

ON NEW SPECIES OF AUSTRALIAN LIZARDS,

BY

C. W. DE VIS, M.A.

 MACROPS, N.G.

Head long, broad, and flat posteriorly, wide, and elevated between the eyes, suddenly contracting and sloping to the snout; eyebrows hardly keeled, no facial ridge. Back with small subcarinate scales in cross rows and *numerous* larger ones intermixed; ridge-like folds above and below the ear; nape with a low crest continued rudimentarily to the tail. Tail short, tapering, with the keels of the scales above, and for the most part below, in continuous lines; scales of the lower surface subcarinate; throat with a cross fold; femoral and preanal pores? A genus differing from the other genera of the Agamidæ rather in the totality of its characters than in any salient feature.

MACROPS NUCHALIS.

The length of the head is $3\frac{1}{2}$, that of the hind limb $1\frac{4}{5}$, of the fore limb $3\frac{1}{5}$, the distance between the limbs 2, in the length of the trunk. Snout $1\frac{2}{3}$ in the interorbit, interorbit $1\frac{2}{3}$ in the length of the head. Tail, a tenth longer than the head and trunk. The profiles of the snout and interorbit convex: postorbital part of the head broad, flat, not distinct from the neck; a keeled fold from below the orbit runs over the ear, and below it a shorter one, also over the ear; a more distinct one from below the angle of the mouth armed with triangular free scales runs under the ear and curves upward towards the shoulder. Paratoids a little swollen. Toes not fringed. Sequence of toes $\frac{1}{1} \frac{5}{5} \frac{2}{2} \frac{3}{3} \frac{4}{4}$, the middle hinder toe much shorter than the third. Throat with a cross fold. The scales of the head to the nuchal crest as large as those of the abdomen, hexagonal when viewed laterally: enlarged scales of the back and some of the others pentagonal, the rest rhombic. Scales of snout carinate, of the rest of the head smooth; of the back and belly subcarinate; nuchal crest composed of six or seven low free scales; the dorsal almost obsolete. A few rows of scales on each side of it form very faint continuous lines. Scales of outer side of fore limb, and both sides of hind limb continuously keeled. General

colour of the back, speckled black, grey, and white, the black and grey intermixed in about equal proportions, the white occupying chiefly the larger scales. Tail, ringed with blackish brown, more distinctly towards the end. On the nape a large oblong patch of brownish red. The arms, breast, and thighs more or less stained with the same: subaural fold white, edged with black above and below. Hinder part of head with black lines and spots assuming the form of ocellations on the sides of the nape.

Length, seven inches. Locality, Delta Station, Bogantungan. Collected by Mr. C. W. de Burgh Birch.

DIPOROPHORA.

Dr. Gray having but one example of the genus before him, limited the number of preanal pores to one on each side. This character appears to be of no more than specific value, if that, since in four lizards not otherwise differing generically from *bilineata*, the pores are from one to three on each side. I have for many years been of opinion that the *Diporophora* of the central and south coast district is not the one described by Gray from Port Essington, and that conviction having lately become stronger I propose to describe it as

DIPOROPHORA NUCHALIS.

The length of the head is two fifths nearly of that of the trunk: the fore limb and the distance between the limbs are each three-fifths of the same: the hind limb is nearly equal to the trunk in length: the tail $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as long, the snout is $\frac{3}{7}$, and the interorbit $\frac{1}{2}$ of the length of the head. The eye is in the centre of the length of the head, the nostril in the centre of the snout. The head slopes forward rapidly from the vertex, its scales are larger than those of the back, and equal to those of the limbs. There are no spines on the front of the ear. The back has a central as well as lateral keels, but the latter are the stronger. Preanal pores, 2 or 3 on each side. The colour varies from pale brownish yellow to brown, with from five to seven bar-like spots more or less connected transversely on each side of the back, the nuchal band almost constantly ends in a large dark spot on the side of the neck. Top of the head generally reddish, sides of the face and around the ear sometimes blackish or reddish brown.

The lizard is a bold sprightly creature delighting to watch for prey in bare spots of ground in the full sunshine. At such times it may be recognized by its attitude alone: squatting

posteriorly close to the ground it raises its forequarters and elevates its head and snout as high as it conveniently can. The black blotch on the side of the neck is then conspicuous.

DIPOROPHORA ORNATA.

The length of the head is $\frac{5}{11}$, of the hind limb $\frac{7}{6}$, of the fore limb $\frac{2}{3}$ in the length of the trunk: the tail three times and a thirteenth longer than the trunk: the distance between the limbs $\frac{2}{3}$ of the trunk. The head slopes from the vertex forward with a curved profile. The eye is much nearer to the ear than to the tip of the snout, the nostril nearer to the latter than to the angle of the eye. The dorsal ridges are one central, two sub-central, and two lateral. A ridge above and a second below the ear, both faint anteriorly, distinct behind. Preanal pores not distinguishable. The head and mid-line of the back dark brown, the sides of the back and upper surface of the tail grey, the former with six chesnut triangular paler-centred spots descending from the dark median band, upper part of flanks coffee red in a band beginning behind the ear: upper surface of tail ringed: hinder side of thigh with a white streak blacked-edged above and with stains of coffee red above the streak.

DIPOROPHORA BREVICAUDA.

The length of the head is $\frac{2}{5}$ of that of the trunk. The fore-limb and the distance between the limbs are each three-fifths of the same. The hind-limb is equal to the trunk in length, the tail $2\frac{3}{5}$ times as long. The snout is $2\frac{2}{3}$, the interorbit $1\frac{4}{5}$ in the length of the head. The eye much nearer to the ear than to the tip of the snout—the nostril central between those points. Postmental pair of shields as large as the mental. Ear bordered anteriorly by unkeeled sometimes triangular scales. The keels of the dorsal scales in twelve rows, inclusive of the stronger lateral keel. Preanal pores, one on each side.

Dark grey, without markings; tail, faintly ringed. A distinct pale dorso-lateral band from behind the ear continued interruptedly to the snout. Head sometimes light-brown with a light streak from the nostril to the angle of the mouth: or both streaks may be absent, and the head stained with black, especially on the cheeks.

Length, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Locality, Cape York; collected by Mr. K. Broadbent.

DIPOROPHORA PENTALINEATA.

The length of the head is $\frac{2}{6}$ of that of the trunk. The fore-limb $\frac{3}{5}$, the distance between the limbs $\frac{2}{3}$ of the same, the hind

limb is equal in length to the trunk. The tail $3\frac{1}{10}$ times as long. The eye is central; the nostril rather nearer to the tip of the snout than to the eye. The snout is $\frac{2}{5}$, the interorbit, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the length of the head. Postmental pair of shields much smaller than the mental. Ear edged anteriorly with smooth irregular scales; the keels of the dorsal scales in fourteen rows inclusive of the dorsolateral keel, the first row below that keel is also longitudinal. Preanal pores, two on each side.

Reddish-brown to coffee or chestnut-brown with five streaks, one spinal, two dorsolateral and two lateral, and with five broad angular crossbars more or less confluent over the spine; a sixth spot-like bar across the nape, the fore part of the dorso-lateral is pale-buff to bright-yellow. The lower part of the cheek blackish, the basal half of the tail dark ringed.

Length, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Locality, Cape York; collected by Mr. K. Broadbent.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF HOPLOCEPHALUS.

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(PLATE XV.)

HOPLOCEPHALUS ORNATUS.

Scale rows, 17; abdominal plates, 132; caudal plates, 25. Head oval, rather large and depressed, distinct from the neck. Vertical shield an elongated hexagon: occipitals large, scarcely diverging posteriorly: prefrontals triangular, with the outer sides rounded; nasal plate very long: postfrontals elongate transversely and turned down to meet the loreal part of the nasal; labials $\frac{6}{6}$, the 4th and 5th upper equally under the orbit. One anterior and two posterior oculars. Temporals $\frac{2}{2}$, the upper anterior one touching the lower postocular and the 5th labial.

Colour, yellow; upper surface of head brown with a yellow spot between the occipitals; labials with the sutures broadly edged with brown; on the upper half of the trunk about 50 distinct crossbands rather narrower than their interspaces and with irregular edges; below the crossbands alternating angular blotches. Beneath bright-yellow, immaculate.

Locality, near Surat. Collected by Mr. F. A. Blackman.



De Vis, Charles Walter. 1884. "On New Species of Australian Lizards." *The Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland* 1(2), 97–100.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.351010>.

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.351010>

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