

0673

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW LIZARD OF THE GENUS *GEKKO*
FROM THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

BY WALTER C. BROWN AND ANGEL C. ALCALA

*Menlo College, Menlo Park, California and Natural History Museum,
Stanford University, California; Silliman University, Philippine Islands*

Three examples of an undescribed species of *Gekko* were collected in dipterocarp forest on Palawan Island by members of the Stanford-Silliman Expedition to that Island during March and April 1961. The population appears to have its closest affinities with *Gekko pumilus*, Boulenger (1885: 473) which is known from New Guinea and Murray Island. These species are alike in that the digits are moderately webbed and in that enlarged tubercles among the small, granule-like scales on the dorsal and lateral surfaces are lacking. The present species is readily distinguished from *pumilus* by the continuous series and reduced number of preanal and femoral pores, the greater number of subdigital lamellae, and the greater number of labials (see Table 1).

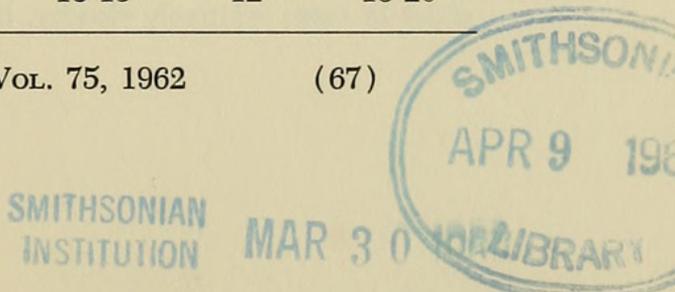
The Stanford-Silliman Expedition to Palawan Island was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation. Illustrations were prepared by Mr. Walter Zawoski, Stanford Research Institute.

Gekko athymus, new species

Holotype: Stanford University Reptile Register No. 23119, a male, collected in dipterocarp forest about 8 to 9 kilometers south of Balico,

TABLE 1. Pore, labial and lamellar counts for *Gekko pumilus* and *Gekko athymus*

SPECIES	PREANAL PORES	FEMORAL PORES	UPPER LABIALS	LOWER LABIALS	THIRD TOE LAMELLAE
<i>Gekko pumilus</i>	11	12-12	11-12	10	10-12
<i>Gekko athymus</i>	23		13-15	12	18-20



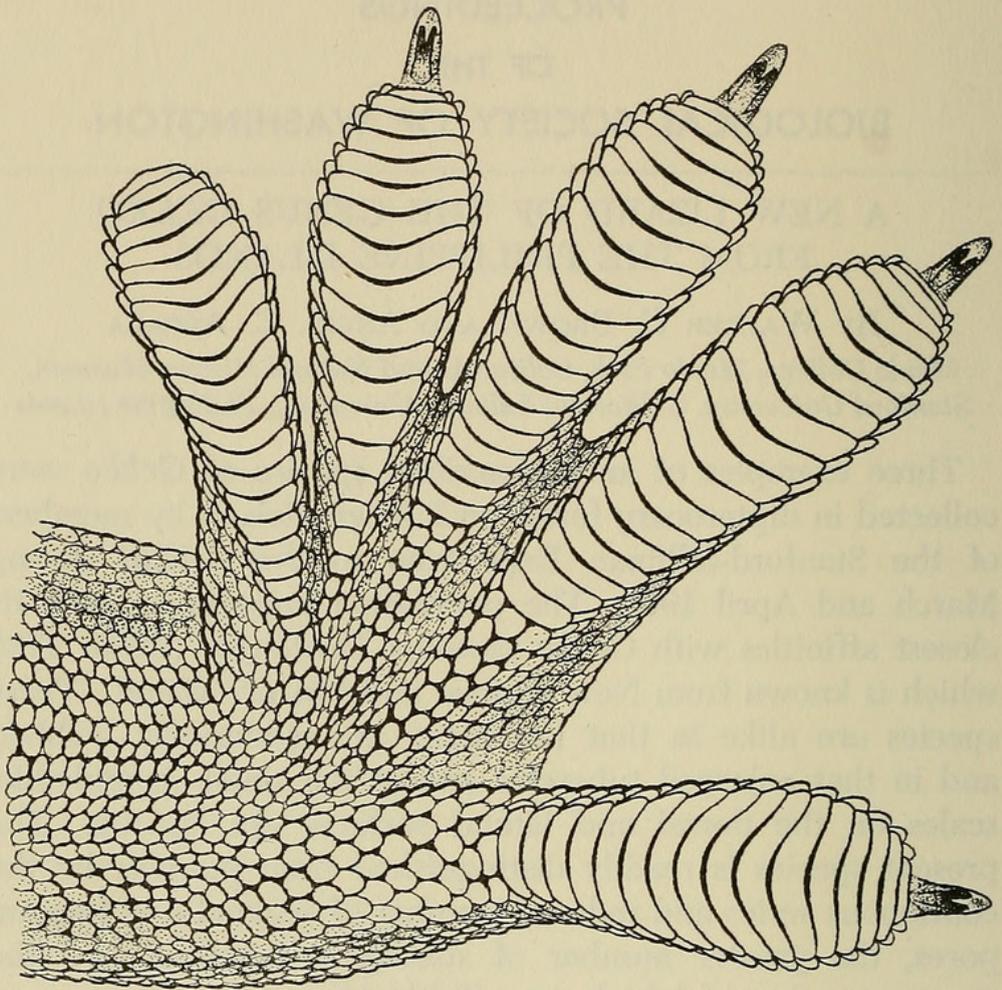


FIG. 1. *Gekko athymus*, new species. Under surface of hind foot.

Palawan Island near north end of Village Range; elevation about 75 meters, April 1961.

Paratypes: S.U. 23121, a female, collected in dipterocarp forest at an elevation of about 100 meters on the northeast side of Central Peak, (Malabo Peak) about 8 kilometers southwest of Iwahig, Palawan Island; and S.U. 23120, a juvenile, collected in the upper edge of the dipterocarp forest at about 600 meters on the southeast slope of Thumb Peak, about 5 kilometers west-northwest of Iwahig, Palawan Island.

Diagnosis: A *Gekko* covered dorsally by small, relatively uniform granules, without enlarged tubercles of any kind; nostril in contact with rostral; toes about one-third webbed except between the first and second toes of the hind foot where the web is lacking; preanal pores in a moderately long series, narrowly separated from the short series of femoral pores; toes moderately dilated throughout their length; 19 to 20 lamellae beneath the fourth toe of the hind foot.

Description: A *Gekko* of moderate size, an adult female measures 109 mm from snout to vent, and the adult male measures 101 mm from snout to vent; relatively slender, head about $1\frac{1}{3}$ times as long as broad;

snout rounded, its length about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the diameter of the orbit; the latter measurement being between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the head; ear small, its diameter about $\frac{1}{3}$ that of the orbit; nostril in contact with the rostral; upper labials 13–15; lower labials 12; nostril bordering the rostral; rostral much broader than long; internasals large, separated by a single scale; granules of head largest on snout, gradually being reduced posteriorly until merge with the small, relatively uniform granules on the dorsal surfaces of the body, the latter become enlarged on the lateral surfaces and gradually merge with the imbricate ventral scales; no enlarged or raised tubercles; ventral scales in 34 to 36 longitudinal rows at the middle of the body; middle pair of chin shields elongated; female without pores; the type with 23 preanal and femoral pores in a continuous arched series; tail subcylindrical except at base where it is much broader than deep; subcaudal scales about twice as broad as adjacent scales; toes long, moderately dilated, about one-third webbed except between the 1st and 2nd toes of the hind foot, where the web is lacking; 19 to 20 undivided lamellae beneath the 4th toe of the hind foot; inner toe clawless (Fig. 1).

Color: Dark grayish brown to reddish brown on the dorsal surfaces, indistinctly marked with darker, broad, undulating transverse bands which are most heavily pigmented at the posterior border; upper labials cream, heavily flecked with brown and dark edge; lower labials more lightly flecked with brown; venter whitish or with scattered brown flecks most numerous beneath the head and laterally on the body.

Measurements of the holotype (in mm): Snout-vent length 101; snout to ear $25\frac{1}{2}$; breadth of head $18\frac{1}{2}$; snout 11; eye 7; ear $2\frac{1}{2}$; hind limb 46.

LITERATURE CITED

- Boulenger, George A. 1885. Descriptions of three new species of Geckos. *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. 5, 16: 473–475.



Brown, Walter C. and Alcala, Angel C. 1962. "A new lizard of the genus Gekko from the Philippine Islands." *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 75, 67-70.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/107533>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/44770>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Biological Society of Washington

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

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>.