

Papéis Avulsos de Zoologia

GARBESAURA GARBEI AMARAL, 1933, A SYNONYM OF
ENYALIUS LEECHII (BOULENGER, 1885)
(SAURIA, IGUANIDAE)

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Amaral described his new genus and species based on a female collected by Ernesto Garbe at Monte Cristo, Rio Tapajós. The type was originally in the Museu Paulista, the zoological section of which was, in 1939, transformed into the Departamento de Zoologia, Secretaria da Agricultura, on its turn in 1969 transferred to the University of São Paulo, as its Museum of Zoology. The type is still in our collection; it is completely faded and has suffered a long, gaping ventral incision, but all scale characters are easily ascertainable. It agrees perfectly with Amaral's description.

No other specimens were recorded after the original description; the mentions I found in the literature are in checklists.

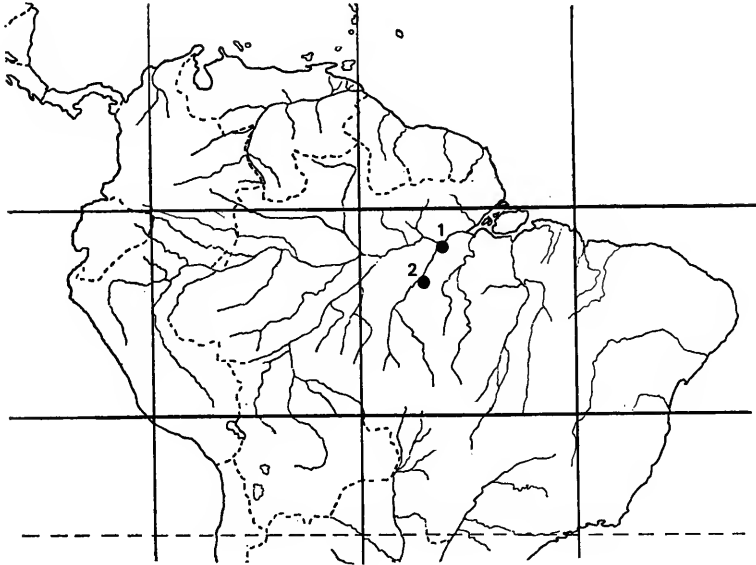
I have for a long time suspected this species to be a synonym of *Enyalioides leechii* Boulenger, 1885, type locality Santarém, Pará, based also on a female and described in an addendum to the second volume of the British Museum Catalogue. Etheridge's (1969) review of *Enyalius* removed any possible doubts.

The type of *Garbesaura garbei* is in close agreement with Boulenger's and Etheridge's descriptions and with the latter's figure of the type (and only specimens known) of *Enyalioides leechii*, placed by Etheridge in *Enyalius*. The type localities are fully compatible, both being on the Tapajós, about 230 km apart (see map; in Etheridge's map Santarém is misplaced).

Before publishing this note, I tried to obtain fresh specimens of the form, and especially males, as well as ecological data, and spent considerable time and effort collecting at and near both type localities, but with no luck.

Even so, the assignment of *Garbesaura garbei* to the synonymy of *Enyalius leechii* affords some interesting data.

First, of course, it unburdens iguanid systematics of an enigmatic genus: Amaral considered it close to *Liolaemus* and *Proctotretus*, a remarkable association for an Amazonian lizard. Second, it confirms the existence, so far supported by a single specimen, of *Enyalius* (*sensu* Etheridge) in the Amazon valley. And third, the close agreement between this specimen and the type of *leechii* bears on the condition, unique in the genus, of the dorsal crest,



1, Santarém ($2^{\circ}25'S$, $54^{\circ}43'W$). 2, Monte Cristo ($4^{\circ}05'S$, $55^{\circ}38'W$).

reduced to a discontinuous series of scarcely enlarged vertebral scales. This now seems to be, at least in females, most probably real and not an individual anomaly, as suspected by Boulenger (1885: 473) and commented upon by Etheridge (1969: 254).

I thank Ernest E. Williams for checking the type of *G. garbei* against the descriptions and for reading the manuscript.

***Enyalius leechii* (Boulenger, 1895)**

Enyalioides leechii Boulenger, 1885: 473. (Type locality, Santarém). Goeldi, 1902: 526 (Mention). Burt & Burt, 1931: 266 (Key).

Garbesaura garbei Amaral, 1933: 64, fig. (Type locality, Monte Cristo, Rio Tapajós, Pará).

Enyalioides leechii; Burt & Burt, 1933: 24 (Check list). Amaral, 1937: 175 (Check list).

Garbesaura garbei; Amaral, 1937: 177 (Check list).

Enyalioides leechii; Amaral, 1937a: 1735 (Check list, English translation of Amaral, 1937).

Garbesaura garbei; Amaral, 1937a: 1736 (Check list, English translation of Amaral, 1937). Amaral, 1949: 109 (Check list).

Enyalius leechii; Etheridge, 1969: 252, fig. (Revision). Peters & Donoso-Barros, 1970: 117 (Catalog).

Garbesaura garbei; Peters & Donoso-Barros, 1970: 123 (Catalog).

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