

AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF HERPETOLOGY

Vol. 1

31 December, 1983

No. 3-4

A Synopsis of the Class Reptilia in Australia

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INTRODUCTION

The recent checklist of Australian amphibia and reptilia by Cogger *et al* (1983) provided a long-overdue and welcome analysis of the numerous taxonomic problems that have hindered much investigation. Accordingly we now take this opportunity to offer a few re-interpretations of our own and therefore propose the following checklist of the Australian Reptilia. While some of the proposed alterations appear contrary to stability of nomenclature, we feel that the diversity of Australia's reptile fauna is significantly underestimated by the classification proposed by Cogger, Cameron and Cogger (1983). We have examined nearly 40,000 specimens in collections representing almost the entire described fauna (as well as many yet to be described, but known to researchers) and collected extensively throughout the Continent, observing most species in their natural habitats. The resultant ecological and zoogeographical understandings indicate that previous approaches to the taxonomy of the Australian herpetofauna have largely retarded understanding of diversity by being either fragmentary or too conservative.

Radically, we herein propose the widespread resurrection of many long-synonymised taxa, the erection of new genera and the description of new species as well as the elevation of many subspecies to specific status. In so doing, it is to be hoped that taxonomists will interpret our actions, not as anarchistic taxonomic vandalism, but as a decisive step intended to stir others into action. To us, the greater concern is that many species have their true identity masked by conservative taxonomic treatment, and are experiencing extensive loss of range under the misguided assumption that they are 'widespread and abundant' species.

If such species are to be effectively protected, an urgent task is official recognition of their existence. Hopefully the following synopsis is the first step in a new direction for Australian reptile taxonomy. Overall, this phylogeny would appear to represent a more realistic evolutionary framework than has appeared previously. We readily acknowledge however, that perhaps hundreds of species remain to be recognised from the Greater Australia region (certainly there are over a hundred known to be undescribed from Australia itself) and that this incomplete state of knowledge may change any premature interpretation of phylogeny. Such change, although significant, will likely enrich, rather than undermine the conceptual arrangement which follows. Since our region is one of vast biological diversity and virtually unknown ecological complexity we consider that the higher responsibility at this time is the challenge of environmental protection. Effective environmental protection can only be enhanced if a regions' biological diversity is recognised at its finest possible resolution. The obvious lack of detailed morphological, cytological and ecological studies on the Australian reptilia are no grounds for the widespread suppression of taxa that have indicated (often quite strongly significant) variation. We welcome challenge of this synopsis with the hope that many questions will be answered that otherwise may never have been asked.

Wells and Wellington

CROCODYLIDAE

Crocodylus Laurenti, 1768.

Crocodylus porosus Schneider, 1801.

Philas Gray, 1874.

Philas johnstoni (Krefft, 1873). We herein elevate the sub-genus *Philas* of Gray, 1874 to generic status and include within *Philas*, *johnstoni* and *novaeguinea*.

CHELIDAE

Chelodina Fitzinger, 1826.

Chelodina expansa Gray, 1857.

Chelodina longicollis (Shaw, 1794).

Chelodina (cf) *novaeguinea* Boulenger, 1888. We consider that the Australian population referred to as *novaeguinea* by Cogger *et al* (1983) represents an undescribed species.

Chelodina oblonga Gray, 1841 (a).

Chelodina rugosa Ogilby, 1890 (b).

Chelodina steindachneri Siebenrock, 1914.

Chelymys Gray, 1844. We herein resurrect from the synonymy of *Emydura* Bonaparte, 1836

Chelymys of Gray 1844. *Emydura* is *nomen nudum* so should not be used.

Chelymys krefftii (Gray, 1871).

Chelymys macquarii (Gray, 1831) (b).

Chelymys signata (Ahl, 1932)

Chelymys (cf) *subglobosa* (Krefft, 1876). We herein consider that the population in Australia represents an undescribed species that is at present known only from the Jardine River system on Cape York, Queensland.

Chelymys victoriae (Gray, 1842) (b).

Elseya Gray, 1867. We herein synonymise *Rheodytes* Legler and Cann, 1980 with *Elseya* of Gray, 1867.

Elseya dentata (Gray, 1863). We herein consider that this species is restricted to the Northern Territory and north-western Western Australia. The population in north-east Queensland is herein regarded as representing an undescribed species.

Elseya latisternum Gray, 1867. We herein consider that this species is restricted to northern Australia. The population in north-eastern New South Wales is herein regarded as representing an undescribed species.

Elseya leukops (Legler and Cann, 1980).

Pseudemydura Siebenrock, 1901.

Pseudemydura umbrina Siebenrock, 1901.

CARETTOCHELYDIDAE

Carettochelys Ramsay, 1886.

Carettochelys insculpta Ramsay, 1886.

CHELONIIDAE

Caretta Rafinesque, 1814.

Caretta caretta gigas Deraniyagala, 1933.

Chelonia Sonnini and Latreille, 1802.

Chelonia depressa Garman, 1880.

Chelonia mydas japonica (Thunberg, 1787).

Eretmochelys Fitzinger, 1843.

Eretmochelys imbricata squamata Agassiz, 1857.

Lepidochelys Fitzinger, 1843.

Lepidochelys olivacea (Eschscholtz, 1829).

Synopsis of Reptilia

DERMOCHELYIDAE

Dermochelys Blainville, 1816.

Dermochelys coriacea schlegelii Garman, 1884.

GEKKONIDAE

Amalosia gen. nov.

Type species: *Phyllodactylus lesueurii* (part) Dumeril and Bibron, 1836.

Content: *lesueurii*, *reticulata*, *rhombifer*, *robusta*.

Diagnosis: A relictual genus of small gekkonids, largely confined to S.E. and S.W. Australia, with one species reaching the tropics. Rounded rostral and mental shields; labials larger than other head scales; enlarged post mentals; digits lay flat, with small retractile claws; digits moderate somewhat depressed, but expanded distally to create a pad; apical subdigital lamellae as an enlarged pair; enlarged transverse lamellae which are single proximally but divided distally; preanal pores present; skin finely granular dorsally, with scales minute and homogenous much smaller than ventrals; up to 5 post anal tubercles on each side; tail long and slender, depressed; clutch size 2; snout vent length up to 80 mm; saxicoline and arboreal.

Etymology: *Amalosia* = tender, soft.

Amalosia lesueurii (Dumeril and Bibron, 1836).

Amalosia reticulata (Bustard, 1969).

Amalosia rhombifer (Gray, 1845).

Amalosia robusta (Boulenger, 1885) (a).

Carphodactylus Gunther, 1897.

Carphodactylus laevis Gunther, 1897.

Christinus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Diplodactylus marmoratus* Gray, 1845.

Content: *guentheri* and *marmoratus*.

Diagnosis: The genus *Christinus* is characterised by the following: Round rostral and mental, with postmentals enlarged; enlarged labials; no preanal pores; digits lay flat, long and thin, somewhat depressed; distal expansion of digits form distinct pads; apical sub-digital lamellae as large pair; sub-digital lamellae enlarged but smaller than apical; digits have dorsal scales which are larger distally than at base; all digits possess retractile claws which fit into a groove in the apical lamellae; dorsal scales small, smooth and homogeneous; clutch size two, but practices communal egg-laying behaviour; size up to 80 mm SVL.

A relictual group of endemics confined to southern Australia and the Lord Howe and Norfolk Island groups. A colour plate of *Christinus marmoratus* is in Cogger, (1983, pl. 85) and a plate of *Christinus guentheri* can be found in Cogger, Sadlier and Cameron, (1983).

Etymology: Named for Miss Christine Biggs of London.

Christinus guentheri (Boulenger, 1885) (a).

Christinus marmoratus (Gray, 1845). We herein regard the population of south-eastern Australia as representing an undescribed species. *C. marmoratus* (*sensu stricto*) is believed confined to south-western Australia.

Crenadactylus Dixon and Kluge, 1964.

Crenadactylus bilineatus (Gray, 1845): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *C. ocellatus*; confined to Houtman's Abrolhos, W.A.

Crenadactylus horni (Lucas and Frost, 1895): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *C. ocellatus*; *C. horni* is restricted to central Australia.

Crenadactylus naso Storr, 1978 (f): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Crenadactylus ocellatus (Gray, 1845).

Crenadactylus rostralis Storr, 1978 (f): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Cyrtodactylus Gray, 1827.

Cyrtodactylus tuberculatus (Lucas and Frost, 1900): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *C. louisianensis* (De Vis, 1892) which we restrict to Tagula Island, Papua New Guinea. *C. tuberculatus* is confined to Cape York Peninsula, Queensland.

Dactyloperus Fitzinger, 1843.

Wells and Wellington

- Dactyloperus catenata* (Low, 1979).
Dactyloperus cognata (Borner and Schuttler, 1982).
Dactyloperus fenestra (Mitchell, 1965).
Dactyloperus grayi (Steindachner, 1867): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *D. variegata* for the eastern population.
Dactyloperus kimberleyi (Borner and Schuttler, 1983).
Dactyloperus montium (Storr, 1982(a)).
Dactyloperus nana (Storr, 1978 (f)).
Dactyloperus pamela (King, 1982) *nom. nud.* by the actions of Gow, 1981 (a).
Dactyloperus pilbara (Mitchell, 1965).
Dactyloperus punctata (Fry, 1914).
Dactyloperus purpurascens (Storr, 1982 (a)).
Dactyloperus variegata (Dumeril and Bibron, 1836).
Dactyloperus xenopus (Storr, 1978 (f)).
Diplodactylus Gray, 1832: We herein place *Lucasium* of Wermuth, 1965 and *Rhynchoedura* Gunther, 1867 in the synonymy of *Diplodactylus*.
Diplodactylus alboguttatus Werner, 1910.
Diplodactylus byrnei Lucas and Frost, 1896.
Diplodactylus conspicillatus Lucas and Frost, 1897.
Diplodactylus damaeus (Lucas and Frost, 1896): Herein transferred to *Diplodactylus* from *Lucasium* of Wermuth, 1965.
Diplodactylus fulleri Storr, 1978 (f).
Diplodactylus furcosus Peters, 1863 (a): We herein resurrect this name from the synonymy of *D. vittatus* to accommodate the distinctive eastern form of the *D. vittatus* complex.
Diplodactylus galeatus Kluge, 1963 (c).
Diplodactylus granariensis Storr, 1979 (d).
Diplodactylus hillii Longman, 1915: Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *conspicillatus*. *D. hillii* is confined to the Torresian sub-region of the Northern Territory.
Diplodactylus lucasi Fry, 1914: Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *D. pulcher*.
Diplodactylus maini Kluge, 1962 (b).
Diplodactylus mcmillani Storr, 1978 (f).
Diplodactylus mitchelli Kluge, 1963 (c).
Diplodactylus occultus King, Braithwaite and Wombey, 1982.
Diplodactylus ornatus Gray, 1845.
Diplodactylus paraornatus *nom. nov. pro Rhynchoedura ornatus* of Gunther, 1867.
Diplodactylus platyurus Parker, 1926 (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *conspicillatus*. *D. platyurus* is confined to the savannah habitat of north-east Queensland.
Diplodactylus polyophthalmus Gunther, 1867.
Diplodactylus pulcher (Steindachner, 1870).
Diplodactylus savagei Kluge, 1963 (c).
Diplodactylus squarrosus Kluge, 1962 (a).
Diplodactylus steindachneri Boulenger, 1885 (a).
Diplodactylus stenodactylus Boulenger, 1896 (a).
Diplodactylus tessellatus (Gunther, 1875).
Diplodactylus vittatus Gray, 1832.
Diplodactylus wombeyi Storr, 1978 (f).
Gehyra Gray, 1834.
Gehyra australis Gray, 1845.
Gehyra baliola (Dumeril and Dumeril, 1851).
Gehyra mutilata Wiegmann, 1835.
Gehyra oceanica (Lesson, 1830).
Hemidactylus Gray, 1825.
Hemidactylus frenatus Dumeril and Bibron, 1836.
Heteronotia Wermuth, 1965.
Heteronotia anomalus (Peters, 1867) (a): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *H. binoei* for the population in North eastern Queensland. *Diplodactylus annulatus* Macleay, 1877 (b), is considered a synonym of *Heteronotia anomalus*.

Synopsis of Reptilia

- Heteronotia australis* (Steindachner, 1867): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *H. binoei* for the population in New South Wales and eastern South Australia. *Note*: there are several undescribed *Heteronotia* in central and south-western Australia.
- Heteronotia binoei* Gray, 1845: Herein regarded as confined to Houtman's Abrolhos, W.A.
- Heteronotia derbianus* (Gray, 1845): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *H. binoei*, for the population in the Torresian sub-region of the Northern Territory.
- Heteronotia spelea* (Kluge, 1963) (b).
- Lepidodactylus* Fitzinger, 1843.
- Lepidodactylus listeri* (Boulenger, 1889) (a).
- Lepidodactylus lugubris* (Dumeril and Bibron, 1836).
- Lepidodactylus pumilus* (Boulenger, 1885) (b).
- Nactus* Kluge, 1983.
- Nactus galgajuga* (Ingram, 1978).
- Nactus eboracensis* (Macleay, 1877) (b): We herein resurrect this name from the synonymy of *arnouxii*. *Nactus arnouxii* is hereby restricted to the S.W. Pacific Islands (Type locality — New Caledonia *vide* Kluge, 1983). *Nactus eboracensis* is confined to Cape York Peninsula, Queensland.
- Nephrurus* Gunther, 1876.
- Nephrurus asper* Gunther, 1876.
- Nephrurus cinctus* Storr, 1963 (b): Herein elevated to specific status.
- Nephrurus deleani* Harvey, 1983.
- Nephrurus laevis* Mertens, 1958 (a).
- Nephrurus levis* De Vis, 1886 (a).
- Nephrurus occidentalis* Storr, 1963 (b): Herein elevated to specific status.
- Nephrurus pilbarensis* Storr, 1963 (b): Herein elevated to specific status.
- Nephrurus stellatus* Storr, 1968 (b).
- Nephrurus vertebralis* Storr, 1963 (b).
- Nephrurus wheeleri* Loveridge, 1932.
- Oedura* Gray, 1842 (b).
- Oedura castelnaui* (Thomassinot, 1889).
- Oedura cincta* De Vis, 1888: Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *O. marmorata* for the distinctive Southern Queensland, Northern N.S.W. population.
- Oedura coggeri* Bustard, 1966.
- Oedura gemmata* King and Gow, 1983.
- Oedura marmorata* Gray, 1842 (b).
- Oedura monilis* De Vis, 1888.
- Oedura tryoni* De Vis, 1884 (a).
- Phyllurus* Schinz, 1822.
- Phyllurus caudiannulatus* Covacevich, 1975.
- Phyllurus cornutus* (Ogilby, 1892).
- Phyllurus platurus* (White, 1790): Confined to Sydney Basin of N.S.W.
- Phyllurus salebrosus* Covacevich, 1975.
- Pseudothecadactylus* Brongersma, 1936.
- Pseudothecadactylus australis* (Gunther, 1877).
- Pseudothecadactylus lindneri* Cogger, 1975 (b).
- Pseudothecadactylus cavaticus* Cogger, 1975 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
- Strophurus* Fitzinger, 1843.
- Strophurus aberrans* (Glauert, 1952): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *Diplodactylus ciliaris* and formally elevated to specific status. *S. aberrans* is restricted to the Kimberley region of north west Australia.
- Strophurus ciliaris* (Boulenger, 1885) (a).
- Strophurus elderi* (Stirling and Zeitz, 1893).
- Strophurus intermedius* (Ogilby, 1892).
- Strophurus michaelsoni* (Werner, 1910).
- Strophurus rankini* (Storr, 1979) (a).
- Strophurus spinigerus* (Gray, 1842) (b).
- Strophurus strophurus* (Dumeril and Bibron, 1836).

Strophurus taeniatus (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913).

Strophurus taenicauda (De Vis, 1886) (a).

Strophurus williamsi (Kluge, 1963) (a).

Strophurus wilsoni (Storr, 1983) (a).

Underwoodisaurus Wermuth, 1965.

Underwoodisaurus husbandi sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 25399. Collected at 12.5 km SW of Milbrodale, N.S.W. (road distance) by R. W. Wells, on 22 September, 1982.

Paratypes: AMFS 25400-25404 — same data as Holotype.

Description of Holotype: A large member of the *Underwoodisaurus milii* complex. SVL (mm): 93.1; VTL (mm): 44.9 (Regenerated); axilla-groin (mm): 42.2; head length (mm): 23.1; head width (mm): 19.1; left hind limb length (mm): 45.4; left forelimb length (mm): 35.9; minute anterior loreals but posterior loreals enlarged; sub-digital lamellae not uniform in size, enlarged on bends of digits with the ultimate sub-digital scales deeply grooved; supradigitals regular; mental and rostral rounded; post mentals slightly enlarged; gulars minute; head depressed, conical scalation minute with those along the postocular folds enlarged, but not like dorsal tubercles; body scalation minute with the exception of numerous randomly arranged tubercles; base of each tubercle surrounded by a circular row of scales which are slightly enlarged as compared with the minute dorsals; regenerated tail relatively free of tubercles, except the base where they are quite elongate and spine-like; tail broad, flat just more than twice as long as broad, and tapering to a point.

Colouration (In Alcohol) *Dorsum*: Head dark grey, irregularly blotched with white; body dark grey with enlarged tubercles being a lighter grey or white (white tubercles tend to be surrounded by white scales. This gives the dorsum a white spotted appearance and where tubercles are transversely aligned a thin irregular white transverse band is produced. Forelimbs are a lighter grey than body, but also dotted with white; the hands (including digits) are white; hind limbs same as forelimbs, except feet (including digits) lighter grey than rest of limb. The regenerated tail is uniform grey.

Venter: Creamish white throughout (except tail) with brilliant white tubercles producing spots on the ventro-lateral margins.

Discussion: *Underwoodisaurus husbandi* is readily distinguished from *U. milii* of Western Australia and the Nullarbor Plain of Western South Australia, by the presence of prominent transversely aligned rows enlarged conical tubercles in *U. milii* — particularly on the original tail. *U. husbandi* not only has more tubercles, but they are heterogeneous and tend to be randomly distributed over the body and tail with only minimal transverse alignment. Colouration in life in *U. husbandi* is spectacular, varying from a base colour of reddish-brown, to purple with the tubercles ranging from ivory white to bright yellow. The tail is distinctly ringed with 5 or 6 white bands (regenerated tails grey to uniform brown without pattern). Occipital region is distinctively banded with whitish-cream to bright yellow — the band being edged with purple.

Colour plates of *Underwoodisaurus husbandi* can be found in the following: Worrell (1963 (c) pl. 9 — defensive posture); Cogger (1967, pl. 8; 1975 (a) cover); Davey (1970, page 42); Swanson (1976, pl. 29 from Wilcannia, N.S.W. — reddish colour form); and McPhee (1979, pl. 36). Additionally, Cogger (1975 (a) pl. 430 — from Sydney, N.S.W.) provides a black and white plate of *U. husbandi*.

Bush (1981) provides a colour plate of *U. milii* from Western Australia.

Underwoodisaurus husbandi ranges from south-east Queensland, throughout New South Wales (with the exception of the cool montane region of the south east), through north-western Victoria and into eastern South Australia. *U. milii* has been taken on the western edge of the Nullarbor Plain in South Australia, but *U. husbandi* is not known to occur on the Nullarbor Plain. The habitat of *U. husbandi* varies from open red sand plains to mallee heath, (marginally) riparian woodland communities through to the east coastal dry sclerophyll forest associations in granitic, sandstone and limestone areas. While most often found active on the surface at night, *U. husbandi* is readily found beneath objects such as exfoliated rocks and logs in suitable habitats. It has also been located inside hollow stumps and is known to form winter aggregations in deep rock crevices in the Sydney Basin, N.S.W. In some areas of N.S.W. this species is experiencing considerable loss of habitat due to the

Synopsis of Reptilia

removal of sandstone and granite exfoliations for 'bush' gardens, and by the widespread clearing of the remaining Mallee heathland. See Wells, (1983) for details on the collection of the type series.

U. husbandi is an insectivore (cockroaches and moths are readily consumed in captivity) and has been known to practice communal egg-laying (McPhee 1979); clutch size is two.

Etymology: Named for Mr Grant Husband of Sydney in recognition of his many contributions of reptile specimens to the Australian Museum.

Underwoodisaurus milii (Bory de Saint-Vincent, 1825): Herein regarded as being confined to Western Australia and western South Australia.

Underwoodisaurus sphyrurus (Ogilby, 1892).

PYGOPODIDAE

Aclys Kluge, 1974.

Aclys concinna Kluge, 1974.

Aprasia Gray, 1839.

Aprasia aurita Kluge, 1974.

Aprasia fusca Storr, 1979 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Aprasia glauerti Parker, 1956: Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *Aprasia striolata* and elevated to specific status. Confined to the south west of Western Australia.

Aprasia haroldi Storr, 1978 (c).

Aprasia inaurita Kluge, 1974.

Aprasia parapulchella Kluge, 1974.

Aprasia pseudopulchella Kluge, 1974.

Aprasia pulchella Gray, 1839.

Aprasia repens (Fry, 1914).

Aprasia rostrata Parker, 1956: Herein regarded as confined to Monte Bello Group, Western Australia.

Aprasia smithi Storr, 1970 (b).

Aprasia striolata Lutken, 1863.

Delma Gray, 1831.

Delma australis Kluge, 1974.

Delma borea Kluge, 1974.

Delma elegans Kluge, 1974.

Delma fraseri Gray, 1831 (a).

Delma grayii Smith, 1849.

Delma impar (Fischer, 1882).

Delma inornata Kluge, 1974.

Delma mollereri Lutken, 1863.

Delma nasuta Kluge, 1974.

Delma pax Kluge, 1974.

Delma plebeia De Vis, 1888.

Delma tinctoria De Vis, 1888.

Delma torquata Kluge, 1974.

Lialis Gray, 1835.

Lialis burtonis Gray, 1835.

Lialis bicaenata Gray, 1842 (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *L. burtonis*; *L. bicaenata* is confined to the Northern Territory.

Ophidiocephalus Lucas and Frost, 1897.

Ophidiocephalus taeniatus Lucas and Frost, 1897.

Pletholax Cope, 1864.

Pletholax gracilis Cope, 1864.

Pletholax edelensis Storr, 1978 (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Pygopus Merrem, 1820. We herein synonymise *Paradelma* Kinghorn, 1926 with *Pygopus*.

Pygopus lepidopodus (Lacepede, 1804).

Pygopus nigriceps (Fischer, 1882): Herein regarded as being confined to Western Australia.

Wells and Wellington

Pygopus orientalis (Gunther, 1876).

Pygopus schraderi Boulenger, 1913: Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *P. nigriceps* for the east Australian population.

AGAMIDAE

Amphibolurus Wagler, 1830: We herein formally synonymise *Lophognathus* Gray, 1842 (b) with *Amphibolurus*.

Amphibolurus centralis (Loveridge, 1933) (a). We herein formally remove *centralis* from the synonymy of *gilberti* and accord it specific status.

Amphibolurus coggeri Witten, 1972: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Amphibolurus gilberti (Gray, 1842) (b): Confined to northern sector of the N.T.

Amphibolurus muricatus (White, 1790).

Amphibolurus nobbi Witten, 1972.

Caimanops Storr, 1974 (b).

Caimanops amphiboluroides (Lucas and Frost, 1902).

Chelosania Gray, 1845.

Chelosania brunnea Gray, 1845.

Chlamydosaurus Gray, 1825.

Chlamydosaurus kingii Gray, 1825.

Ctenophorus Fitzinger, 1843.

Ctenophorus clayi (Storr, 1966).

Ctenophorus decresii (Dumeril and Bibron, 1837): We believe the N.S.W. population to represent an undescribed species. *C. decresii* is confined to South Australia.

Ctenophorus fionni (Procter, 1923) (b).

Ctenophorus gibba (Houston, 1974) (b).

Ctenophorus major (Sternfeld, 1919): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *nuchalis* and elevated to specific status; confined to central Australia.

Ctenophorus maculosus (Mitchell, 1948).

Ctenophorus nuchalis (De Vis, 1884) (c).

Ctenophorus ornatus (Gray, 1845).

Ctenophorus pictus (Peters, 1866).

Ctenophorus reticulatus (Gray, 1845).

Ctenophorus salinarum (Storr, 1966).

Ctenophorus vadrappa (Houston, 1974).

Diporiphora Gray, 1842 (b).

Diporiphora arnhemica Storr, 1974 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Diporiphora australis (Steindachner, 1867): Herein confined to Cape York, Qld.

Diporiphora bennettii (Gray, 1845): Herein restricted to north west Australia.

Diporiphora bilineata Gray, 1842 (b).

Diporiphora convergens Storr, 1974 (b).

Diporiphora jugularis (Macleay, 1877) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *D. bilineata* for the Cape York form.

Diporiphora lalliae Storr, 1974 (b).

Diporiphora linga Houston, 1977.

Diporiphora magna Storr, 1974 (b).

Diporiphora margaretae Storr, 1974 (b).

Diporiphora nuchalis De Vis, 1884 (c): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *D. australis* confined to south east Queensland.

Diporiphora pindan Storr, 1979 (c).

Diporiphora reginae Glauert, 1959 (b).

Diporiphora superba Storr, 1974 (b).

Diporiphora valens Storr, 1979 (c).

Diporiphora winneckei Lucas and Frost, 1896.

Gowidon gen. nov.

Type species: *Lophognathus longirostris* Boulenger, 1883.

Content: *longirostris*, *quattuorfasciatus*, *temporalis*.

Synopsis of Reptilia

Diagnosis: The genus *Gowidon* is characterised by the following — slender, moderate-sized agamids with long whip-like tails and laterally compressed bodies; lateral areas lack enlarged spinose scales as does the dorsum with the exception of keeling of the anterior vertebrals, a nuchal crest (capable of erection) and one or two rows of keeled dorso-laterals; femoral and preanal pores present and widely separated; exposed tympanum; jowels with enlarged spinose scales; gulars feebly keeled; ventrals keeled (stronger than gulars).

Distribution: Confined to northern and central Australia, P.N.G. and associated islands.

Etymology: Named for Mr Graeme Francis Gow of Darwin, N.T.

Gowidon longirostris (Boulenger, 1883).

Gowidon quattuorfasciatus (Sternfeld, 1924): We herein remove *quattuorfasciatus* from the synonymy of *longirostris* and accord it specific status; confined to central Australia.

Gowidon temporalis (Gunther, 1867): We herein remove *Lophognathus lateralis* of Macleay, 1877 (b) from the synonymy of *temporalis* and regard *Gowidon lateralis* as being a valid species from Papua New Guinea. In so doing we restrict *G. temporalis* to the northern sector of the Northern Territory.

Hypsilurus Peters, 1867.

Hypsilurus boydii (Macleay, 1884).

Hypsilurus spinipes (Dumeril and Dumeril, 1851).

Licentia gen. nov.

Type species: *Grammatophora cristata* Gray, 1841 (b).

Content: *cristata*, *mckenziei*, *reticulatus*, *rufescens*, *scutulatus*, *websteri*, *yinnietharra*.

Diagnosis: A genus of moderate-sized agamids possessing; long tails and well-developed hind-limbs; distinct nuchal crests of enlarged spines (more-so in males); distinct vertebral series; heterogenous body scalation; head scales keeled; series of short skin folds on neck, often with scattered or clusters of enlarged spinose scales; Dorso-lateral skin fold usually; moderate fringing formed by scales of lower eyelid; 36-65 preanal-femoral pores; capable of bipedal locomotion and among Australia's fastest lizards. The genus *Licentia* is distributed mainly throughout the south-western arid region of Australia, and the central ranges.

Etymology: *Licentia* means, 'freedom to do as one pleases'.

Licentia cristata (Gray, 1841).

Licentia mckenziei (Storr, 1981) (b).

Licentia reticulata (Gray, 1845).

Licentia rufescens (Stirling and Zietz, 1893).

Licentia scutulata (Stirling and Zietz, 1893).

Licentia websteri (Boulenger, 1904): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *scutulata*; *websteri* is confined to south-western Australia.

Licentia yinnietharra (Storr, 1981) (b).

Mantichorasaurus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Diporiphora albilabris albilabris* Storr, 1974.

Content: *albilabris*, *sobria*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small (SVL: up to 50 mm) agamids inhabiting rocky ranges of northern and north-western Australia and closely allied to *Diporiphora*.

Mantichorasaurus is distinguished by the following combination of characters: tympanum exposed; adpressed hind-limb reaches only to eye; preanal pores 2-6; keels of dorsals parallel to vertebral line; gular and ventral scales strongly keeled; gular fold present; dorsal scales heterogeneous including a longitudinal, enlarged series along the outer edge of the paravertebrals; vertebral and paravertebral scales much smaller than adjacent inner rows of enlarged dorsals.

Etymology: *Mantichora* = A fabulous beast with a humans' face, lions' body and scorpions' tail; *saurus* = lizard.

Mantichorasaurus albilabris (Storr, 1974) (b).

Mantichorasaurus sobria (Storr, 1974) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Moloch Gray, 1841 (b).

Moloch horridus Gray, 1841 (b).

Phthanodon gen. nov.

Type species: *Uromastix maculatus* Gray, 1831 (b).

Wells and Wellington

Content: *aurita*, *badius*, *caudicinctus*, *citrinus*, *dualis*, *femoralis*, *fordi*, *graafi*, *griseus*, *gularis*, *infans*, *isolepis*, *macropus*, *maculatus*, *mensarum*, *rubens*, *slateri*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small agamids distributed throughout the arid interior of Australia characterised by having the body scalation homogenous with scattered enlarged scales in some species but generally lacking pronounced nuchal crest and vertebral series; vertebrals, at best as raised or enlarged body scales only feebly forming vertebral series; gulars and ventrals smooth to feebly keeled; preanal and femoral pores present; tympanum exposed. Closely allied to *Amphibolurus*.

Etymology: *Phthanodon* means 'to anticipate' or 'do first'.

Phthanodon aurita (Storr, 1981) (b).

Phthanodon badius (Storr, 1965): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon caudicinctus (Gunther, 1875).

Phthanodon citrinus (Storr, 1965): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon dualis (Storr, 1965): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon femoralis (Storr, 1965).

Phthanodon fordi (Storr, 1965).

Phthanodon graafi (Storr, 1967) (b): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon griseus (Storr, 1965): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon gularis (Sternfeld 1924): Herein removed from the synonymy of *isolepis* and elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon infans (Storr, 1967) (b): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon isolepis (Fischer, 1881).

Phthanodon macropus (Storr, 1967) (b): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon maculatus (Gray, 1831) (b).

Phthanodon mensarum (Storr, 1967) (b): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon rubens (Storr, 1965): Herein elevated to specific status.

Phthanodon slateri (Storr, 1967) (b): Herein elevated to specific status.

Physignathus Cuvier, 1829.

Physignathus howitti McCoy, 1884: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Physignathus lesueurii (Gray, 1831) (b).

Pogona Storr, 1982 (c).

Pogona barbata (Cuvier, 1829).

Pogona microlepidota (Glauert, 1952).

Pogona minima (Loveridge, 1933) (a).

Pogona minor (Sternfeld, 1919).

Pogona mitchelli (Badham, 1976).

Pogona nullarbor (Badham, 1976).

Pogona vitticeps (Ahl, 1926).

Rankinia gen. nov.

Type Species: *Grammatophora muricata diemensis* Gray, 1841 (b).

Content: *adelaidensis*, *boylani* sp. nov., *chapmani* and *diemensis*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small, stout, short tailed agamids closely allied to *Tympanocryptis* with a relictual distribution in SE and SW Australia. Characterized by their possessing the following features; Heterogenous dorsal scalation, an exposed tympanum, lack of pronounced nuchal or dorsal crests, longitudinal rows of enlarged and spinose caudal scales. Up to 75 mm, snout vent length.

Etymology: Named for the late Peter Robert Rankin.

Rankinia adelaidensis (Gray, 1841) (b): We herein consider that this species is restricted to south west Western Australia.

Rankinia boylani sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28487. Collected at Mt. Victoria, N.S.W. in Lat. 33°35'S., Long. 150°15'E., by R. W. Wells on 1 January, 1983.

Description of Holotype: A small member of the *Rankinia diemensis* complex, distinguished by the following combination of characters. Tympanum exposed; gular, ventral and tail scales strongly keeled and uniformly aligned; body scales heterogeneous and strongly keeled, arranged in (i) a straight series of slightly enlarged vertebrals, (ii) two enlarged, wavy rows of strongly keeled scales extending from the nape, paravertebrally to the anterior of the tail

Synopsis of Reptilia

where they converge, (iii) a straight series of minute keeled scales running from the neck, dorso-laterally to the hind limb, where they enlarge and continue along the tail as an enlarged series of strongly keeled scales (the dorso-lateral now begins on the nape as a spinose cluster). The tail has 5 distinct (anterior) longitudinal rows of strongly keeled scales, the most prominent of which is a short row of ventro-laterals. There is a canthal-post ocular row which begins as a ridge of strongly keeled scales on the snout, extending posteriorly forming a distinct canthus rostralis, then a supraocular ridge of low profile, followed by enlarged keels which swing onto the occiput meeting the beginning of the vertebral row. A sub-ocular row of enlarged keeled scales, irregularly extends posteriorly over the tympanum, ending as an enlarged series just behind the tympanum. The labials are followed by an irregular series of enlarged keeled scales which terminate near the margin of a pronounced gular fold. Adpressed hind limb reaches tympanum; sub-digital lamellae 25 on 4th toe; vertebrals 31; infralabials 12; femoral pores 15; measurements: SVL: 41.8 mm; VTL: 74.7 mm; axilla-groin: 18.6 mm; head length: 11.5 mm; head width: 10.2 mm; eye to eye: 8.0 mm; eye to snout: 7.0 mm; nostril to snout: 3.2 mm; nostril to nostril: 4.2 mm; right hind limb: 31.8 mm; right fore limb: 18.9 mm.

Colouration (in alcohol): Overall colour dark grey-brown dorsally and laterally with the exception of a dark, brownish-black vertebral area that has sharply angular edges and prominent whitish cream paravertebral region (which is not quite as wide as the vertebral region). The angular edges of the vertebral pattern do not completely break the paravertebral grey area — the whole dorsal pattern is suggestive of a zig-zag appearance. The tail is irregularly banded with dark brown; laterally there is a thin brown-edged white line between axilla and groin. Ventrally — grey-blue gular area; infralabials white with scattered black dots; Venter brownish white; limbs are indistinctly banded with light whitish brown. The head has a faint creamish-brown interocular bar; supralabials light creamish brown (red in life) flecked with minute dark brown dots.

Distribution: *Rankinia boylani* inhabits mountain ranges with dense heath and *Danthonia* spp. tussock grasses on mainland south-eastern Australia. It is confined to post-glacial montane refugia.

Etymology: Named for Terry Boylan of Taronga Zoological Park, Sydney, N.S.W.

Illustrations: Swanson, (1976 pl. 81) figures a typical specimen of *Rankinia boylani* (cited as *A. diemensis*) from Waterfall, N.S.W.; Jenkins and Bartell (1980; page 87) provide a figure of a specimen of *boylani* from the Brindabella Ranges, N.S.W.

Rankinia chapmani (Storr, 1977): Herein formally elevated to specific status; confined to the western Nullarbor Plain.

Rankinia diemensis (Gray, 1841) (b): Herein formally restricted to Tasmania.

Tympanocryptis Peters, 1863 (a).

Tympanocryptis butleri Storr, 1977: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tympanocryptis centralis Sternfeld, 1924: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tympanocryptis cephalus Gunther, 1867.

Tympanocryptis gigas Mitchell, 1948: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tympanocryptis houstoni Storr, 1982 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tympanocryptis intima Mitchell, 1948.

Tympanocryptis lineata Peters, 1863 (a).

Tympanocryptis macra Storr, 1982 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tympanocryptis parviceps Storr, 1964 (a).

Tympanocryptis pinguicollis Mitchell, 1948: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tympanocryptis tetraporophora Lucas and Frost, 1895.

Tympanocryptis uniformis Mitchell, 1948.

VARANIDAE

Odatia Gray, 1838.

Odatia centralis (Mertens, 1957) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Odatia glauerti (Mertens, 1957) (b).

Odatia mitchelli (Mertens, 1958) (b).

Wells and Wellington

Odatria orientalis (Fry, 1913): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *tristis*. *O. orientalis* is the available name for the east Australian population.

Odatria pilbarensis (Storr, 1980) (a).

Odatria prasinus (Schlegel, 1839).

Odatria scalaris (Mertens, 1941): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Odatria semiremex (Peters, 1869) (a).

Odatria similis (Mertens, 1958) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Odatria tristis (Schlegel, 1839).

Pantherosaurus Fitzinger, 1843.

Pantherosaurus flavirufus (Mertens, 1958) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Pantherosaurus giganteus (Gray, 1845).

Pantherosaurus glebopalma (Mitchell, 1955).

Pantherosaurus gouldii (Gray, 1838).

Pantherosaurus panoptes (Storr, 1980) (a).

Pantherosaurus rosenbergi (Mertens, 1957) (a).

Pantherosaurus rubidus (Storr, 1980) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Pantherosaurus spenceri (Lucas and Frost, 1903).

Varanus Merrem, 1820.

Varanus indicus (Daudin, 1802).

Varanus mertensi Glauert, 1951.

Varanus varius White, 1790.

Worrellisaurus *gen. nov.*

Type species; *Varanus acanthurus* Boulenger, 1885.

Content: *acanthurus*, *brachyurus*, *brevicauda*, *caudolineatus*, *eremius*, *gilleni*, *insulanicus*, *kingorum*, *ocreatus*, *primordius* and *storri*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small Varanid lizards confined to central, northern and western Australia.

Characterized by possessing spinose or at least strongly keeled candal scales; scales of head small, irregular, smooth or at most weakly keeled. All are less than $\frac{3}{4}$ metre total length, mid body scales 125 or less, nostril laterally placed, claws short thick and strongly curved.

Etymology: Named for Mr Eric Worrell, MBE, in recognition of his contributions to herpetology.

Worrellisaurus acanthurus (Boulenger, 1885) (c).

Worrellisaurus brachyurus (Sternfeld, 1919): Herein elevated to specific status.

Worrellisaurus brevicauda (Boulenger, 1898) (a).

Worrellisaurus caudolineatus (Boulenger, 1885) (c).

Worrellisaurus eremius (Lucas and Frost, 1895).

Worrellisaurus gilleni (Lucas and Frost, 1895).

Worrellisaurus insulanicus (Mertens, 1958) (b): Herein elevated to specific status.

Worrellisaurus kingorum (Storr, 1980) (a).

Worrellisaurus ocreatus (Storr, 1980) (a): Herein elevated to specific status.

Worrellisaurus primordius (Mertens, 1942).

Worrellisaurus storri (Mertens, 1966).

SCINCIDAE

Anepischetos *gen. nov.*

Type species: *Anepischetos sharmani* *gen. et. sp. nov.*

Composition: *maccoyi*, *sharmani* *sp. nov.*

Diagnosis: A genus of small, slender, cryptozoic, thigmothermic skinks of the *Eugongylus* subgroup of Greer (1979), relictually distributed in wet sclerophyll and rainforest communities of south-eastern Australia.

Alpha palate; medially separated pterygoids; closed Meckelian canal; lacks prefrontals; lacks supranasals; nasals laterally displaced by enlarged frontonasal that broadly contacts the rostral; frontal enclosed by enlarged parietals; one temporal borders parietal lateral to nuchals; nostrils punctiform; single loreal; one enlarged presubocular; supralabials excluded from orbital contact by irregular row of minute scales forming a subocular row; transparent palpebral disk on moveable lower eyelid; minute ear opening; auditory meatus

Synopsis of Reptilia

much larger than external opening; iris distinctly lighter than pupil; supradigital scales on fourth toe of manus in single row; five fingers on pes; enlarged or uniform preanal scales; oviparous; limbs fail to meet when adpressed.

Etymology: *Anepischetos* means 'unrestrained' and alludes to the ideal intellectual state.

Anepischetos maccoyi (Lucas and Frost, 1894).

Anepischetos sharmani sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 27800.

Locality: 1.0 km NW of Mt. Cambewarra lookout, New South Wales, (34°48'S; 150°34'E).

Collected by R. W. Wells on 9 October 1982.

Paratypes: Australian Museum Field Series Nos. 27793-27799, 27801-27803: 1.0 km NW of Mt Cambewarra lookout, N.S.W. (R. W. Wells, 9 October 1982); 28083: Macquarie Pass, 7.5 km NE of Robertson, N.S.W. (R. W. Wells and C. R. Wellington, 14 November 1982); 28119: 6.8 km NW of Kangaroo Valley N.S.W. (R. W. Wells and C. R. Wellington, 14 November 1982); 28121-2: Mt. Cambewarra Lookout, N.S.W. (R. W. Wells and C. R. Wellington, 14 November 1982); 28124-5: 1.5 km NW of Mt. Cambewarra Lookout N.S.W. (R. W. Wells and C. R. Wellington, 14 November 1982); 28252-8: 1.5 km NW of Mt. Cambewarra Lookout, N.S.W. (R. W. Wells, 9 October 1982); 28200-3: 1.5 km NW of Mt. Cambewarra Lookout, N.S.W. (R. W. Wells and G. Shea, 13 December 1982); 28417-25: 1.5 km NW of Mt. Cambewarra Lookout, N.S.W. (R. W. Wells and C. R. Wellington).

Description of Holotype: Snout-vent length: 47.0 mm; tail length: 41.9 mm (10.2 regenerated); mid-body scales: 22 rows; dorso-laterals from temporal contact to directly above hind limb: 72; infralabials: 6; supralabials: 5; supraoculars: 5; supraciliaries: 7; subdigital lamellae under fourth toe: 10; axilla-groin length: 31.0 mm; head width: 4.9 mm; head length (snout to ear): 7.4 mm; paravertebrals: 67; fore and hind limbs pentadactyl.

Colouration (in alcohol): Dorsally, head and body brown; head with microscopic black flecking; dorsals usually having four posteriorly aligned striations on the anterior of the body; every fourth scale in a longitudinal series is usually light centred and dark-edged, forming a 'spotted' appearance on a dark brown background over the entire length of body and tail.

A black dorso-lateral begins at the rostral passes through the eye then over the auricular, then along the body and tail (where it is less distinct than on the body). The temporal region is blackish, and this combined with the dorso-lateral line on the head, tends to create a 'masked' appearance. The supralabials and infralabials are white marked with black edges giving a striped appearance. Lateral scales are light brown becoming lighter ventrolaterally; the lateral scales are also marked with black striae similar to the dorsum; ventro-lateral scales splotched with black forming an irregular but distinct line of demarcation between the lateral and ventral surfaces. Ventrally creamy white. Colouration in life of several specimens of *Anepischetos sharmani* examined was more intense than that described above for the preserved holotype. Iris colour was bright deep orange; ventral colour ranged from uniform lemon yellow to deep orange; ventral of tail same as ventral surface, except richly splotched with black (but regenerated tails dark grey to black). Juveniles are pale yellow with black flecks. The dorsal colour in life is occasionally reddish brown, sometimes almost orange with the associated black markings; generally the younger the specimens the lighter and brighter the colouration. Snout is occasionally lighter in colour to the body colour, but still having the black flecking. The dorso-lateral stripe is copper-edged in life also. In life, *Anepischetos sharmani* does not have the polished glossy appearance of *A. maccoyi*, it also differs in having a lighter coloured head and an orange iris vs golden yellow.

Variation in Paratypes: Snout-Vent length: 28.5-59.1 mm; axilla-groin length: 17.1-41.0 mm; head width: 3.9-5.9 mm; head length: 5.0-8.3 mm; tail length (original condition only): 23.7-53.5 mm; mid-body scales: 21-23 ($n = 35$; 21 = 5.7%, 22 = 77.1%, 23 = 17.1%).

Discussion: *Anepischetos sharmani* is a member of the *maccoyi* species complex, readily separated by its possession of enlarged preanals (uniform in *maccoyi*), higher sub-digital lamellae count of 8-10 (vs 6-7 in *maccoyi*), higher mid-body count of 21-23 (vs 20 in *maccoyi*), shorter body and tail, wider head, accutely pointed snout (vs obtuse in *maccoyi*), greater proportional distance of snout-forelimb of $\frac{1}{2}$ axilla-groin length (vs $\frac{1}{3}$ in *maccoyi*), non-glossy scutellation (vs glossy, highly polished in *maccoyi*), different orientation of the auricular opening, and an orange iris (vs golden yellow in *maccoyi*).

Anepischetos sharmani is known only from the Illawarra escarpment on the south coast of

N.S.W., from Mt. Keira in the north, Mt. Cambewarra in the south and as far west as Kangaroo Valley. Within this area the species occurs in a number of isolated populations (probably due to historical factors). Principally *A. sharmani* occurs on the basaltic soils of the Gerringong volcanics, all known localities are in the coastal sub-tropical rainforest or in the ecotonal wet-sclerophyll associations immediately adjacent to the rainforest community. Although this habitat once extensively covered the coastal plain, this species has been found mainly on the mountain slopes proper, (whether this is an artifact of disturbance we have been unable to determine). Rainfall for all localities is high with more than 1200 mm annually, these measures being from coastal meteorological stations which are likely to be under estimates. All specimens have been found in clearings in the habitat quite often in association with stinging nettles (*Urtica* sp.); they were most frequently found beneath small basalt-type rocks on soil. However some were found beneath rotting logs, one specimen was found occupying the burrow of an insect larvae beneath a rock, but most gave no indication of burrowing habits being more cryptozoic.

If disturbed, during warm weather, *A. sharmani* does not hesitate to quickly attempt escape. It does this by rapidly wriggling into dense leaf litter, underlying earth cracks or rock fissures. This species is obviously a cryptozoan that requires damp micro-habitats within the successional breaks in rainforest and at the rainforest-wet sclerophyll interface. *A. sharmani* also appears to be insectivorous (a number examined contained Collembola) suggestive of a diet of leaf litter insects. It is interesting to note that *A. sharmani* appears to be mutually exclusive of *Saiphos equalis*, or at most, in marginal contact. The authors examined numerous sites on the Illawarra coastal plain and were unable to locate extant populations of *A. sharmani* in the remaining fragments of rainforest. Such relict pockets of rainforest had *Saiphos equalis*, and as such forest now occurs mainly in gullies and along a few creeks, there is no doubt that the original coastal rainforest community must have directly contacted the escarpment if not continuously then at least marginally by such corridors. As to how *Anepischetos sharmani* evolved, it is postulated that this species represents the colonisation of coastal sub-tropical rainforest by *Anepischetos maccoyi* as its range contracted following the end of a glacial period. Similarly, the absence of *A. sharmani* from the coastal plain may have resulted from competitive exclusion by *Saiphos equalis* which would have been expanding its range as the region became hotter and wetter — The escarpment rainforest, on well drained stoney soil may not have been available to *Saiphos* to the same extent as on the coastal plain.

Reproduction: *A. sharmani* is oviparous, clutch size varying from 2-6. Females carrying shelled oviducal eggs have been found in December, and males with enlarged testes have been taken in October. It is thought that *A. sharmani* has a similar reproductive biology to *A. maccoyi*. However, there appears to be some confusion in the literature over the reproductive strategy of *A. maccoyi*.

Lucas and Frost (1894) in the original description of *A. maccoyi* record it as live-bearing (8-9), while Littlejohn and Rawlinson (1971) in dealing with the population in Victoria cite *A. maccoyi* as ovoviviparous. Shine (1983) reported that *A. maccoyi* from the Brindabella Ra, near Canberra, is oviparous with up to 40% development occurring before oviposition. We question whether reproductive terminology is being used consistently, ie. the term 'live-bearing' includes ovoviviparous and metviviparous conditions (Jolly, 1962) or whether Littlejohn and Rawlinson (1971) have inadvertently referred to extended internal development within a shelled egg (Shine, 1983) as an *ovoviviparous* condition. *Anepischetos sharmani* appears to have the same reproductive strategy as Shine's Brindabella population of *maccoyi*, with the exception that *sharmani* has a higher clutch size.

Etymology: Named for Dr Geoffrey Bruce Sharman of Macquarie University.

Anomalopus Dumeril and Bibron, 1851: We herein regard *Anomalopus* as a polyphyletic genus that also contains a number of undescribed species but have decided to delay commenting on this group as Dr Allen E. Greer is currently investigating all species.

Anomalopus lentiginosus De Vis, 1888.

Anomalopus ophiocincus (Boulenger, 1887) (b).

Anomalopus reticulatus (Gunther, 1873).

Anomalopus truncatus (Peters, 1876) (a).

Anomalopus verreauxii Dumeril and Dumeril, 1851.

Synopsis of Reptilia

Bellatorias gen. nov.

Type Species: *Tropidolepisma major* Gray, 1845.

Content: *frerei*, *major*.

Diagnosis: A genus of large robust skinks closely allied to *Egernia* confined to monsoon, tropical and subtropical rainforest communities of northern and eastern Australia and Papua New Guinea, characterised by: scales with multiple low blunt keels; base of tail without enlarged and expanded upper candals; 2-6 large, pointed lobules; post-narial groove present; iris colour only slightly lighter than pupil; head shields regular, unfragmented; nasals separated; interparietal narrower than or as wide as frontal; pentadactyl and ovoviparous.

Etymology: war-like.

Bellatorias frerei (Gunther, 1897).

Bellatorias major (Gray, 1845).

Calyptotis De Vis, 1886.

Calyptotis lepidorostrum Greer, 1983 (a).

Calyptotis ruficauda Greer, 1983 (a).

Calyptotis scutirostrum (Peters, 1873) (b).

Calyptotis temporalis Greer, 1983 (a).

Calyptotis thornstonensis Greer, 1983 (a).

Carlia Gray, 1845.

Carlia amax Storr, 1974 (c).

Carlia bicarinata (Macleay, 1877) (a).

Carlia coensis (Mitchell, 1953).

Carlia covacevichi nom. nov. pro *Mococa melanopogon* Gray, 1845. *C. covacevichi* is confined to the Northern Territory, where it has previously been referred to as *C. foliorum* (e.g. Cogger, 1975).

Etymology: Named for Jeanette Covacevich of the Queensland Museum.

Carlia dogare Covacevich and Ingram, 1975.

Carlia foliorum (De Vis, 1884) (b).

Carlia gracilis Storr, 1974 (c).

Carlia grandensis Storr, 1974 (c): Herein formally removed from the synonymy of *C. amax* and elevated to specific status.

Carlia jarnoldae Covacevich and Ingram, 1975.

Carlia johnstonei Storr, 1974 (c).

Carlia longipes (Macleay, 1877) (a).

Carlia mundivensis (Broom, 1898).

Carlia novaeguineae (Meyer, 1874).

Carlia laeve (Oudemans, 1894): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *C. novaeguineae* as an available name for the population on mainland Australia.

Carlia pectoralis (De Vis, 1885).

Carlia prava Covacevich and Ingram, 1975: We herein resurrect *prava* from the synonymy of *schmeltzii*.

Carlia rhomboidalis (Peters, 1869) (b).

Carlia rimula Ingram and Covacevich, 1980.

Carlia rufilatus Storr, 1974 (c).

Carlia schmeltzii (Peters, 1867) (a).

Carlia tetradactyla (O'Shaughnessy, 1879).

Carlia triacantha (Mitchell, 1953).

Carlia vivax (De Vis, 1884) (b).

Carlia waitei (Zietz, 1920): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *C. mundivensis* for the south east Queensland population.

Coeranoscincus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Ophioscincus frontalis* De Vis, 1888.

Content: *frontalis* and *pluto*.

Diagnosis: A genus of limbless skinks confined to north-east Queensland, and distinguished by the following characters: Nasals separated; prefrontals large or small, separated; one or two loreals; two to three supraoculars; post-mental in contact with one or two infralabials on

each side; ear concealed; preanals enlarged. Closely allied to some members of *Anomalopus*.

Etymology: *Coerano* = master, ruler; *scincus* = lizard.

Coeranoscincus frontalis (De Vis, 1888).

Coeranoscincus pluto (Ingram, 1977) (a).

Concinnia gen. nov.

Type Species: *Tiliqua tenuis* Gray, 1831 (b).

Content: *amplus*, *brachysoma*, *fuscicaudis*, *luteilateralis mjobergi*, *murrayi*, *tenuis*, *tigrina*.

Diagnosis: The genus *Concinnia* is a group of moderate sized, smooth bodied, pentadactyl limbed skinks. Largely confined to relictual rainforest and ecotonal wet sclerophyll forest habitats along east coastal Australia. All have a preference for deeply shaded damp areas within their habitats and usually do not bask in direct sunlight, being most active in the open only during cloudy humid conditions. All are live bearing and insectivorous and most are partly arboreal and all extensively utilize fallen logs and rotting trees for their microhabitats. They can be characterized by having: nasals separated; one or two pairs of supranasals (at least one pair in contact); prefrontals separated or in contact; supraoculars, 4-5; supralabials, 6-8; post-mental contacting one or two infralabials on each side; ear opening large (usually as large or larger than nasal); snout/vent lengths range from 70-110 mm; mid body scale rows range from 22-52.

Etymology: *Concinnia* = skillfully put together.

Concinnia amplus (Covacevich and McDonald, 1980).

Concinnia brachysoma (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1915): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *tenuis*; *brachysoma* is believed confined to north Queensland.

Concinnia fuscicaudis (Greer, 1979) (c).

Concinnia luteilateralis (Covacevich and McDonald, 1980).

Concinnia mjobergi (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1915).

Concinnia murrayi (Boulenger, 1887) (b).

Concinnia tenuis (Gray, 1831) (b).

Concinnia tigrina (De Vis, 1888).

Contundo gen. nov.

Type Species: *Tiliqua napoleonis* Gray, 1839.

Content: *carinata*, *douglasi*, *formosa*, *napoleonis*, *pilbarensis*, *striolata*.

Diagnosis: The genus *Contundo* is a group of moderately depressed skinks allied to *Egernia* and identified by the following combination of characters: dorsal scalation weakly carinated or striated; non-expanded upper caudals (except in *striolata*); regular unfragmented head shields; post-narial groove present; supraciliaries, 4-8; nasals narrowly separated or in point contact; interparietal usually narrower than frontal; lamellae usually smooth and undivided; mid-body range 26-42; lobules 2-6; usually with orange ventral surface; saxicoline and arboreal. *Contundo* is a genus of the arid interior of Australia with its centre of dispersal in south-western Australia, extending to the Kimberleys, and eastern Australia; the group is not present in central Australia or the true desert regions.

Etymology: *Contundo* means 'to crush'.

Contundo carinata (Smith, 1939): We herein formally synonymise *Tropidolepisma richardi* of Peters, 1869 with *Contundo carinata*.

Contundo douglasi (Glauert, 1956).

Contundo formosa (Fry, 1914).

Contundo napoleonis (Gray, 1839).

Contundo pilbarensis (Storr, 1978) (a).

Contundo striolata (Peters, 1870).

Cryptoblepharus Wiegmann, 1834.

Cryptoblepharus australis (Sternfeld, 1918): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *C. plagiocephalus* for the central Australian population.

Cryptoblepharus carnabyi Storr, 1976 (a).

Cryptoblepharus clarus Storr, 1961: Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *virgatus* and elevated to specific status.

Cryptoblepharus egeriae (Boulenger, 1889) (a).

Cryptoblepharus fuhni Covacevich and Ingram, 1978.

Synopsis of Reptilia

- Cryptoblepharus litoralis* (Mertens, 1958) (a).
Cryptoblepharus megastictus Storr, 1976 (a).
Cryptoblepharus plagiocephalus (Cocteau, 1836).
Cryptoblepharus ruber Borner and Schuttler, 1981: Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *C. plagiocephalus* and elevated to specific status.
Cryptoblepharus virgatus (Garman, 1901).
Ctenotus Storr, 1964 (b).
Ctenotus alacer Storr, 1970 (a).
Ctenotus ariadnae Storr, 1969.
Ctenotus atlas Storr, 1969.
Ctenotus calurus Storr, 1969.
Ctenotus colletti (Boulenger, 1896) (a).
Ctenotus decaneurus Storr, 1970 (a).
Ctenotus duricola Storr, 1969: Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Ctenotus dux Storr, 1969.
Ctenotus euridice Czechura and Wombey, 1982.
Ctenotus eutaenius Storr, 1981 (c).
Ctenotus iapetus Storr, 1975 (a): Herein elevated to specific status.
Ctenotus impar Storr, 1969.
Ctenotus ingrami Czechura and Wombey, 1982.
Ctenotus leae (Boulenger, 1887) (b).
Ctenotus nasutus Storr, 1969: Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Ctenotus piankai Storr, 1969.
Ctenotus quattuordecimlineatus (Sternfeld, 1919).
Ctenotus quinkan Ingram, 1979.
Ctenotus rawlinsoni Ingram, 1979.
Ctenotus rufescens Storr, 1979 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Ctenotus storri Rankin, 1978.
Ctenotus striaticeps Storr, 1978 (d).
Ctenotus taeniolatus (White, 1790).
Ctenotus xenopleura Storr, 1981 (c).
Ctenotus yampiensis Storr, 1975 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Ctenotus zebrilla Storr, 1981 (c).
Cyclodomorphus Fitzinger, 1843.
Cyclodomorphus branchialis (Gunther, 1867).
Cyclodomorphus casuarinae (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839).
Cyclodomorphus gastrostigma (Boulenger, 1898) (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *branchialis* and confined to the west coast of Western Australia.
Cyclodomorphus maxima (Storr, 1976) (b).
Cyclodomorphus melanops (Stirling and Zietz, 1893): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *branchialis* and confined to central Australia.
Cyclodomorphus michaeli sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28007, collected by C. Ross Wellington at Mt. Victoria, N.S.W. in Lat. 33°35', Long. 150°15', 10 October, 1982.

Description of holotype: A large member of the *Cyclodomorphus casuarinae* complex, possessing the following character states. Mid-body scale rows 22; paravertebral rows 75; subcaudals 97; subdigital lamellae on 4th toe — 14; infralabials 7; supralabials 7; supraoculars 4 (posterior-most smallest); supraciliaries 5; nasals in point contact; prefrontals in contact; frontal separated from frontonasal; parietals fail to meet behind interparietal; frontoparietals in contact; frontal in contact with first two supraoculars; anal scales not enlarged, equal in size; sub-caudals enlarged medially; paravertebrals not appreciably enlarged; preocular, loreal and post nasal scales subequal; postnasal in contact with first two supralabials; postmental enlarged, in contact with first two Infralabials.

Measurements: SVL (mm) — 168.0; VTL (mm) 220.0 (Regenerated portion 85.8); axilla-groin 122.7 mm; snout to armpit 34.3 mm; head length (snout to anterior edge of ear) 19.9 mm; head width 14.0 mm (just anterior to the ears at widest point); eye to eye 8.1 mm; eye to nostril 5.7

mm; nostril to nostril 3.4 mm; eye to ear 9.7 mm; fore-limb length 19 mm; hind limb length 24 mm; toe lengths of right hind limb 2.0 mm; 3.6 mm; 6.5 mm; 3.1 mm — (1 to 5).

Colouration (In preservative): Dorsally, head, body and tail olive green-brown, largely without ornamentation but some scales black-edged. Laterally same as dorsum, except that the eye is surrounded with black; ventrally greyish to pinkish salmon with leading edges of scales richly splotched with black giving a somewhat variegated appearance. This alternate black edging to the scales is continued along the tail (original) but is much less distinct, rapidly fading to a dominate base colouration of salmon. The limbs are olive brown dorsally, but light grey ventrally. Regenerated portion of tail light grey to brown, lacking the distinctive black edging ventrally.

C. michaeli is believed confined to the post-glacial montane refugia of New South Wales, from the Snowy Mountains in the south, to the Hunter River valley in the north. It occurs mainly in *Danthonia* tussock grasses of montane forests, but has also expanded its range to the wet sclerophyll and rainforests of some areas as well as coastal heaths and grasslands. It is largely crepuscular, live bearing and is quite secretive, being more often found beneath objects on grass.

Colour photographs of *C. michaeli* can be found in Swanson (1976) plate 72 (Figured as *Tiliqua casuarinae*).

Jenkins and Bartell (1980) plate page 194 (Figured as *T. casuarinae*). A black and white photograph of *C. casuarinae* sensu stricto is shown in Cogger (1983) pl. 708 with which *C. michaeli* has until now been confused.

Etymology: Named for Michael Warwick Wells of Sydney, N.S.W.

Cyclodomorphus woodjonesii (Procter, 1923) (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *branchialis* and confined to Nuyts Archipelago.

Egernia Gray, 1838.

Egernia cunninghami (Gray, 1832).

Egernia intermedia Cogger, 1960: Herein regarded as confined to south-eastern New South Wales and north-eastern Victoria and elevated to specific status.

Egernia kingii (Gray, 1838).

Egernia krefftii Peters, 1871 (b): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *E. cunninghami*.

Egernia krefftii is confined to the Sydney Basin of New South Wales.

Egernia mcpheeii sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28386. Collected at Park Beach, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales, in Lat. 30°17'S, Long. 153°08'E, by R. W. Wells and Glenn Shea, on 24 December, 1982.

Paratypes: AMFS 28385, same data as holotype; 28387, from Karangi, N.S.W. (in Lat. 30°15'S, Long. 15°03'E) collected by R. W. Wells and Glenn Shea on 25 December, 1982.

Description of Holotype: A large member of the *Egernia saxatilis* complex, most closely allied to *E. saxatilis* and *Egernia* sp. nov. Mid body scales in 28 rows; paravertebrals 51, (including nuchals); sub digital lamellae 25 on 4th toe; supralabials 8; Infralabials 8; supraoculars 4; supraciliaries 6; sub-caudals 58 including regenerated portion; auricular lobules 3 (obtuse or broadly based); nasals just fail to make contact; prefrontals in contact; frontal and interparietal sub-equal; frontal in contact with first two supraoculars; parietals fail to meet behind interparietal, anals moderately enlarged (larger than ventrals but smaller than the subcaudals); dorsals very weakly carinated limbs even less so.

Measurements: SVL (mm) 129.2; VTL (mm) 115.5 (26.2 mm regenerated); axilla-groin (mm) 62.3; head length (mm) 26.0 (just anterior to auricular); left hind limb length 49.4 mm; left forelimb length 37.3 mm.

Colouration (in alcohol):

Dorsum: Head brown with head shields margined black giving a somewhat reticulated appearance; body brown with the scales alternately marked centrally with a black bar. The barring is aligned to form thin longitudinal black stripes with a broken appearance. Tail also brown, black bars markedly reduced.

Laterally: Supralabials white with black margins; infralabials greyish several barred with black; margin of temporals black; scales between auricular and forelimb splotched with black; ventro-laterally, the jaw is light grey with scales black edged; lower lateral of neck between auricular and forelimb white flecked on dark brown; this scattered white flecking

Synopsis of Reptilia

moderately extends along the body just posterior to the forelimb. Remainder of sides of body same as dorsum (brown with black barred scales); tail is light brown with a few irregular black dots.

Ventrally: Beneath head grey scales margined irregularly with black and with a few black spots. Remainder of venter pale fawn to cream (orange in life) without markings; under tail off-white centrally, grey ventro-laterally. Named for Mr David R. McPhee of Sydney, N.S.W. noted Herpetologist and Antiquarian Book authority.

Discussion: *Egernia mcpheeii* differs from other members of the *saxatilis* complex in possessing fewer auricular lobules, the shape of these being obtuse or broadly based, rather than acute; marked reduction in the carination of dorsum and limb scales (tending to be weakly carinated rather than keeled) fewer mid-body scale rows and reaches a larger maximum size.

The *Egernia saxatilis* complex is part of a distinctive group which is largely confined to relictual habitats in S.E. Australia. Cogger (1960) described *saxatilis*, dividing into the nominate form *saxatilis* and a subspecies *intermedia*. As Cogger's type series of *intermedia* contains representatives of *Egernia mcpheeii*, it is not surprising that difficulty has been experienced in endeavouring to unravel this complex.

Egernia saxatilis is confined to the Warrumbungle Range in mid western New South Wales; *Egernia* sp. (representing another undescribed species) occurs in Mt Kaputar National Park, in the Nandewar Range; *Egernia intermedia* is largely confined to the Sydney Basin, but extends into Victoria as a number of isolated populations which warrant closer examination; *Egernia mcpheeii* is confined to coastal New South Wales and south east Queensland, from the northern edge of the Hunter Valley N.S.W. to the Border Ranges and inland as far as the eastern escarpment of the New England plateau. *Egernia mcpheeii* is separated from *Egernia intermedia* by approximately 100 km and when the Hunter Valley was forested, it is possible that sympatry existed in this area. Its closest relative appears to be the undescribed *Egernia* in the Mt Kaputar area, on the western side of the New England Plateau, but this is still unclear because of the low numbers of specimens of the Mt Kaputar species in collections.

The habitat of *Egernia mcpheeii* is primarily wet sclerophyll forests and the adjacent dry sclerophyll ecotone. However in areas that have been largely disturbed for grazing, plantations, logging etc. *mcpheeii* can be found inhabiting old buildings, rock outcrops and piles of debris. In some sections of coast where the forest has been removed for decades, *E. mcpheeii* manages to survive in a narrow belt of coastal rock outcroppings and has even been taken in the littoral zone while basking and foraging. In relatively undisturbed forests or those that are selectively logged, *E. mcpheeii* can be found quite commonly living in rotted logs and stumps, or under bark of trees.

Like many *Egernia* species, *E. mcpheeii* practices faecal discharge behaviour as a defensive strategy when siezed. It is a shy species that prefers isolated logs or outcrops for shelter, usually along 'corridors' such as creeks and roads. It is not particularly gregarious but where suitable shelter is scarce, small colonies are occasionally formed.

One specimen at Coffs Harbour in 1969, excreted numerous ticks when handled and specimens in captivity feed readily on insects such as cockroaches.

E. mcpheeii produces live young; we know of one instance of 3 being born in January.

Egernia mcpheeii attains a maximum total length of 380 mm.

Coloured plates of *Egernia mcpheeii* can be found in Swanson (1976: pl. 64 from Coffs Harbour) and Groom (1973, specimen from Lamington National Park, Qld). A colour plate of *E. saxatilis* is in Swanson (1976: pl. 63).

Note: We recommend urgent investigation of the Mt. Kaputar species which is at present only known from one pile of boulders on the mountain.

Similarly *Egernia saxatilis* and its close relatives *Egernia krefftii* and *E. intermedia* have all experienced considerable habitat stress due to rock-removal for gardens so attention should be focussed here also.

Egernia rugosa De Vis, 1888.

Egernia saxatilis Cogger, 1960.

Emoia Gray, 1845.

Emoia atrocostata (Lesson, 1830).

- Emoia longicauda* (Macleay, 1877) (a).
Emoia nativitatus (Boulenger, 1887) (a).
Eremiascincus Greer, 1979 (b).
Eremiascincus ambigua (De Vis, 1888): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *richardsoni*; confined to Queensland and N.S.W.
Eremiascincus fasciolatus (Gunther, 1867): Herein regarded as confined to N.S.W. and Queensland.
Eremiascincus intermedium (Sternfeld, 1919): Herein formally removed from the synonymy of *fasciolatus*; confined to central Australia.
Eremiascincus monotropis (Boulenger, 1887) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *richardsoni*; confined to Western Australia.
Eremiascincus pallida (Gunther, 1875): Herein formally removed from the synonymy of *fasciolatus*; confined to Western Australia.
Eremiascincus richardsonii (Gray, 1845): Herein regarded as confined to the Houtman's Abrolhos, W.A.
Eroticoscincus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Lygosoma graciloides* Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913.

Diagnosis: A genus of small cryptozoic, thigmothermic, rainforest-inhabiting skinks confined to south-eastern Queensland, and distinguished by the following combination of characters: fingers four, toes five; alpha palate; moveable eyelid with undivided palpebral disk; lacks prefrontals; nasals laterally placed; limbs fail to meet when adpressed; anals enlarged; loreal single; four supraoculars; labials excluded from orbital contact by suboculars; paravertebrals largest; punctiform nasal; nasals laterally displaced by frontonasal; lacks supranasals; frontal — frontonasal suture long and curved; frontal contacts first and second supraoculars; two infralabials contact mental; pair of nuchals border each parietal; one or two temporals border each parietal; two presuboculars; complete sub-ocular series; loreal single; ear opening about size of nostril, being quite small and lacking any lobules; mid-body scales 20-22 rows; sub-digital lamellae have paired callosities (12-15 under 4th toe); hemipenes unilobed with undivided sulcus that terminates apically; iris coppery bronze; oviparous.

Etymology: Amorous skink.

Comments: The rejection of *Anotis* in favour of *Nannoscincus* by Czechura (1981), has led the way to our better understanding of this problematical group of skinks; however, Czechura's inclusion of Australian species in *Nannoscincus* cannot be supported here. The New Caledonian herpetofauna represents a distinct zoogeographic entity in its own right, as does the regions' birds, mammals, invertebrates and flora. It should not be surprising that the three described *Nannoscincus* occurring there (*N. mariae*, *N. slevini* and *N. gracilis*) form a distinctive group (Boulenger, 1887 (b) and Greer, 1974 give major morphological characteristics). The genus *Nannoscincus* is based on a New Caledonian species, *N. fuscus* Gunther 1872 (b) (= *N. Mariae* Bavay, 1869a). Similarities between Australian members of the genus and those found in New Caledonia as proposed by Greer (1974) and later by Czechura (1981) do acknowledge primitive relationships but we cannot accept that there is direct evidence for them being congeneric. We consider that all of the features possessed by New Caledonian *Nannoscincus* could just as easily be explained by convergent evolution; we are convinced that this genus will have its origin or closest relatives to the North of New Caledonia. Considering that the species in the genera *Nannoscincus*, *Eroticoscincus* and *Anepischetos* all have similar thermoregulatory behaviour and occupy the same cryptozoic niches in their respective wet-forest habitats, convergence is not all that unreasonable. The variation in New Caledonian *Nannoscincus* as used by researchers to lump them with Australian species and which so perplexed Greer (1974, see pages 4 and 19 regarding scaly eyelid condition in *gracilis*) probably more correctly reflects on the polyphyletic nature of *Nannoscincus* in New Caledonia itself. Cogger (1975) presented his concept of the polyphyletic nature of *Hemiergis*, as he defined it, to include *maccoyi* and *graciloides*. He then (1979) expressed doubt as to the congeneric status of Australian and New Caledonian groups (placed by other workers in *Anotis*), and correctly pointed out that *Anotis* was preoccupied. Jenkins and Bartell (1980) placed *maccoyi* in *Hemiergis*, following Cogger (1975), but stated that in their opinion this action was really inappropriate. Then Czechura

Synopsis of Reptilia

(1981) lumped *maccoyi*, and *graciloides* together, under the genus *Nannoscincus*. Soon after, Cogger, Cameron and Cogger (1983) rejected Czechura's resurrection of *Nannoscincus* (1981) for the Australian species and took the only step available to them by retaining *maccoyi* and *graciloides* in *Hemiergis*. Cogger (1983) further indicated the arbitrary nature of this placement, and cast doubt on the congeneric status of *maccoyi* and *graciloides*. Unfortunately, Greer (1979) (a) had convincingly shown that *maccoyi* and *graciloides* (then in *Anotis*) differed quite substantially from *Hemiergis*, so much so that he even placed them into different 'suprageneric' group arrangements. Consequently, it is clearly evident that no one (other than Czechura) accepts that *maccoyi* and *graciloides* are assignable to any available generic name. We have supported Cogger's contention (1983) that *maccoyi* and *graciloides* are not congeneric with each other (or those species in New Caledonia), and have already proposed the excision of the *maccoyi* species group from *graciloides* by creating the new generic name *Anepischetos*. As we do not consider that *graciloides* is congeneric with *Nannoscincus sensu stricto*, we have therefore proposed another generic name, *Erotoscincus*. At present, *Erotoscincus* is monotypic but we suspect that there may be undescribed elements of this genus awaiting discovery.

Erotoscincus graciloides (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913).

Eugongylus Fitzinger, 1843.

Eugongylus rufescens (Shaw, 1802).

Eulamprus Fitzinger, 1843: Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *Sphenomorphus*.

Eulamprus gastrostictus (Gunther, 1875): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *quoyii*, and referred to the population in Qld. (syntypes British Museum natural History 1946.8.15.34-35).

Eulamprus heatwolei sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 27987. Collected at Macquarie Rivulet just east of Robertson, N.S.W. by R. W. Wells on 20 October, 1982.

Description of Holotype: A large member of the *Eulamprus tympanum* complex readily identified by the following combination of characters: Mid-body scales in 38 rows; ventrals — 81; subcaudals — 73 enlarged; supralabials — 7; infralabials — 8; anal scales — 7 (larger than ventrals); supraoculars — 5; nasals — separated by large fronto-nasal which contacts rostral; prefrontals in point contact; frontal large about $\frac{1}{3}$ longer than broad; a large pair of parietals completely enclose interparietal; a post nasal and pair of loreals (first loreal about equal to postnasal); two preoculars; post-mental contacts two infralabials on each side; supraciliaries — 6; paravertebrals — 79; adpressed limbs just fail to meet; lateral rows between axilla-groin, 81.

Colouration (in alcohol) —

Dorsally: Head brown supraoculars black blotched; scales of nape similarly marked with black, weakly aligned to produce an irregular stripe on either side of head, which terminates just above ears. Body, brown irregularly spotted with black to the base of the tail; tail is uniform brown without spotting.

Laterally: Head brown; infralabials greyish white; posterior supralabials and lower temporal region black just anterior to auricular region; post oculars black; lower lateral greyish white, continuous with infralabials below auricular to forelimb (this whitish region is flecked with black behind the forelimb). Upper lateral of body, a broad black stripe with brown spotting commences just behind auricular, extends to hind limbs where it and a lower whitish region merge to form a greyish white region heavily splotched with black.

Ventrally: Bluish-grey beneath head, then becoming lighter posteriorly, to creamish white on venter (bright yellow in life); subcaudals are creamish with blue-grey on the ventro-lateral margins; limbs are brown heavily flecked with black on the upper surface, creamish lower.

Etymology: Named for Dr Harold Heatwole of the University of New England, Armidale, N.S.W.

Eulamprus kosciuskoi (Kingham, 1932): Herein confined to the Snowy Mountains of south eastern Australia.

Eulamprus leuraensis sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28559. Collected at Leura, N.S.W. in Lat. 33°43'S, Long. 150°20'E, by Tony DeGovrik on 20 November, 1969.

Description of Holotype: A moderate sized member of the *E. kosciuskoi* complex, possessing the following character states: Mid-body scales in 30 rows; paravertebrals — 53; supraoculars

Wells and Wellington

— 4; supralabials — 7; infralabials — 8; nasals separated; frontonasal triangular; prefrontals large and contacting; frontal long and contacting first 3 supraoculars (frontal is $2\frac{1}{2}$ times length of interparietal); frontal and frontoparietals separated by small postfrontal; frontoparietals large and in contact; anals enlarged; sub-digital lamellae divided or deeply grooved, 22 on 4th toe; supraciliaries — 2.

Measurements: SVL: 70.5 mm; VTL: 112.0 mm; axilla-groin — 40.0 mm; head length: 14.9 mm; head width — 9.6 mm.

Colouration (in alcohol) —

Dorsally: Head light to dark brown irregularly spotted with white, tending towards a variegated appearance. On the nape the whitish markings become more regular. Body dark chocolate brown, paravertebral scales possessing white bars which are aligned longitudinally to produce two thin white paravertebral stripes, commencing on the nape and extending to the base of the tail where they break-up into irregular dots. Dorso-lateral scales also possessing white bars which are aligned longitudinally to form a dorso-lateral stripe, which also extends from the nape to the base of the tail. Tail brown with numerous white dots.

Laterally: Head dark brown with supralabials, supraoculars and postoculars heavily spotted with fawn brown, but the edges of the supralabials brown; infralabials white. A white stripe extends from the supralabials below ear to base of forelimb and a broken white line runs from behind the eye, across the top of the auricular forming a series of large dots. Body is very dark brown, heavily marked with white blotching, more so ventro-laterally. Lateral of tail with vertically aligned, alternating brown and white barring.

Ventrally: Off white, blotched with dark brown on entire venter; most intense subcaudally.

Limbs: Upper areas dark brown with small white dots; lower areas white with large brown blotches.

In life the colours are more intense, with the venter being bright golden yellow.

Distribution: Known only from the Blue Mountains, in New South Wales, confined to a relictual, endangered habitat of 'hanging' swamps between Wentworth Falls through the Katoomba area to the Newnes Plateau. It is considered an endangered species — presently known from a total of only five specimens. We recommend urgent investigation of the region to determine its survival status.

Etymology: Named for Leura, the type locality.

Eulamprus tympanum (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913).

Eulamprus quoyii (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839).

Eulepis Fitzinger, 1843: We herein formally resurrect this name from the synonymy of *Leiopisma* for the following Australian species.

Eulepis baudini (Greer, 1982) *nom. nud.* by the actions of Storr, Hanlon, and Harold, 1981.

Eulepis coventryi (Rawlinson, 1975).

Eulepis duperreyi (Gray, 1838): We support the recent resurrection of *duperreyi* from *trilineata* by Greer, (1982).

Eulepis entrecasteauxii (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839): Herein confined to south eastern mainland Australia.

Eulepis greeni (Rawlinson, 1975).

Eulepis guttulatum (Peters, 1881): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *entrecasteauxii*; confined to South Australia.

Eulepis metallica (O'Shaughnessy, 1874).

Eulepis ocellata (Gray, 1845).

Eulepis platynota (Peters, 1881).

Eulepis pretiosa (O'Shaughnessy, 1874).

Eulepis pseudotropis (Gunther, 1875): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *entrecasteauxii*; confined to Tasmania.

Eulepis trilineata (Gray, 1838).

Eulepis zia (Ingram and Ehmann, 1981).

Flamoscincus *gen. nov.*

Type species: *Egernia kintorei* Stirling and Zietz, 1893.

Content: *inornata*, *kintorei*, *slateri*, *striata*, *virgata*.

Diagnosis: The genus *Flamoscincus* is a group of desert-adapted, medium to large skinks

Synopsis of Reptilia

inhabiting central Australia. Distinguished by the following characteristics: head shields regular, unfragmented; nasals usually separated; interparietal about as wide as, or slightly broader than frontal; smooth to strongly callous subdigital lamellae, usually notched or divided basally; body scales smooth to faintly carinate; lacks median series of expanded upper caudals; faint post-narial groove; auricular lobules whitish, 3-6; mid-body scales, 34-53 rows. All species of *Flamoscincus* construct extensive, sometimes multi-chambered or labyrinth burrow structures that are species specific and associated with low desert shrubs; inhabitants of red-sand deserts and alluvial flood plains.

Etymology: The name *Flamoscincus* means 'fiery-red skink'.

Flamoscincus inornatus (Rosen, 1905) (b).

Flamoscincus kintorei (Stirling and Zietz, 1893).

Flamoscincus slateri (Storr, 1968) (b): Herein regarded as confined to the alluvial plains associated with the MacDonald Ra., N.T.

Flamoscincus striata (Sternfeld, 1919).

Flamoscincus virgata (Storr, 1968) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status; *virgata* is believed confined to the Evarard Range, South Australia.

Gavisus **gen. nov.**

Type Species: *Lygosoma (Rhodona) wilkinsi*, Parker, 1926.

Content: *allanae*, *ameles*, *apoda*, *carpentariae*, *cinerea*, *karlschmidtii*, *storri*, *stylis*, *vittata*, *wilkinsi*.

Diagnosis: A genus of elongated fossorial skinks, confined to northern Australia. Distinguished by its lack of forelimbs, styliform, didactyl or total absence of hindlimbs; lower eye either moveable or fixed to form a permanent spectacle; parietals contacting posterior to interparietal; no supranasals; large nasals in broad contact medially; frontoparietals paired, distinct from interparietal or (as in *apoda*) fused to form a single shield; prefrontals small and widely separated or (as in *apoda*) completely absent; enlarged preanals as a single pair; ear opening distinct, but small; supraoculars 2-3; supralabials, 4-6, third or fourth entering orbit.

Etymology: *Gavisus* means to give delight.

Gavisus allanae (Longman, 1937).

Gavisus ameles (Greer, 1979).

Gavisus apoda (Storr, 1976).

Gavisus carpentariae (Greer, 1983) (b).

Gavisus cinerea (Greer, McDonald and Lawrie, 1983).

Gavisus karlschmidtii (Marx and Hosmer, 1959).

Gavisus storri (Greer, McDonald and Lawrie, 1983).

Gavisus stylis (Mitchell, 1955).

Gavisus vittata (Greer, McDonald and Lawrie, 1983).

Gavisus wilkinsi (Parker, 1926).

Glaphyromorphus **gen. nov.**

Type Species: *Lygosoma (Lygosoma) punctulatum* Peters, 1871 (a).

Content: *brongersmai*, *douglasi*, *erro*, *isolepis*, *nigricaudis*, *pardalis*, *pumilus*, *punctulatus*.

Diagnosis: The genus *Glaphyromorphus* is a group of small pentadactyl-limbed skinks associated with damp conditions in coastal northern Australia. They are characterised by the following features; supraoculars 4; prefrontals separated; nasals separated; adpressed limbs either fail to meet or just contact; body scales smooth, highly polished in 25-32 rows at mid-body; supralabials — 6 to 7; lamellae smooth to bluntly keeled; post-mental contacts, one to two infralabials on each side; SVL 50-90 mm; inhabits tropical savannah woodland and monsoon forest communities.

Etymology: *Glaphyromorphus* alludes to the polished appearance of the species in this group.

Glaphyromorphus brongersmai (Storr, 1972) (a).

Glaphyromorphus douglasi (Storr, 1967) (a).

Glaphyromorphus erro (Copland, 1946) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status; considered as referable to the population on the black soil plains of N.W. Queensland and the Barkly Tableland, N.T.

Glaphyromorphus isolepis (Boulenger, 1887) (b).

Glaphyromorphus nigricaudis (Macleay, 1877) (a).

Glaphyromorphus pardalis (Macleay, 1877) (a).

Glaphyromorphus pumilus (Boulenger, 1887) (b).

Glaphyromorphus punctulatus (Peters, 1871) (a).

Gnypetoscincus gen. nov.

Type species: *Tropidophorus queenslandiae* De Vis, 1890.

Diagnosis: *Gnypetoscincus* gen. nov. a monotypic genus confined to north eastern Queensland where it inhabits relict tropical rainforest. Distinguished from all other Australian skinks by having the following combination of characters; pentadactyl limbs; dorsal and lateral scales with a high keel including those of throat and ventrals; the strongly keeled dorsals give the appearance of a granular or tubercular appearance, but the ventrals have only low keels by comparison. The prefrontals are small and divided by a distinctive azygous shield; five supraoculars; the frontal may be complete or divided anteriorly to form 3 shields, the post mental is in contact with 2 infralabials; preanals greatly enlarged; live bearing; reaches 80 mm snout vent length; iris dark. This species lives in deeply shaded rainforest gullies where it shuns direct sunlight being most often found beneath rotting logs. This species rapidly succumbs to sudden changes in temperature indicating a very low preferred body temperature. A colour plate of *Gnypetoscincus queenslandiae* can be found in Swanson (1976) Pl. 38 and in Cogger (1983) Pl. 168.

Etymology: meaning weak skink and alluding to their thermal fragility.

Gnypetoscincus queenslandiae (De Vis, 1890).

Hemiergis Wagler, 1830.

Hemiergis brookeri Storr, 1975 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Hemiergis continentis Copland, 1946 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status; confined to South Australia.

Hemiergis davisii Copland, 1946 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status; regarded by us as being confined to the New England plateau of N.S.W.

Hemiergis decreseiensis (Cuvier, 1829): Herein regarded as confined to Kangaroo Is., South Australia.

Hemiergis initialis (Werner, 1910).

Hemiergis millewae Coventry, 1976.

Hemiergis peronii (Gray, 1831) (b).

Hemiergis talbingoensis Copland, 1946 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status; confined to south eastern N.S.W. and north east Victoria.

Hemisphaeriodon Peters, 1867 (a): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *Tiliqua*.

Hemisphaeriodon gerrardii (Gray, 1845).

Hemisphaeriodon picta (Macleay, 1885): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *gerrardii* — *picta* is confined to north Queensland.

Kommosagogus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Lygosoma labillardieri* Dumeril and Bibron, 1839.

Content: *catenifer*, *delli*, *gemma*, *labillardieri*, *lancelini*, *youngsoni*.

Diagnosis: A genus of moderate-sized skinks with pentadactyl limbs, closely allied to *Ctenotus* and distinguished by the following combination of characters: Parietals contact posterior to interparietal; supraoculars, four with two usually contacting frontal shield; presuboculars three; nasals separated and undivided; prefrontals separated; supralabials 7 to 8; ear lobules 2 to 6; sub-digital lamellae with dark blunt callus; lower eyelid scaly; lacks supranasals; confined to southern Western Australia.

Etymology: The name *kommosagogus* means 'that which stimulates a striking or beating of the breast in lamentation'.

Kommosagogus catenifer (Storr, 1974) (a).

Kommosagogus delli (Storr, 1974) (a).

Kommosagogus gemma (Storr, 1974) (a).

Kommosagogus labillardieri (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839).

Kommosagogus lancelini (Ford, 1969).

Kommosagogus youngsoni (Storr, 1975) (a).

Lampropholis Fitzinger, 1843.

Lampropholis amicula Ingram and Rawlinson, 1981.

Lampropholis caligula Ingram and Rawlinson, 1981.

Lampropholis delicata (De Vis, 1888): Herein restricted to south east Queensland and north eastern N.S.W.

Synopsis of Reptilia

Lampropholis guichenoti (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839): Herein regarded as being restricted to Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

Lectotype: Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, (Paris) 5264.

Definition: *Lampropholis guichenoti* possesses the following character states: Suture between rostral and frontonasal almost as broad as frontal; interparietal small; M/B rows about 30; single frontoparietal; limbs just meet when adpressed; sub-digital lamellae — 26 under fourth toe; preanals moderately enlarged; SVL 38 mm (Condon, 1941).

Lampropholis mirabilis Ingram and Rawlinson, 1981.

Lampropholis lunneyi sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28126. Collected 1.5 km S.W. of Mt. Cambewarra Lookout, N.S.W. in Lat. 34°48'S, Long. 150°34'E by Richard W. Wells and C. Ross Wellington on 14 November, 1982.

Description of Holotype: A large member of the *Lampropholis guichenoti* complex. Mid body scales in 30 rows; paravertebrals 52 (including nuchal); sub digital lamellae on 4th toe 24; supralabials 7; infralabials 6; supraoculars 4; supraciliaries 5; subcaudals 55; palpebrals 19 (surrounding right eye); frontonasal broad excluding nasals from top of the head; prefrontals just fail to meet; frontal in contact with first two supraoculars; frontoparietals fused into a large triangular shield; interparietal small fitting more than three times into frontal; parietals in broad contact behind the interparietal; anals slightly larger than ventrals.

Measurements: SVL 48.6 mm; VTL 46.1 mm (43.9 regenerated); axilla/groin 29.3 mm; head length 8.7 mm (snout to anterior edge of ear); head width 6.4 mm; right forelimb 11.3 mm; right hindlimb 15.3 mm.

Colouration (in alcohol):

Dorsum: Head uniform brown with a few minute black dots in the supraoculars; nape and anterior portion of back (to above forelimbs) similarly brown with a few black flecks; commencing just posterior to the forelimbs is an indistinct vertebral stripe which continues onto the tail (black spots are more profuse from forelimbs to base of tail); some scales have lighter centres which gives a mottled appearance on the tail. The vertebral stripe continues to tip of tail even on regenerated portion.

Laterally: Upper lateral region black forming a broad dorso-lateral stripe commencing on snout and continuing through eye and along the body, stops at regenerated portion; lower margin of black dorso-lateral stripe white forming a thin white mid lateral stripe, commences just behind ear and extends to groin; lower edge of mid lateral stripe irregularly flecked black; regenerated portion of tail fawn laterally; ventrally immaculate, creamish white.

The holotype was taken in a grassy (man-made) clearing in rainforest habitat; numerous specimens were found beneath pieces of rock and debris on soil and dry grass. *Lampropholis lunneyi* is a heliothermic, oviparous insectivore that practices communal egg-laying behaviour.

Etymology: This distinctive and ubiquitous skink is named for Mr Daniel Lunney, N.S.W. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Sydney, in recognition of his research on the ecology of this species.

Published illustrations of *Lampropholis lunneyi* (cited as *L. guichenoti*) can be found in Swanson (1976: pl. 43), Jenkins and Bartell (1980: plate on page 163), Cogger (1983: pl. 153 and pl. 657).

Leiopisma Dumeril and Bibron, 1839: Herein regarded as being confined to Mauritius (Type species *Scincus telfairii*). The presence of pterygoid teeth in *Leiopisma sensu stricto* readily separates it from those species in Australia (and elsewhere) (Arnold 1980), previously included in *Leiopisma*. As we have previously resurrected *Eulepis* Fitzinger, 1843 for part of the Australian element (excluding Norfolk and Lord Howe Island groups, which comprise a new genus), we herein formally propose that the following genera be resurrected to accommodate the remaining species:

Cyclodina Girard, 1857. Type species *Cyclodina aenea* by monotypy.

Distribution: New Zealand and Chatham Island.

Lioscincus Bocage, 1873. Type species *Lioscincus steindachnerii* by monotypy.

Distribution: New Caledonia, Loyalty Islands, New Hebrides and Fiji Islands.

Lerista Bell, 1833.

Lerista fragilis (Gunther, 1876).

Lerista frosti (Zietz, 1920).

Lerista lineata Bell, 1833.

Lerista planiventralis (Lucas and Frost, 1902).

Lerista separanda Storr, 1976 (d).

Lerista terdigitata (Parker, 1926) (b).

Lerista walkeri (Boulenger, 1891).

Lerista xanthura Storr, 1976 (d).

Liburnascincus *gen. nov.*

Type Species: *Leiopisma coense* Mitchell, 1953.

Content: *coensis*, *scirtetis*.

Diagnosis: *Liburnascincus* is characterised by the following: Parietal shields contact posterior to a distinct interparietal; dorsal scales four-sided with a smooth curve to the posterior edge; ear opening round or vertically elliptic, about equal in size to palpebral disk; each dorsal with longitudinal rows of low, rounded tubercles; ear lobules pointed (*scirtetis*) or rounded (*coensis*). This genus of moderate-sized tetradactyl, saxacoline skinks is confined to Cape York Peninsula, Queensland. Closely allied to *Carlia*.

Etymology: *Liburnus* = God of lustful enjoyment, *scincus* = skink.

Liburnascincus coensis (Mitchell, 1953).

Liburnascincus scirtetis (Ingram and Covacevich, 1980).

Liopholis Fitzinger, 1843.

Liopholis bos (Storr, 1960). Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *multiscutata*.

Liopholis compressicauda (Quoy and Gaimard, 1824). Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *whitii*; *compressicauda* is believed confined to the Sydney Basin, N.S.W.

Liopholis coventryi (Storr, 1978) (a).

Liopholis longicauda (Ford, 1963). Herein formally elevated to specific status and confined to Jurien Bay, W.A.

Liopholis luctuosa (Peters, 1866).

Liopholis margaretae (Storr, 1968) (b).

Liopholis modesta (Storr, 1968) (b).

Liopholis multiscutata (Mitchell and Behrndt, 1949).

Liopholis personata (Storr 1968) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Liopholis pulchra (Werner, 1910).

Liopholis whitii (Lacepede, 1804).

Lygosoma Hardwicke and Gray, 1827.

Lygosoma bowringii Gunther, 1864.

Magnuscincus *gen. nov.*

Type Species: *Lygosoma (Hinulia) pantherinum* Peters, 1866.

Content: *acripes*, *calx*, *ocellifer*, *pantherinus*

Diagnosis: The genus *Magnuscincus* is a group of moderate-sized pentadactyl, diurnal, desert-adapted skinks, (closely allied to *Minervascincus* *gen. nov.*) and distributed throughout central and northern Australia. Distinguished by the following characters: Strongly grooved nasals, in contact; scaly movable lower eyelid; parietal scales in contact behind interparietal; prefrontals usually in contact; supraoculars 4; supralabials 7-9; ear lobules 3-7, sub-digital lamellae each have fine sharp brown keel; body pattern consists of black and white ocelli; SVL up to 90 mm.

Etymology: Named for Magnus Peterson of Western Australia in recognition of his contributions to Australian herpetology and entomology.

Magnuscincus acripes (Storr, 1975) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Magnuscincus calx (Storr, 1970) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Magnuscincus ocellifer (Storr, 1969): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Magnuscincus pantherinus (Peters, 1866).

Menetia Gray, 1845.

Menetia alanae Rankin, 1979.

Menetia amaura Storr, 1978 (c).

Menetia greyii Gray, 1845.

Menetia maini Storr, 1976 (c): Herein restricted to the north west of W.A. and northern N.T.

Menetia surda Storr, 1976 (c).

Synopsis of Reptilia

Menetia timlowi Ingram, 1977 (b).

Menetia zynja Ingram, 1977 (b): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *maini*; *zynja* is confined to western Queensland and eastern N.T.

Miculia Gray, 1845.

Miculia christinae (Storr, 1979) (a).

Miculia distinguenda (Werner, 1910).

Miculia elegans Gray, 1845.

Miculia goerlingi (Ahl, 1935): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *muelleri*. *Miculia goerlingi* is confined to Western Australia.

Miculia haroldi (Storr, 1983) (a).

Miculia orientalis (De Vis, 1889).

Miculia muelleri (Fischer, 1881): Herein regarded as confined to Western Australia.

Miculia rhodonoides (Lucas and Frost, 1896): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *muelleri*.

Miculia timida (De Vis, 1888): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *muelleri*.

Minervascincus *gen. nov.*

Type species: *Tiliqua essingtonii* Gray, 1842.

Content: *arcanus*, *arnhemensis*, *australis*, *brachyonyx*, *brevipes*, *burbidgei*, *capricorni*, *essingtoni*, *fallens*, *grandis*, *hanloni*, *helenae*, *hilli*, *inornatus*, *josephineae* *sp. nov.* *robustus*, *rubicundus*, *saxatilis*, *severus*, *spaldingi*, *sutherlandi* *nom. nov.*, *titan*, *vertebralis*

Diagnosis: The genus *Minervascincus* is a large group of pentadactyl-limbed skinks distinguished by the following combination of characters: Nasals usually separated (occasionally contacting); supraoculars, 3 to 4; supralabials, 7-10; ear lobules, 2 to 8; sub-digital lamellae with a moderately wide pale or dark callus, but rarely as a blunt keel; prefrontals usually in contact; nuchals, 2 to 4; distributed throughout inland Australia (and one species on coastal Papua). Closely allied to *Tantaloscincus* *gen. nov.*

Etymology: *Minerva* = Goddess of wisdom; *scincus* = skink.

Minervascincus arcanus (Czechura and Wombey, 1982).

Minervascincus arnhemensis (Storr, 1981) (c).

Minervascincus australis (Gray, 1838).

Minervascincus brachyonyx (Storr, 1971) (b).

Minervascincus brevipes (Storr, 1981) (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Minervascincus burbridgei (Storr, 1975) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Minervascincus capricorni (Storr, 1981) (c).

Minervascincus essingtoni (Gray, 1842) (b).

Minervascincus fallens (Storr, 1974) (a).

Minervascincus grandis (Storr, 1969).

Minervascincus hanloni (Storr, 1980) (c).

Minervascincus helenae (Storr, 1969).

Minervascincus hilli (Storr, 1970) (a).

Minervascincus inornatus (Gray, 1845).

Minervascincus josephineae *sp. nov.*

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 25418, collected by Richard W. Wells at Awaba, N.S.W. on 23 September, 1982.

Description of Holotype: A medium sized member of the *C. robustus* complex, closely allied to *M. arcanus* of S.E. Qld. *M. josephineae* possesses the following character states. Mid body scale rows — 28; paravertebral rows — 56; subdigital lamellae on 4th toe — 21; infralabials — 6; supralabials — 7; supraoculars — 4; supraciliaries — 8; frontonasal contacts rostral (separating nasals); frontal in contact with first 3 supraoculars; frontal twice as long as interparietal, interparietal and frontoparietal subequal in length, parietals in contact behind the interparietal; 2 pairs of temporals; post mental in contact with first 2 infralabials; paravertebral scales enlarged; anals enlarged.

Measurements: SVL (mm) 97.6; VTL (mm) 164 partly regenerated; axilla-groin 55.3 mm; head length (snout to anterior edge of ear) 16.3 mm; forelimb length 23.8 mm; hind limb length 39.5 mm.

Colouration (In preservative): Head and body brown dorsally, with very dark brown to black vertebral stripe extending from parietals to the anterior 1/3 of tail where it gradually

dissipates to a uniform brown for the remainder of the tail. The vertebral stripe is edged with gold along the body, but less distinctly so on the tail. Vertebral less than the width of paravertebral scale; dorso-laterally there is a narrow white line extending along the body and along the original part of the tail (not on regenerated portion) bordered by an irregular black row of scales (ca. twice as wide as the white line) on the dorsum; there is a small amount of irregular and indistinct black spotting about the nape. Upper lateral of head and body dark brown to black with a single row of irregularly sized white blotches along the body just posterior to the hind limb. White, narrow sub-ocular line. A whitish mid-lateral stripe extends from the auricular region, along the body and along the tail (on original portion, but not on regenerated portion) and is generally suffused with dark brown flecks; the mid-lateral stripe is irregularly bordered underneath by dark brown but this basal bordering is much less distinct on the tail. Ventrolaterally, dirty white; ventrally immaculate; limbs light brown, with dark brown striping.

Cogger (1983 pl. 611) gives a black and white photograph of a mature specimen from Sandy Hollow (as *Ctenotus robustus*).

Jenkins and Bartell (1980, page 132) has a colour photograph of a specimen from Coppins Crossing, A.C.T. (as *C. robustus*).

Swanson (1976 pl. 41) has a colour photograph (as *C. lesueurii*).

Etymology: Named for Josephine Wellington.

Minervascincus lateralis (Storr, 1978) (d).

Minervascincus mastigura (Storr, 1975) (a).

Minervascincus monticola (Storr, 1981) (c).

Minervascincus robustus (Storr, 1970) (a).

Minervascincus rubicundus (Storr, 1978) (d).

Minervascincus saxatilis (Storr, 1970) (a).

Minervascincus severus (Storr, 1969).

Minervascincus spaldingi (Macleay, 1877) (a): We herein remove *Lygosoma dorsale* Boulenger (1887) from the synonymy of *spaldingi* and propose that *Minervascincus dorsalis* is a valid taxon confined to coastal Papua.

Minervascincus sutherlandi nom. nov. pro *Lygosoma lesueurii concolor* Glauert, 1952. Named for Dr Straun Sutherland of the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, Melbourne.

Minervascincus titan (Storr, 1980) (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Minervascincus vertebralis (Rankin and Gillam, 1979).

Morethia Gray, 1845.

Morethia adelaidensis Peters, 1874.

Morethia boulengeri (Ogilby, 1890) (a).

Morethia butleri Storr, 1963 (a).

Morethia lineocellata (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839).

Morethia obscura Storr, 1972 (b).

Nodorha Mittleman, 1952: We herein formally resurrect *Nodorha* from the synonymy of *Lerista*.

Nodorha arenicola (Storr, 1971) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Nodorha bougainvillii (Gray, 1839).

Nodorha cassandrae sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28340. Collected by Richard W. Wells and Glenn Shea at Denman, N.S.W. on 14 August, 1982.

Description of Holotype: A small member of the *Lerista bougainvillii* complex. Mid-body scales in 21 rows; paravertebrals 72; supraoculars 3 (first two in contact with frontal); supraciliaries 5; supralabials — 7; infralabials 6; subdigital lamellae on 4th toe — 16; presuboculars — 1; loreals 2; postoculars 2; pretemporals — 2; primary temporal; preoculars — 3 (enlarged); postsuboculars 1; nasals not in contact, separated by small internasal (though this is variable, as some specimens have been found that have the nasals in point contact, completely lacking the internasal); frontonasal and frontal in broad contact; prefrontals widely separated; interparietal less than half size of frontal; parietals large and in broad contact behind the interparietal; ear small, punctiform; nasal large, upwardly projected. Five digits on manus and pes. SVL (mm): 37.2; VTL (mm) 45.2; axilla-groin: 23.2 (mm) snout to forelimb (mm): 12.3; head length (snout to anterior of the ear) 6.2 (mm); head width: 3.7 (mm); right forelimb length: 5.4 (mm); right hind limb length: 10.5 (mm).

Synopsis of Reptilia

Colouration (in alcohol): Dorsum: head and body silver grey with some of the dorsals having a small black striation, aligned longitudinally giving the appearance of a faint (black) broken line most distinct on the paravertebrals. Tail golden brown speckled with irregular sized black and brown spotting (the tail was reddish in life). Lateral: Upper lateral region has a black stripe from snout, through eye and onto the anterior part of the tail where it becomes less distinct, gradually dissipating to black spotting like the dorsal of the tail. The black upper lateral zone is edged distinctly by a narrow white line, which begins above the eye to the hindlimb along the upper edge, and from the ear to the hind-limb along the lower edge. Labials marked alternately with black striae; chin shields white with black spots; gular region immaculate; venter white profusely black spotted; subcaudals creamish, without spotting.

Nodorha cassandrae is only known from New South Wales, where it occurs in rocky ranges; it is particularly common in the lower sandstone hills of Wollemi National Park, near Sydney.

Etymology: Named for Miss Cassandra Wellington.

Nodorha garymartini nom. nov. pro *Lygosoma laterale* Gunther, 1867. *Nodorha garymartini* is a member of the *N. bougainvillii* complex, and confined to South Australia. Named for Detective Gary Martin of the New South Wales Police Force in recognition of his services to the community.

Nodorha microtis (Gray, 1845).

Notoscincus Fuhn, 1969.

Notoscincus butleri Storr, 1979 (a).

Notoscincus ornatus (Broom, 1896).

Notoscincus wotjulum (Glauert, 1959) (a): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *ornatus*.

Patheticoscincus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Lygosoma australis* Gray, 1839.

Content: *arnemicus*, *australis*, *crassicaudus*, *darwiniensis*.

Diagnosis: A group of small elongated cryptozoic, semi-fossorial skinks with relatively small limbs which is most closely related to *Sphenomorphus* Fitzinger (1843) sensu stricto. Characterized by possessing the following: pentadactyl limbs, which do not meet when adpressed (separated by more than the length of a forelimb); nasals separated; prefrontals separated; 4 supraoculars; small ear opening but at least as large as nostril; lacks supra nasals; 4th toe markedly longer than 3rd; more than 65 paravertebrals; mid body scales 19-22 rows; snout vent length up to 80 mm.

Etymology: *Pathetikos* = sensuous; *scincus* = skink.

Patheticoscincus arnemicus (Storr, 1967) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Patheticoscincus australis (Gray, 1839).

Patheticoscincus crassicaudus (Dumeril and Bibron, 1851).

Patheticoscincus darwiniensis (Storr, 1967) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Proablepharus Fuhn, 1969.

Proablepharus broomensis (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *tenuis*; confined to NW Australia.

Proablepharus davisii (Copland, 1952): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *tenuis*.

Proablepharus kinghorni (Copland, 1947).

Proablepharus reginae (Glauert, 1960).

Proablepharus tenuis (Broom, 1896).

Protervascincus gen. nov.

Type Species: *Ablepharus burnetti* Oudemans, 1894.

Content: *burnetti*, *sydneyensis*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small litter dwelling skinks with tetradactyl forelimbs confined to mid eastern Australia that are readily distinguished by the following characters; prefrontals separated ear opening circular to horizontally elliptical; auricular much smaller than palpebral disc; pointed lobules in *burnetti*, flat lobules in *sydneyensis*; dorsal scales four sided with a free edge that is rounded; body scales smooth or faintly striated with 20-26 mid-body scale rows; scales have an iridescent metallic sheen; reaches 30 mm snout vent length.

Etymology: *Protervus* = bold; *scincus* = skink.

Protervascincus burnetti (Oudemans, 1894).

Protervascincus sydneyensis (Copland, 1949): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

- Pseudemoia* Fuhn, 1967.
Pseudemoia palfreymani Rawlinson, 1974.
Pseudemoia spenceri (Lucas and Frost, 1894).
Rhodona Gray, 1839.
Rhodona baynesi (Storr, 1971) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Rhodona bipes Fischer, 1882.
Rhodona borealis (Storr, 1971) (a).
Rhodona concolor (Werner, 1910): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *lineopunctulata*.
Rhodona decora (Storr, 1978) (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Rhodona desertorum (Sternfeld, 1919).
Rhodona edwardsae (Storr, 1982) (d).
Rhodona gerrardii Gray, 1864.
Rhodona greeri (Storr, 1982) (d).
Rhodona griffini (Storr, 1982) (d).
Rhodona humphriesi (Storr, 1971) (a).
Rhodona ips (Storr, 1980) (d).
Rhodona kalumburu (Storr, 1976) (d).
Rhodona labialis (Storr, 1971) (a).
Rhodona lineopunctulata (Dumeril and Bibron, 1839).
Rhodona macropisthopus (Werner, 1903).
Rhodona neander (Storr, 1971) (a).
Rhodona nigriceps (Glauert, 1962): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *Rhodona lineopunctulata*.
Rhodona officeri McCoy, 1881: Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *Rhodona punctatovittata*.
Rhodona picturata (Fry, 1914).
Rhodona praepedita (Boulenger, 1887) (b).
Rhodona punctatovittata Gunther, 1867.
Rhodona vermicularis (Storr, 1982) (d).
Saiphos Gray, 1831 (b).
Saiphos equalis (Gray, 1825).
Saproscincus *gen. nov.*
Type Species: *Mococa mustelina* O'Shaughnessy, 1874.
Content: *basiliscus*, *challengeri*, *czechurai*, *lacrymans*, *mustelina*, *sonderi*, *spectabilis* and *tetradactyla*.
Diagnosis: *Saproscincus* is a genus of small semi-cryptozoic skinks inhabiting relictual rainforest and montane habitats along east coastal Australia. Separated from *Lampropholis* with which they have been included in the past, by the possession of the following characters: fronto-parietals separated; fingers 4 or 5; hind limb pentadactyl; transparent palpebral disk in lower eyelid reduced; nasals separated at least anteriorly; mid-body scales smooth in 21-28 mid-body rows; SVL — 30 to 50 mm.
Etymology: *Sapro* = rotten, *scincus* = skink.
Saproscincus basiliscus (Ingram and Rawlinson, 1981).
Saproscincus challengeri (Boulenger, 1887) (b): Herein restricted to north-east Queensland.
Saproscincus czechurai (Ingram and Rawlinson, 1981).
Saproscincus lacrymans (Peters and Doria, 1878): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *mustelina*; *S. lacrymans* is confined to montane habitats in New South Wales.
Saproscincus mustelina (O'Shaughnessy, 1874). Confined to coastal New South Wales.
Saproscincus sonderi (Peters, 1878): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *mustelina*; *S. sonderi* occurs in Victoria.
Saproscincus spectabilis (De Vis, 1888): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *challengeri*; *S. spectabilis* is distributed from S.E. Qld to Sydney, New South Wales.
Saproscincus tetradactyla (Greer and Kluge, 1980).
Silubosaurus Gray, 1845.
Silubosaurus aethiops (Storr, 1978) (a).
Silubosaurus badius (Storr, 1978) (a).
Silubosaurus depressus Gunther, 1875.

Synopsis of Reptilia

Silubosaurus hosmeri (Kinghorn, 1955).

Silubosaurus stokesii Gray, 1845.

Silubosaurus zellingi De Vis, 1884 (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *S. stokesii* and confined to eastern Australia (inland).

Solvonemesis **gen. nov.**

Type Species: *Ablepharus* (*Morethia*) *taeniopleura* Peters, 1874.

Content: *exquisitus*, *ruficaudus*, *storri*, *taeniopleurus*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small (SVL usually about 35 mm) highly active skinks with depressed body form and pentadactyl limbs, and confined to central and northern Australia. Distinguished by the following combination of characters: Body scalation smooth; large prefrontals in contact or narrowly separated; prefrontals much smaller than frontal; lower eyelid fused above to form immovable spectacle and without palpebral slit; eye surrounded by uniformly small granules; each supranasal fused at least anteriorly to nasal; supraciliaries, 5; no distinct anterior lobules.

Etymology: *Solvonemesis* means 'To set free the goddess of retributive justice'.

Solvonemesis exquisitus (Storr, 1972) (b): Herein formally removed from the synonymy of *ruficaudus*.

Solvonemesis ruficaudus (Lucas and Frost, 1895).

Solvonemesis storri (Greer, 1980).

Solvonemesis taeniopleurus (Peters, 1874).

Sphenomorphus Fitzinger, 1843: Herein restricted to Papua New Guinea.

Tantaloscincus **gen. nov.**

Type Species: *Lygosoma schomburgkii* Peters, 1863.

Content: *alleni*, *allotropis*, *aranda*, *biggsi* **nom. nov.**, *brooksi*, *euclae*, *fischeri*, *greeri*, *hebetior*, *iridis*, *joanae*, *johnstoni*, *leonhardi*, *militaris*, *mimetes*, *orientalis*, *pallascens*, *pulchellus*, *regius*, *rutilans*, *schevilli*, *schomburgkii*, *schuettleri*, *serventyi*, *strauchii*, *taeniata*, *tanamiensis*, *tantillus*, *uber*, *varius*

Diagnosis: A genus of moderate sized, highly active terrestrial diurnal skinks, closely allied to *Minervascincus* and distributed throughout Australia's arid interior. Distinguished by the following combination of characters: Nasals separated or contacting; nasals undivided; lower eyelid scaly; parietals contacting behind interparietal; prefrontals in contact or narrowly separated; supraoculars 4 to 5, the second usually not narrower than the third and usually three contacting the frontal; smooth mid-body scales in 24 to 40 rows; supralabials 7 to 9; ear lobules 1 to 7 and conspicuous; sub-digital lamellae — each with a narrow to wide brown callus or fine dark mucronate keel — 16 to 34 beneath fourth toe; plantar scales opposite fourth toe uniformly granular or enlarged and keeled; one or two presuboculars; vertebral scale row pairs may or may not be noticeably wider than adjacent paravertebral scale rows; toes moderately to slightly compressed.

Etymology: *Tantalos* = A mythological character symbolic of eternal torment; *scincus* = skink.

Tantaloscincus alleni (Storr, 1974) (a).

Tantaloscincus allotropis (Storr, 1981) (c).

Tantaloscincus aranda (Storr, 1970) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tantaloscincus biggsi **nom. nov. pro** *Lygosoma* (*Hinulia*) *taeniolum maculatum* Rosen, 1905. Named for Christine Biggs of London.

Tantaloscincus brooksi (Loveridge, 1933) (b).

Tantaloscincus euclae (Storr, 1971) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tantaloscincus fischeri (Boulenger, 1887) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *schomburgkii*, for the west coast population.

Tantaloscincus greeri (Storr, 1979) (b).

Tantaloscincus hebetior (Storr, 1978) (d).

Tantaloscincus iridis (Storr, 1981) (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tantaloscincus joanae (Storr, 1970) (a).

Tantaloscincus johnstonei (Storr, 1980) (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tantaloscincus leonhardi (Sternfeld, 1919).

Tantaloscincus militaris (Storr, 1975) (a).

Tantaloscincus mimetes (Storr, 1969).

Tantaloscincus orientalis (Storr, 1971) (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Tantaloscincus pallascens (Storr, 1970) (a).

Wells and Wellington

- Tantaloscincus pulchellus* (Storr, 1978) (d).
Tantaloscincus regius (Storr, 1971) (b).
Tantaloscincus rutilans (Storr, 1980) (c).
Tantaloscincus schevilli (Loveridge, 1933) (b).
Tantaloscincus schomburgkii (Peters, 1863) (a).
Tantaloscincus schuettleri (Borner, 1981): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Tantaloscincus serventyi (Storr, 1975) (a).
Tantaloscincus strauchii (Boulenger, 1887) (b).
Tantaloscincus taeniata (Mitchell, 1949): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *T. brooksi* for the population in the Andamooka Ranges, South Australia.
Tantaloscincus tanamiensis (Storr, 1970) (a).
Tantaloscincus tantillus (Storr, 1975) (a).
Tantaloscincus uber (Storr, 1969).
Tantaloscincus varius (Storr, 1981) (c): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Telchinoscincus **gen. nov.**
Type Species: *Rhodona nichollsi* Loveridge, 1933.
Content: *connivens*, *nichollsi*, *petersoni*.
Diagnosis: A genus of diminutive, elongate, fossorial skinks confined to the mid-west coast of Western Australia. Distinguished by their — lack of forelimbs; didactyl hindlimbs; interparietal fused with frontoparietals to form a single shield; nasals contacting; prefrontals small, widely separated and often fused to second loreal; lower eyelid moveable or fixed to form a spectacle; three supraoculars; six supralabials.
Etymology: *Telchinoscincus* means 'mischievous skink'.
Telchinoscincus connivens (Storr, 1971) (a).
Telchinoscincus nichollsi (Loveridge, 1933) (b).
Telchinoscincus petersoni (Storr, 1976) (d).
Tiliqua Gray, 1825.
Tiliqua adelaidensis (Peters, 1863) (a).
Tiliqua auriculare Kinghorn, 1931 (a): Herein resurrected from the synonymy *T. multifasciata* and elevated to specific status, for the Kimberley population.
Tiliqua intermedia Mitchell, 1955: Herein elevated to specific status.
Tiliqua multifasciata Sternfeld, 1919.
Tiliqua nigrolutea (Quoy and Gaimard, 1824).
Tiliqua nossiteri Glaupert, 1923: Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *T. multifasciata* and elevated to specific status.
Tiliqua occipitalis (Peters, 1863) (a).
Tiliqua scincoides (White, 1790).
Trachydosaurus Gray, 1825.
Trachydosaurus asper Gray, 1845: Herein removed from the synonymy of *T. rugosus* for the east Australian population.
Trachydosaurus konowi Mertens, 1958 (a): Herein elevated to specific status.
Trachydosaurus rugosus Gray, 1825.
Vaderscincus **gen. nov.**
Type species: *Mococa lichenigera* (O'Shaughnessy, 1874).
Content: *lichenigera*.
Diagnosis: A genus of pentadactyl skinks of moderate size, closely allied to *Eulepis* of Australia, and *Lioscincus* of New Caledonia. Body scales smooth in 36-46 rows (at mid-body); seven supraciliaries; frontoparietals paired; palpebral disk present but smaller than eye; sub-digital lamellae, smooth — 15-20 on 4th toe; adpressed limbs fail to meet. Maximum SVL: 80 mm.
Etymology: Named for Mr Darth Vader.
Vaderscincus lichenigera (O'Shaughnessy, 1874).

TYPHLOPIDAE

- Libertadictus* **gen. nov.**
Type Species: *Onychocephalus bituberculatus* Peters, 1863 (a).

Synopsis of Reptilia

Content: *bituberculatus*.

Diagnosis: A monotypic genus of subterranean snakes of central and southern Australia, closely allied to *Ramphotyphlops*. Distinguished by the following combination of characters: Snout trilobed dorsally, angular in profile; nasal not divided by nasal cleft; nasal cleft not visible from above; rostral shield-shaped from dorsal aspect; mid-body scales in 20 rows; body diameter 40-90 times in its length; maximum length about 170 mm (SVL).

Etymology: *Libertadictus* = devoted to freedom.

Libertadictus bituberculatus (Peters, 1863) (a).

Ramphotyphlops Fitzinger, 1843. We consider this genus polyphyletic.

Ramphotyphlops affinis (Boulenger, 1889) (b).

Ramphotyphlops ammodytes (Montague, 1914): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *R. diversus*; confined to the Monte Bello Islands.

Ramphotyphlops australis (Gray, 1845).

Ramphotyphlops batillus (Waite, 1894).

Ramphotyphlops braminus (Daudin, 1803) (b).

Ramphotyphlops broomi (Boulenger, 1898) (c).

Ramphotyphlops diversus (Waite, 1894).

Ramphotyphlops endoterus (Waite, 1918).

Ramphotyphlops exocoeti (Boulenger, 1887) (a).

Ramphotyphlops grypus (Waite, 1918).

Ramphotyphlops guentheri (Peters, 1865).

Ramphotyphlops hamatus Storr, 1981 (d).

Ramphotyphlops howi Storr, 1983 (b).

Ramphotyphlops kimberleyensis Storr, 1981 (d).

Ramphotyphlops leptosoma Robb, 1972.

Ramphotyphlops leucoproctus (Boulenger, 1889) (b).

Ramphotyphlops ligatus (Peters, 1879).

Ramphotyphlops margaretae Storr, 1981 (d).

Ramphotyphlops micromma Storr, 1981 (d).

Ramphotyphlops minimus (Kingham, 1929).

Ramphotyphlops nigrescens (Gray, 1845).

Ramphotyphlops nigricauda (Boulenger, 1895): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *R. guentheri*; confined to the northern sector of the Northern Territory.

Ramphotyphlops pinguis (Waite, 1897).

Ramphotyphlops proximus (Waite, 1893).

Ramphotyphlops reginae (Boulenger, 1889) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *R. nigrescens*; confined to Queensland.

Ramphotyphlops torresianus (Boulenger, 1889) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *R. polygrammicus*.

Ramphotyphlops toveli (Loveridge, 1945).

Ramphotyphlops troglodytes Storr, 1981 (d).

Ramphotyphlops unguistrois (Peters, 1867) (b).

Ramphotyphlops waitii (Boulenger, 1895).

Ramphotyphlops wiedii (Peters, 1867) (a).

Ramphotyphlops yampiensis Storr, 1981 (d).

Ramphotyphlops yirrikalae (Kingham, 1942).

BOIDAE

Antaresia gen. nov.

Type species: *Nardoa gilbertii* Gray, 1842.

Content: *childreni*, *gilbertii*, *maculosus*, *perthensis*.

Diagnosis: A genus of small pythons distributed throughout the arid and tropical regions of Australia, and distinguished by the following combination of characters: Premaxilla toothed; head shields large and symmetrical; two or more loreals; parietal shields undivided; mid-body scales, 31 to 49 rows; ventrals 205-300; anal scale entire; subcaudals 30 to 45. Up to 1.2 m maximum size SVL.

Etymology: Named for Antares, the yellow giant star in the 'tail' of the Constellation of Scorpius.

Antaresia childreni (Gray, 1842) (a).

Antaresia gilbertii (Gray, 1842) (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *childreni*. *A. gilbertii* is confined to the Torresian zoogeographical sub-region of the Northern Territory.

Antaresia maculosus (Peters, 1873) (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *childreni*. *A. maculosus* is from north-east Queensland.

Antaresia perthensis (Stull, 1932).

Aspidites Peters, 1876 (b).

Aspidites melanocephalis Krefft, 1864 (a).

Aspidites collaris Longman, 1913: Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *A. ramsayi*. Restricted to south-eastern Queensland.

Aspidites ramsayi (Macleay, 1882).

Australiasis *gen. nov.*

Type species: *Boa amethystina* Schneider, 1801.

Diagnosis: Premaxilla toothed; two or more loreals or fragmented into smaller scales; parietals divided into smaller shields; two pairs of prefrontals; anterior supralabials deeply pitted; M/B scales smooth in 35-70 rows; Ventrals: 270 to 445; Anal — entire; sub-caudals — 80 to 163 mostly divided; tail prehensile; large head distinct from neck, with an extremely elongate body-form; usual maximum total length, 5.0 m.

Distribution: North Australia and the eastern region of the Indo-Australian Archipelago, including Papua New Guinea.

Content: *amethystinus*, *kinghorni*, *oenpelliensis*, *timoriensis*.

Australiasis amethystinus (Schneider, 1801): Herein regarded as restricted to Papua New Guinea and Torres Strait, Queensland.

Australiasis kinghorni (Stull, 1933): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *A. amethystinus*; confined to N.E. Queensland.

Australiasis oenpelliensis (Gow, 1977).

Lisalia Gray 1849. We herein formally elevate *Lisalia* of Gray, 1849 from sub-generic to generic rank and include within *Lisalia*: *albertisi*, *fuscus*, *olivaceus*, *barroni*.

Type species: *Liasis olivacea* Gray, 1842 (a).

Lisalia albertisi (Peters and Doria, 1878).

Lisalia barroni (Smith, 1981): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Lisalia fuscus (Peters, 1873) (a).

Lisalia olivaceus (Gray, 1842) (a).

Morelia Gray, 1842 (a): We herein formally synonymise *Chondropython* Meyer, 1874 with *Morelia*.

Morelia bredli (Gow, 1981) (b).

Morelia carinata (Smith, 1981).

Morelia cheynei *sp. nov.*

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28562. Collected by Martin Wott, at Ravenshoe, on the Atherton Tableland, north Queensland, in Lat. 17°36'S, Long. 145°29'E.

Description of Holotype: A small member of the *Morelia spilota* complex distinguished by the following characters: Mid-body scales 49 rows; ventrals — 271; anal — entire; sub-caudals 82 divided; supralabials — 10, the 5th, 6th and 7th sub-orbital; infralabials — 15, the 9th to 13th pitted; supraoculars — 7; head scales fragmentary and irregular; scales around eye — 9 left, 11 right.

Measurements: SVL (mm): 1037; VTL (mm): 170; head length 38.5 mm (snout to posterior margin of occiput); head width = 24.6 mm; interorbital distance — 14.1 mm; nostril to eye 10.1 mm.

Colouration (in formalin): Overall body colour whitish fawn with large black, irregular blotches laterally which are transversely aligned. The anterior of the body has a narrow black vertebral stripe extending from the nape along the first quarter of the body, where it dissipates upon contact with lateral blotches.

A narrow black mid-lateral stripe also extends from the back of head for a slightly shorter distance than the vertebral, where it fragments forming the lateral blotches. The dorsal of the head is marked with regular black markings that end to form an arrow-head pattern.

Ventrally: Creamish white with only a few scattered blotches.

Distribution: Confined to sub-tropical rainforests on the Atherton Tablelands, north

Synopsis of Reptilia

Queensland. Considered under threat of extinction through widespread destruction of the rainforest habitat.

Illustrations of *Morelia cheynei* can be found in Worrell, (1963 pl. 36) and Banks, (1980: page 24).

Etymology: Named for Cheyne Wellington.

Morelia imbricata (Smith, 1981): Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Morelia mcdowellii sp. nov.

Holotype: Australian Museum Field Series No. 28458. Collected at Terania Creek, N.S.W. by R. W. Wells and Glenn Shea, on 23 December, 1982.

Description of Holotype: A large member of the *Morelia spilota* complex distinguished by the following characters: Mid-body scales in 51 rows; anal body rows 32; neck rows 53; ventrals: 281; sub-caudals — 80 divided; anal — single; supralabials — 14, first 3 pitted; infralabials — 21 (No's 9 to 15 are deeply pitted); rostril triangular and deeply pitted; two enlarged internasals with another two slightly smaller scales immediately posterior; mental triangular; scales around eye — 13 right, 12 left; head shields fragmented and irregular.

Measurements: SVL: 1580 mm; VTL 290 mm; head length: 66.5 mm; head width: 38.0 mm; eye to eye: 23 mm; eye to snout: 21.4.

Colouration (alcohol): Dorsally, head and body brown with irregular black markings on nape, along body and tail. The black blotches are pale centred and tend towards transverse alignment; some fuse together to form 'S' shaped blotches. Posteriorly these transverse markings become divided into two irregularly shaped dorsal blotches. The lateral area of the head is brownish with the supralabials whitish, edged with black on the anterior margins of the labials. A white, black-edged lateral stripe extends from the jaw-line, along the anterior third of the body, where it fragments into light black-edged blotches (which may fuse with the lateral extensions of the vertebral blotches).

Ventrally, whitish-cream, some ventrals with blue black anterior margins, particularly posteriorly.

Distribution: North coastal New South Wales through coastal Queensland to Cape York Peninsula.

Etymology: Named for Dr Samuel B. McDowell.

Morelia spilota (Lacepede, 1804): Herein regarded as being confined to eastern N.S.W. and far N.E. Victoria.

Morelia variegata Gray, 1842 (a): Herein regarded as being confined to the northern sector of the Northern Territory. Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Morelia viridis (Schlegel, 1872). We only tentatively place this form in *viridis*.

ACROCHORDIDAE

Acrochordus Hornstedt, 1787.

Acrochordus arafurae McDowell, 1979.

Chersydrus Cuvier, 1817.

Chersydrus granulatus (Schneider, 1799).

COLUBRIDAE

Boiga Fitzinger, 1826.

Boiga boydii (Macleay, 1884) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *fusca*; *Boiga boydii* is confined to eastern Australia, coastally from Cairns, Qld to Sydney, N.S.W.

Boiga fusca (Gray, 1842) (b): Herein removed from the synonymy of *B. irregularis*; *B. fusca* occurs from N.W. Western Australia across the northern sector of the N.T., through N. Qld.

Cerberus Cuvier, 1829.

Cerberus australis (Gray, 1842) (c).

Dendrelaphis Boulenger, 1890.

Dendrelaphis calligastra (Gunther, 1867).

Dendrelaphis punctulatus (Gray, 1826).

Dendrelaphis prasinus (Girard, 1858): Herein formally removed from the synonymy of *D. punctulatus*; confined to eastern Australia (mid coastal Queensland to Sydney, N.S.W.).

Wells and Wellington

- Fordonia* Gray, 1842 (c).
Fordonia leucobalia (Schlegel, 1837).
Myron Gray, 1849.
Myron richardsonii Gray, 1849.
Pseudoferania Ogilby, 1890 (d): We herein formally resurrect *Pseudoferania* from *Enhydis*.
Pseudoferania macleayi Ogilby, 1890 (d): Herein removed from the synonymy of *P. polylepis*; confined to Cape York, Queensland.
Pseudoferania polylepis (Fischer, 1886): Herein regarded as confined to the northern sector of the N.T. and south coastal P.N.G.
Stegonotus Dumeril, Bibron and Dumeril, 1854 (a).
Stegonotus cucullatus Dumeril, Bibron and Dumeril 1854 (a) (Northern Territory and New Guinea).
Stegonotus plumbeus (Macleay, 1884) (a): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *S. cucullatus*; confined to Cape York, Qld.
Stegonotus parvus (Meyer 1874).
Styporhynchus Peters, 1863 (b).
Styporhynchus mairii (Gray, 1841) (a).
Styporhynchus angusticeps (Macleay, 1884) (a): Herein confined to eastern Australia; formally resurrected from the synonymy of *mairii*.

ELAPIDAE

- Acanthophis* Daudin, 1803 (a).
Acanthophis antarcticus (Shaw and Nodder, 1802).
Acanthophis praelongus Ramsay 1877: We herein remove *Acanthophis antarcticus rugosus* of Loveridge (1948) from the synonymy of *A. praelongus* and propose that *Acanthophis rugosus* is a valid species from Irian Jaya.
Acanthophis pyrrhus Boulenger 1898 (b).
Austrelaps Worrell, 1963 (a).
Austrelaps superbus (Gunther, 1858): Herein we restrict *A. superbus* to Tasmania.
Austrelaps labialis (Jan, 1859): We herein resurrect *Alecto labialis* from the synonymy of *A. superbus* and restrict *Austrelaps labialis* to South Australia.
Austrelaps ramsayi (Krefft, 1864) (b): We herein resurrect *Hoplocephalus ramsayi* from the synonymy of *A. superbus* and restrict *Austrelaps ramsayi* to the highlands of southern N.S.W.
Brachyuropsis Gunther, 1863 (a): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *Simoselaps*.
Brachyuropsis australis (Krefft, 1864) (b).
Brachyuropsis campbelli (Kinghorn, 1929): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *semifasciata*; *campbelli* is believed confined to Queensland.
Brachyuropsis incinctus (Storr, 1968) (a).
Brachyuropsis roperi (Kinghorn, 1931) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *semifasciata*; *roperi* is believed confined to the Northern Territory.
Brachyuropsis semifasciata Gunther, 1863 (a).
Brachyuropsis woodjonesii (Thomson, 1934): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *semifasciata*; *woodjonesii* is believed confined to Cape York, Queensland.
Brachyuropsis warro (De Vis, 1884) (d).
Cacophis Gunther, 1863 (b).
Cacophis harriettae Krefft, 1869.
Cacophis krefftii Gunther 1863 (b).
Cacophis squamulosus (Dumeril, Bibron and Dumeril, 1854) (b).
Cannia gen. nov.
Type Species: *Naja australis* Gray, 1842 (b).
Content: *australis*, *brunnea*, *colletti*, *cuprea*, *denisonioides*, *papuanis*.
Diagnosis: A genus of large, bulky and highly venomous elapids that can be readily distinguished by the following combination of characters; fangs followed by 3-5 slightly recurved teeth on the maxilla; rostral broader than deep; frontal about as broad as the supraocular and 2 times as long as broad; internasals $\frac{1}{2}$ as long as prefrontals; mid body 17-19 rows; ventrals 185-235; anal divided; sub caudals 50-75, (anteriorly single — posteriorly divided); oviparous; completely flattens the body when agitated; reaches a maximum length

Synopsis of Reptilia

- of over 2 m and are distributed throughout most of mainland Australia except the south east, Nullarbor Plain and south west.
- Etymology:** Named for John and George Cann of La Perouse, New South Wales.
- Cannia australis* (Gray, 1842) (b): Herein confined to the northern sector of the Northern Territory.
- Cannia brunnea* (Mitchell, 1951): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *australis* and considered as confined to South Australia.
- Cannia colletti* (Boulenger, 1902).
- Cannia cuprea* (Boulenger, 1896) (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *australis* and considered confined to western New South Wales and N.W. Victoria.
- Cannia denisonioides* (Werner, 1909): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *australis* and considered confined to Western Australia.
- Demansia* Gunther, 1858.
- Demansia angusticeps* (Macleay, 1888): We here consider Macleay's *Diemenia angusticeps* as being a valid species of the *D. olivacea* complex, confined to the Kimberley region of north west Australia — (see Cogger et al (1983) for synonymy of *olivacea*) and take pleasure in formally resurrecting it.
- Demansia atra* (Macleay, 1884) (b).
- Demansia calodera* Storr, 1978 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
- Demansia cupreiceps* Storr, 1978 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
- Demansia melaena* Storr, 1978 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
- Demansia olivacea* (Gray, 1842) (b).
- Demansia papuensis* (Macleay, 1877) (c).
- Demansia psammophis* (Schlegel, 1837).
- Demansia reticulatus* (Gray, 1842) (b). We agree with storr, 1978 (b) in his resurrection of 'reticulatus'.
- Demansia rufescens* Storr, 1978 (b): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
- Demansia simplex* Storr, 1978 (b).
- Demansia torquata* (Gunther, 1862).
- Denisonia* Krefft, 1869.
- Denisonia devisi* Waite and Longman, 1920.
- Denisonia fasciata* Rosen, 1905 (a).
- Denisonia maculata* (Steindachner, 1867).
- Echiopsis* Fitzinger, 1843.
- Echiopsis atriceps* (Storr, 1980) (b).
- Echiopsis curta* (Schlegel, 1837).
- Elapognathus* Boulenger, 1896 (b): We herein synonymise *Drysdalia* Worrell (1961) (b) with *Elapognathus*.
- Elapognathus coronata* (Schlegel, 1837).
- Elapognathus coronoides* (Gunther, 1858).
- Elapognathus labialis* (Jan and Sordelli, 1873): We herein resurrect *Alecto labialis* from the synonymy of *E. coronoides*, as an available name for the mainland form of *coronoides*.
- Elapognathus mastersii* (Krefft, 1866).
- Elapognathus minor* (Gunther, 1863) (b).
- Elapognathus rhodogaster* (Jan and Sordelli, 1873).
- Furina* Dumeril, 1853: We herein synonymise *Glyphodon* Gunther, 1858 with *Furina*.
- Furina barnardi* (Kingham, 1939): Herein transferred from *Glyphodon* Gunther, 1858.
- Furina diadema* (Schlegel, 1837).
- Furina dunmalli* (Worrell, 1955).
- Furina ornata* (Gray, 1842) (b).
- Furina tristis* Gunther, 1858: We herein remove *Mainophis robusta* Macleay 1877 (c) from the synonymy of *F. tristis* and propose that *Mainophis robusta* is a valid species in Papua New Guinea. In so doing we propose *Furina somare* nom. nov. pro *Mainophis robusta* (*Furina robusta* = *Simoselaps bertholdi* see De Vis, 1905).
- Etymology:** Named for Mr Michael Somare of Papua New Guinea.
- Hemiaspis* Fitzinger, 1860.
- Hemiaspis damelii* (Gunther, 1876).

Wells and Wellington

- Hemiaspis signata* (Jan, 1859).
Hemiaspis vagrans (Garman, 1901): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *H. signata* and elevated to specific status; *vagrans* is believed confined to eastern Queensland.
Hoplocephalus Wagler, 1830.
Hoplocephalus bitorquatus (Jan, 1859).
Hoplocephalus bungaroides (Schlegel, 1837).
Hoplocephalus stephensii Krefft, 1869.
Neelaps Gunther, 1863 (a).
Neelaps bimaculatus (Dumeril, Bibron and Dumeril, 1854) (b).
Neelaps calonotus (Dumeril, Bibron and Dumeril, 1854) (b).
Notechis Boulenger, 1896 (b).
Notechis ater Krefft, 1866: Herein restricted to Flinders Range, S.A.
Notechis humphreysi Worrell, 1963 (b): Herein restricted to Bass Strait and accorded specific status.
Notechis niger Kinghorn, 1921: Herein restricted to Kangaroo Island, S.A. and accorded specific status.
Notechis occidentalis Glauert, 1948: Herein elevated to specific status.
Notechis scutatus (Peters, 1861).
Notechis serventyi Worrell, 1963 (b): Herein restricted to Chappell Island, Bass Strait and accorded specific status.
Oxyuranus Kinghorn, 1923.
Oxyuranus canni Slater, 1956: Herein elevated to specific status.
Oxyuranus scutellatus (Peters, 1867) (b).
Parademansia Kinghorn, 1955.
Parademansia microlepidota (McCoy, 1879) (a).
Parasuta Worrell, 1961 (b).
Parasuta brevicauda (Mitchell, 1951): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *nigriceps*.
Parasuta brevicauda is believed confined to eastern South Australia and western Victoria.
Parasuta dwyeri (Worrell, 1956) (b).
Parasuta flagellum (McCoy, 1878).
Parasuta gouldii (Gray, 1841) (b).
Parasuta monachus (Storr, 1964) (c).
Parasuta nigriceps (Gunther, 1863) (b).
Parasuta nullarbor (Storr, 1981) (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status.
Parasuta spectabilis (Krefft, 1869).
Pseudechis Wagler, 1830.
Pseudechis butleri Smith, 1982.
Pseudechis guttatus De Vis, 1905.
Pseudechis porphyriacus (Shaw, 1794).
Pseudonaja Gunther, 1858.
Pseudonaja affinis Gunther, 1872.
Pseudonaja aspidorhyncha (McCoy, 1879) (b): Herein restricted to western N.S.W. and N.W. Victoria; Formally resurrected from the synonymy of *P. nuchalis*.
Pseudonaja carinata (Longman, 1915): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *P. nuchalis* and confined to S.W. Qld. and N.W. N.S.W. Mitchell's *Demansia acutirostris* is considered a synonym of *P. carinata*.
Pseudonaja guttata (Parker, 1926) (a).
Pseudonaja ingrami (Boulenger, 1908).
Pseudonaja inframacula (Waite, 1925): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *P. textilis*, and elevated to specific status; confined to the Great Australian Bight.
Pseudonaja modesta (Gunther, 1872).
Pseudonaja nuchalis (Gunther, 1858): Herein restricted to the northern sector of N.T.
Pseudonaja ramsayi Macleay, 1885 (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *P. modesta* and confined to N.S.W.
Pseudonaja sutherlandi (De Vis, 1884) (d): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *P. nuchalis* and confined to northern Qld.
Pseudonaja tanneri Worrell, 1961 (a): Herein regarded as being confined to southern W.A. and

Synopsis of Reptilia

- Islands of Recherche Archipelago; elevated to specific status.
Pseudonaja textilis (Dumeril, Bibron and Dumeril, 1854) (b): Herein confined to eastern Australia.
Rhinoplocephalus Muller, 1885: We herein formally synonymise *Cryptophis* Worrell, 1961 (b) with *Rhinoplocephalus*.
Rhinoplocephalus assimilis (Macleay, 1885) (a): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *nigrescens*. *Rhinoplocephalus assimilis* is believed confined to north-east Queensland.
Rhinoplocephalus bicolor Muller, 1885.
Rhinoplocephalus boschmai (Brongersma and Knaap van Meeuwen, 1961).
Rhinoplocephalus nigrescens (Gunther, 1862).
Rhinoplocephalus nigrostriatus (Krefft, 1864) (b).
Rhinoplocephalus pallidiceps (Gunther, 1858).
Simoselaps Jan, 1859.
Simoselaps anomalus (Sternfeld, 1919).
Simoselaps approximans (Glauert, 1954).
Simoselaps bertholdi (Jan, 1859).
Simoselaps fasciata (Sterling and Zietz, 1893): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *S. fasciolatus*, and confined to Barrow Range, W.A.
Simoselaps fasciolatus (Gunther, 1872).
Simoselaps littoralis (Storr, 1968) (a).
Simoselaps minimus (Worrell, 1960).
Simoselaps pulchella (Lucas and Frost, 1896): We herein formally resurrect *pulchella* from the synonymy of *fasciolatus*; *pulchella* is confined to central Australia.
Suta Worrell, 1961 (b): We herein formally synonymise *Unechis* of Worrell, 1961 (b) with *Suta*.
Suta forresti (Boulenger, 1906): We herein formally resurrect *Denisonia forresti* from the synonymy of *S. suta*; confined to the black soil plains of the Barkley Tableland, N.T.
Suta frenatus (Peters, 1870): We herein formally resurrect *Hoplocephalus frenatus* from the synonymy of *S. suta*; confined to Queensland.
Suta frontalis (Ogilby, 1890) (c): We herein formally resurrect *Hoplocephalus frontalis* from the synonymy of *S. suta*; confined to New South Wales.
Suta punctata (Boulenger, 1896) (b): We herein formally transfer *punctata* from *Denisonia* to *Suta*.
Suta stirlingi (Lucas and Frost, 1896): We herein formally resurrect *Hoplocephalus stirlingi* from the synonymy of *S. suta*; confined to central Australia.
Suta suta (Peters, 1863) (a).
Vermicella Gunther, 1858.
Vermicella annulata (Gray, 1841) (a).
Vermicella latizonatus (De Vis, 1905): Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *annulata*; and confined to Atherton Tablelands.
Vermicella lunulata Krefft, 1869. Herein resurrected from the synonymy of *annulata*.
Vermicella multifasciata (Longman, 1915).
Vermicella snelli Storr, 1968 (a): Herein formally elevated to specific status; confined to central Australia.

HYDROPHIIDAE

- Acalyptophis* Boulenger, 1896 (b).
Acalyptophis peronii (Dumeril, 1853).
Acalyptophis horrida (Kinghorn, 1926): We herein formally resurrect *Pseudodistira horrida* from the synonymy of *A. peronii*; *A. horrida* is confined to the Great Barrier Reef.
Aipysurus Lacepede, 1804.
Aipysurus apraefrontalis Smith, 1926.
Aipysurus duboisii Bavay, 1869.
Aipysurus eydouxii (Gray, 1849).
Aipysurus foliosquama Smith, 1926.
Aipysurus fuscus (Tschudi, 1837).
Aipysurus jukesii (Gray, 1846): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *A. laevis*.
Aipysurus laevis Lacepede, 1804.
Aipysurus pooleorum Smith, 1974: Herein formally elevated to specific status.

Wells and Wellington

- Aipysurus tenuis* Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913.
Astrotia Fischer, 1856.
Astrotia stokesii (Gray, 1846).
Disteira Lacepede, 1804.
Disteira kingii (Boulenger, 1896) (b).
Disteira major (Shaw, 1802).
Disteira nasalis (De Vis, 1905): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *Disteira major*.
D. nasalis is confined to eastern Queensland.
Emydocephalus Krefft, 1869.
Emydocephalus annulatus Krefft, 1869.
Enhydrina Gray, 1849.
Enhydrina schistosa (Daudin, 1803) (b).
Ephalophis Smith, 1931.
Ephalophis greyi Smith, 1931.
Hydrelaps Boulenger, 1896 (b).
Hydrelaps darwiniensis Boulenger, 1896 (b).
Hydrophis Sonnini and Latreille, 1802.
Hydrophis atriceps Gunther, 1864.
Hydrophis belcheri (Gray, 1849).
Hydrophis caeruleus (Shaw, 1802).
Hydrophis elegans (Gray, 1842) (c).
Hydrophis gracilis (Shaw, 1802).
Hydrophis inornatus (Gray, 1849).
Hydrophis melanocephalus Gray, 1849.
Hydrophis melanostoma Gunther, 1864.
Hydrophis obscurus Daudin, 1803 (b).
Hydrophis ornatus (Gray, 1842) (c).
Hydrophis mjobergi (Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *H. ornatus*; *H. mjobergi* is confined to Western Australia.
Hydrophis macfarlani Boulenger, 1896 (b): Herein formally resurrected from the synonymy of *H. pacificus*; *H. macfarlani* is confined to Torres Strait; and *H. pacificus* is referred to the fauna of northern New Guinea and New Britain.
Lapemis Gray, 1835.
Lapemis hardwickii Gray, 1835.
Parahydrophis Burger and Natsuno, 1974.
Parahydrophis mertonii (Roux, 1910).
Pelamis Daudin, 1803.
Pelamis platurus (Linnaeus, 1766).

LATICAUDIDAE

- Laticauda* Laurenti, 1768.
Laticauda colubrina (Schneider, 1799).
Laticauda laticaudata (Linnaeus, 1758).

Synopsis of Reptilia

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

R.W.W. would like to thank the following persons:

Christine Biggs of London who, by way of encouragement and friendship, made this and other forthcoming publications possible; Grant Husband, Nick Oakes and Glenn Shea for assistance in the collection of specimens; the librarians and staff of Macquarie University (Ryde), University of Sydney, University of New South Wales, University of Newcastle, University of New England, University of Wollongong, University of Melbourne, University of Adelaide, Flinders University, Australian National University, University of Western Australia, University of Queensland, Australian National Library, State Libraries of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland, Darwin Community College, CSIRO library, Darwin and Mitchell Library, Sydney — all of whom graciously tolerated the extensive use of their biological science holdings in our search for references. Though perhaps not agreeing with our synopsis, the following were of valuable assistance with their stimulating discussions and assistance in the examination of specimens: Harold G. Cogger and Allen E. Greer of the Australian Museum for permission to utilise the extensive holdings of that institution as well as general encouragement; Jeanette Covacevich, Glen Ingram and Greg Czechura of the Queensland Museum, Graeme Gow, past of the Northern Territory Museum, Darwin (and now of the Darwin Reptile Park at Humpty Doo, N.T.) for the opportunity to work on specimens for over a year in the NTM; Mick Gillam of the Arid Zone Research Institute, Alice Springs for access to specimens; John Wombey, Australian National Wildlife Collection, CSIRO, Canberra for help and the opportunity to examine specimens; Terry Schwaner of the South Australian Museum also generously made available the resources of the S.A.M. for use, and his general support is greatly appreciated. Finally, the collective contributions of our herpetological colleagues are too numerous to mention, but special consideration is deserved by the following: Eric Worrell, Dave McPhee, Bill Irvine, Mike van der Straaten, Terry Boylan, Uwe Peters, Magnus Peterson, Dean Metcalfe, Hal Heatwole, Dan Lunney, Steve Wilson, Glenn Rollo, Kim and Tony De Govrik, Kim Kennerson, Robert Cook, Ross Pengilley, Greg Mengden, and Steve Phillips. The New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service, Fisheries and Wildlife Department in Western Australia, Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory and the South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service have been extremely supportive by the provision of the necessary permits for the collection of specimens from their respective areas — this assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

C.R.W. wishes to thank Josephine Wellington for her patience, understanding, her general encouragement and support.

This paper is dedicated to the memory of Leopold Joseph Franz Johann Fitzinger.

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Accepted: 20 December, 1983
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AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF HERPETOLOGY

The Journal contains articles of a research and review nature on all aspects of Reptile and Amphibian biology and is distributed world-wide to thousands of research institutions and interested individuals.

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The Australian Journal of Herpetology is published by Australian Biological Services, in Sydney.

Manuscripts, correspondence concerning contents of the Journal and editorial business should be sent to

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