

Descriptions of new species of the Reptilian genera *Hyperolius*, *Liuperus* and *Tropidodipsas*.

BY E. D. COPE.

HYPEROLIUS FULVOVITTATUS Cope.

Tympanum concealed. Head elongate, external nares lateral. Internal nares circular; eustachian orifices elongate oval. Tongue elongate, deeply bifid. Skin of the dorsal region smooth. Tibia longer than femur; fifth toe much shorter than the fourth, and longer than the third. Length of head and body $10\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Coloration. Above pale yellowish brown (in spirits), with a light fulvous band upon each side, passing from the end of the muzzle to the thigh. Two bands of the same color extend one on each side of the vertebral line, and passing above the eyes, become confluent on the muzzle. These bands are about as wide as the spaces of ground color they enclose. Beneath, light yellowish brown.

Hab. Liberia. Mus. Acad. Nat. Sci. Presented by Dr. Goheen.

LIUPERUS BILIGONIGERUS Cope.

Form very stout. Head broad, short, frontal region a little wider than each palpebra. Muzzle prominent, very obtuse in profile. Canthus rostralis rounded, nostrils vertico-lateral. Eyes very prominent. Tympanum concealed; eustachian orifices exceedingly minute. Tongue small, elliptic oblong, entire. Skin above and below very smooth, some granulations upon the posterior faces of the femora. A few small glandulous elevations between and posterior to the eyes, and upon the anterior part of the back. A pectoral fold. Two rounded tuberosities on the carpus; fourth digit shortest, third longest. Femora very stout. Tarsus equal to the fore arm in length, furnished with a minute, acute tubercle near the middle of its posterior face, which is not brown tipped; and at its inferior extremity with two transverse, compressed tubercles or spurs, which are tipped with brown. Metatarsus not tuberculous. Length of head and body measured beneath, 11 lines; of tibia, $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines. Breadth beneath, from axilla to axilla, $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines.

Coloration. Above marbled with pale rufous brown, with darker markings intermixed. These are, a narrow band bisecting each eyelid; a blotch extending from eye to shoulder; a pair of small spots upon the back, posterior to the eyes; another larger pair, one behind each suprascapular region; one upon each side of the coccyx; a curved band extending from iliac region to femur, and a lateral band extending from behind the shoulder, which vanishes before reaching the thigh. A pale dorsal line, lightest posteriorly. Beneath, dirty white.

Hab. Buenos Ayres. Mus. Acad. Nat. Sci. Presented by Dr. Kennedy.

In *Liuperus marmoratus* D. & B., the tympanum is distinct, and the skin is very tuberculous. In *L. sagittifer* Schm., the frontal region is much narrower, and a series of tubercles extends from the eye, posteriorly.

TROPIDODIPSAS LUNULATA Cope.

Body much compressed, its vertical diameter near the middle two and a half times as great as near the neck. Tail slender, cylindrical, between one-fourth and one-third the total length. Head very distinct, elongate, de-

NOTE.—The following papers, viz., "Mexican Humming Birds, Nos. 3 and 4," by Raphael Montes de Oca, "Contributions to the Carboniferous Flora of the United States, No. 2," by Horatio C. Wood, Jr., and "Contributions to American Lepidopterology, No. 7," by Brackenridge Clemens, M. D., were read to the Academy Nov. 20th, but were inadvertently omitted in the minutes of that date.

pressed. Muzzle rounded; eye very large, with a round pupil. Rostral plate broader than high, its superior border rounded. Prefrontals small; postfrontals large, bent upon the sides of the head. Vertical large, longer than broad, its lateral borders concave. Superciliaries very large, arched; occipitals rather broad, their common suture not longer than the vertical plate, bounded externally by three temporals. Two temporals in contact with the two postoculars. One large preocular not in contact with vertical. Loreal single, not longer than high. Nasals two, the nostril between them large. Superior labials nine, fourth, fifth and sixth entering the orbit. Inferior labials fourteen, second to sixth very narrow; eighth largest. Scales in twenty-three rows; anteriorly four or five, posteriorly thirteen median rows weakly keeled. Gastrosteges slightly recurved upon the sides, not angulated, 204 in number. A divided anal, urosteges 136. Total length 25 in. 3 lin.; tail 7 in. 3 lin.

Coloration. Ground, a light greyish rufous (tinged with yellow beneath,) densely punctulated above and below, with rufous brown. The upper surface is crossed by about thirty-five transverse crescent shaped, fulvous brown bands, bordered with black. Upon the median line anteriorly these are one or two scales wide, but become much narrower as they are prolonged obliquely backward upon the sides, vanishing upon the third row of scales. Posteriorly they are broader, and extend to a dark brown spot, which occupies the ends of every third pair of gastrosteges. A short, deep brown median vitta upon the neck; a spot of the same at the posterior extremity of the occipital suture, one upon each occipital, and one upon the posterior part of the vertical plate. A light brown band crosses the postfrontal plates, extends through the eye, and for a short distance upon the neck, involving nearly the whole of the last labial shield, and the upper borders of the three anterior to it. Remaining labials and throat light yellow.

Hab. Honduras. Mus. Smithsonian Institute. Obtained by Mr. A. H. Rüse, of St. Thomas, W. I.

Tropidodipsas Gthr. is one of the few genera of Dipsadine serpents characterized by the possession of keeled scales. I have referred the present species to it with some hesitation, on account of the difference between the form of its head and that of *T. fasciata*. Günther states that the head of the latter is shorter than that of *Dipsas nebulata*. In *T. lunulata* the head is more like that of a *Herpetodryas*. The dentition is isodont.

Description of a new genus and species of Amorphozoon, from the Cretaceous formation of New Jersey.

BY W. M. GABB

I received some time ago from Mr. C. C. Abbott, with some other cretaceous fossils, a small fossil, that I at once referred to the Amorphozoa. I was unable to decide in what genus to place it. After a careful study of the subject, I am satisfied that it cannot belong to any existing genus. It is, however, closely related to *Siphonia* of Parkinson. I propose the generic name

DESMATOCIMUM, Gabb.

Gen. char. Elongated, regular in form; tubulate through the whole length; stem robust and with several inflations, but no distinct head.

D. trilobatum. Pl. 69, f. 39—39 a, Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci., 2nd series, vol. 4.

Length of the fragment $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Width of smallest lobe $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch. Width of second lobe $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch. The first lobe is somewhat elongate, the second is more compressed. There have been at least three lobes, but the upper one is broken.

Near Mullica Hill, N. J. My collection.

[Nov.]



Cope, E. D. 1861. "Descriptions of new species of the reptilian genera *Hyperolius*, *Liuperus* and *Tropidodipsas*." *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 12, 517–518.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17942>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/36390>

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.