjacent scales of rows 2-3, 5-7, and vertebrales and paravertebrales (=three vague rows of spots on each side); large circular black blotches below, which may extend onto first scale row; maxillary teeth 18, subequal.

The specimen is unique in having separate loreals (they are fused with the anterior prefrontals in all other known *Tropidophis*). The count of maxillary teeth (18) is distinctly higher than that of Antillean *Tropidophis* (12-15), but agrees with the number (19) given for the only other South American specimen for which this count is recorded (type of *paucisquamis*).

Previous reports of *Tropidophis* from South America are as follows: *Ungalia taczanowskyi* Steindachner 1879, Sitz. Ak. Wien 79, p. 522. Two specimens from Tambillo, Peru. I cannot place the locality. A "tambo" was a stopping place on the old Inca road system, and there were many of them. Some of them persist, and some are on maps, some not. A "tambillo" would be an insignificant "tambo". There are at least eleven in Peru. Boulenger (1893, Cat. Snakes British Mus. Nat. Hist., ed. 2, vol. 1, p. 111) records a specimen from Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Ungalia paucisquamis Muller 1901 in Schenskel, Verh. Nat. Ges. Basel 13, pl. 154. A specimen from "South America." Amaral (1930, Mem. Inst. Butantan 4, 1, pl. 5) records a specimen from Santo Armero (near Serra de Paranapiacaba), Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Ungalia brasiliensis Anderson 1901, Bih. Svenska Vet. Ak. Handl. 27, p. 4, pl. 1, fig. 1. A specimen from "Brazil."

The scale counts indicate a division on the basis of ventrals and caudals, but not on a basis of dorsals.

<i>T. taczanowskyi.</i>					
Guayaquil	ventr. 149	caud. 25	dors. 23	keeled	
Tambillo	150	25	23	"	Type
"	160	25	23	"	Type
Loreta	152	27	23	"	
<i>T. paucisquamis.</i>					
"S. Amer."	178	40	21	smooth	
					Type <i>paucisquamis.</i>
"Brazil	178	37	21	smooth	
					Type <i>brasiliensis.</i>
Sao Paulo	175	32	23	keeled	

The closely allied and equally rare genus *Ungaliophis* (one specimen from each of the countries Colombia, Panamá, Costa Rica; several from Guatemala) seems to intervene between the rare *Tropidophis* of South America and the common *Tropidophis* of the Greater Antilles. Whereas in *Tropidophis* the loreal is fused (except in the present specimen) and the prefrontals are much subdivided, in *Ungaliophis* the loreal is retained (sometimes subdivided) and the prefrontals are fused into a single scale.

The single South American specimen of *Ungaliophis* was taken at Andes, Antioquia, Colombia (a town on the east slope of the western Andes at 1357 meters elevation). It had 19 smooth dorsals, 226 ventrals, and 41 caudals. It served as the type of *U. danieli* Prado (1940, Mem. Inst. Butantan 14, p. 35).

Atractus sp. (cf. *badius*). No. 119011. A male with long loreal, long upper second temporal, 7 upper labials, 17 dorsals, 2 postoculars, 4 sublabials in contact with genials, 146 ventrals, and 32 caudals. The markings consist of two-scale light bars separating four-scale darker blotches, both of which fade gradually into the uniform drab of the sides and belly.

The scalation is close to that of typical *badius* (type ventr. 154, caud.

36), whose markings, however, are of equal light and dark crossbands, more prominent anteriorly. I rather suspect that this snake is what has been called "*badius*" from Peru; a very similar if not identical form has been called "*badius*" from the Oriente of Colombia.

Dipsas latifasciatus (Boulenger). No. 119013. A female with 182 ventrals, 90 caudals; nine upper labials, 4-6 entering eye; a small preocular above loreal; two postoculars; temporals 2-3; 14 lower labials, two pairs in contact, five in contact with the first of the two or three pairs of square geneials.

Dipsas schunkii (Boulenger). No. 119014. A female with 189 ventrals; 93 caudals; eight upper labials, 4-5 entering eye; a small preocular above loreal; a tiny preocular below loreal on left side; two postoculars; temporals 1-2; twelve lower labials, one pair in contact, five in contact with the first of the three pairs of square geneials.

Xenodon rabdocephalus (Wied). No. 119012. A male with 144+1 ventrals, 45 caudals; 19-15 dorsals; 8 upper labials.

Oxyrhopus petola ssp. No. 119018. A male with 199 ventrals, 104 caudals; 7 upper labials; 17-15 dorsals; 33 black body bars.

Clelia clelia ssp. No. 119015. A male with 209 ventrals, 91 caudals; 7 upper labials; 19-17 dorsals.

Chironius fuscus ssp. No. 119010. A female with 155+1 ventrals, 122 caudals; 10-10 dorsals; 9 upper labials; probably green in life.

Leptomicrourus narduccii (Jan.) No. 119019. A male with 271 ventrals, 19 caudals; temporals 1-1; 42 light spots on belly.

Micrurus langsdorffii (Wagler). No. 119016-17. The former, a male, has 204 ventrals, 40 caudals; 49 black body bars. The latter, a female, has 216 ventrals, 33 caudals; 61 black body bars. Neither have any light spots on the head. Both belong to the "*annellatus*" type of coloration, with the red rings turned black.

Bothrops oligolepis (Werner) = *chloromelas* Boulenger. No. 119020. A small female, 460 mm. long, has 188 ventrals, 44 caudals; 7 upper labials, the second in the pit; 23 dorsals. Four of the subcaudals are undivided. Werner's *oligolepis* from Bolivia has over ten years priority to Boulenger's *chloromelas* from Huancabamba near Oxypampa, Peru. This report records this species for the third time.



Dunn, E. R. 1946. "A small herpetological collection from eastern Peru."
Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington 59, 17–19.

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