

PAPÉIS AVULSOS
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GARTHIA, A NEW GENUS FOR *GYMNODACTYLUS*
GAUDICHAUDII DUMÉRIL & BIBRON (SAURIA,
GEKKONIDAE)

P. E. VANZOLINI¹

ROBERTO DONOSO-BARROS²

Garthia, gen. nov.

Type of genus: *Gymnodactylus gaudichaudii* Duméril & Bibron, 1836.

Diagnosis: Pupil lobate. Vertebrae amphicoelous. Ceratobranchials II present. Clavicle proximally dilated, perforate. Digits five, slender, with a symmetrical unguis sheath and a single row of ventral lamellae. Post-anal sacs and bones.

COMMENTS

This genus differs from *Homonota* Gray in having the claw retractile into a definite sheath, formed by 3 scales. The terminal joint is raised, the phalanx being slender and curved and having a strong extensor tendon.

Named after Garth Underwood.

A fuller discussion will be presented by the senior author in a monograph of the gekkos of Brasil.

Garthia gaudichaudii (Duméril & Bibron, 1836)

Gymnodactylus gaudichaudii Duméril & Bibron, 1836:413. Guichenot, 1848: 17. Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 43.

Gonatodes gaudichaudii; Boulenger, 1885: 63. Lataste, 1892: 13. Werner, 1898: 247. Burt & Burt, 1931: 245; 1933: 3. Hellmich, 1934: 111. Capurro & Codoceo, 1950: 15. Donoso-Barros, 1954: 4. Codoceo, 1957: 1. Capurro, 1957: 141. Donoso-Barros, 1960: 70.

Type: 1 ex. from Coquimbo, Chile, Gaudichaud leg. Paris Museum.

1. Departamento de Zoologia, Secretaria da Agricultura, São Paulo.
2. Universidad de Chile. Present address: Universidad de Oriente, Cumaná, Venezuela.

Distribution: Chile, provinces of Aconcagua, Coquimbo, Atacama and Antofagasta (Capurro, 1957).

Rostral wide, with arcuate posterior border. Nostril in contact with rostral, first labial, two small supranasals and granules of the snout. Granules of upper surface of snout enlarged, especially on midline, decreasing between the eyes, very small on parietal and occipital regions. Supralabials 7, decreasing posteriorly, the sixth under the middle of the eye. Loreal region with small granules, some enlarged on the anterior margin of the orbit. Posterior margin of orbit with enlarged scales, decreasing towards the temporal region. Anterior $\frac{3}{4}$ of upper margin of orbit with flat enlarged scales, squarish, turning posteriorly into granules. Symphyisial irregularly pentagonal, wide in front, in contact with two post-symphyisials, which are small but decidedly larger than the gular granules, which are a little smaller than those on top of the snout. Infralabials 6, the fifth under the middle of the eye.

Dorsals granular, sub-imbricate, becoming flatter and better imbricate towards the flanks and the sacral region. Ventrals flat, rounded, imbricate, smooth, increasing posteriorly in size.

Forelimb with enlarged scales, smooth; back of elbow granular. Fingers short, in the following order of decreasing size: IV, III-II, V, I. Hind limb with enlarged scales; posterior aspect of thigh granular. Toes in the following order of decreasing length: IV, III, V, II, I. All claws retractile into a sheath formed by one dorsal, rooflike scale, and two ventro-lateral ones.

Tail lepidosis slightly heterogeneous, dorsally with imbricate rounded scales, the two median rows slightly enlarged; ventrally with flat imbricate smooth scales, the median row slightly wider than the laterals.

Ground colour of upper parts grayish, with darker marblings. One dark streak from nostril to temporal region, through eye. One dark spot above each eye. Tail grayish with dark marblings which tend to form crossbands and show some whitish points on the serrate posterior edge. Ventral parts grayish with scarce very fine dark punctuations.

Specimens seen: 2 from Caleta de Paposo, Taltal, Provincia de Antofagasta, Chile, VII.1957, Cei leg. 2 from Coquimbo, Prov. Coquimbo, Chile, IX. 1958, L. Peña leg. All in the collection of the junior author.

COMMENTS

Two of the above specimens are topotypes and closely agree with the original description. A fine series of 30 specimens from Isla de los Locos, Pichindangue, Prov. Coquimbo, Chile, agrees with the topotypes in scutellation, but differs in color. The specimens are darker, from brown to almost black; a light vertebral line is always conspicuous, and the tail, which is clavate, is decidedly lighter. The junior author intends to proceed with the study of the differentiation of this form.

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