



Two new cave-dwelling species of *Cyrtodactylus* Gray (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from Southwestern Vietnam

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Abstract

Two new cave-dwelling species of *Cyrtodactylus* from mainland southwestern Vietnam and an offshore island are differentiated from all other congeners in lacking a precloacal groove and precloacal pores, presence of enlarged femoral scales beneath thigh, and in having a color pattern consisting of four or five narrow white bands on the body dorsum and one on the tail. *Cyrtodactylus grismeri* **sp. nov.** is reddish brown, has a mean SVL of 87.6 ± 3.8 mm ($n = 9$), 18–22 irregular longitudinal rows of weakly-keeled tubercles at midbody between the lateral folds, 33–38 ventral scales between ventrolateral folds, 0–3 enlarged scales beneath thighs, and 20–24 subdigital lamellae under the first toe. *Cyrtodactylus eisenmani* **sp. nov.** is chocolate brown, has a mean SVL of 81.3 ± 5.0 mm ($n = 5$), 14 irregular longitudinal rows of weakly keeled tubercles at midbody between ventrolateral folds, 44–45 ventral scales between ventrolateral folds at midbody, 4–6 enlarged femoral scales beneath each thigh, and 22–25 subdigital lamellae under the first toe. This discovery increases the total number of *Cyrtodactylus* found in Vietnam to fifteen.

Key words: *Cyrtodactylus*, Gekkonidae, new species, cave-dwelling, Southwestern Vietnam

Introduction

The gekkonid fauna of Vietnam and the Indochinese Peninsula is diverse, with 11 new species having recently been described (Ziegler *et al.*, 2002; Das, 2004; Rösler *et al.*, 2005; Nguyen *et al.*, 2006; Heidrich *et al.*, 2007; Hoang *et al.*, 2007; Orlov *et al.*, 2007; Ngo & Bauer, 2008 and Rösler *et al.*, in press). These discoveries, as well as the reconfirmation of the occurrence of *Cyrtodactylus intermedius* Smith in the Bay Nui Mountains of the An Giang Province (Ngo & Grismer, 2006) indicate the fauna of this region is in need of further study. Small, isolated mountains bordering the northern margin of Rach Gia Bay in southern Vietnam and offshore islands have yielded an increase in new species of geckos (Fig. 1). The discovery of *Cyrtodactylus paradoxus* (Darevsky & Szczerbak) from Hon Thom Island and four new species of *Cnemaspis* Strauch, (*Cnemaspis caudanivea* from Hon Tre Island, *C. aurantiacopes* from Hon Dat Hill, *C. tucdupensis* from Tuc Dup, and *Cnemaspis nuicamensis* from Nui Cam Mountain; Grismer & Ngo, 2007) constitute the first wave of what is anticipated to be a growing number of new taxa from this region.

Field surveys were conducted in the rocky cave systems of Tuc Dup Mountain in Tri Ton district, An Giang Province in southern Vietnam on 9 December 2005 and on Hon Son Island, Kien Hai District, Kien Giang Province on 24 March 2006. These resulted in the discovery of two isolated populations of *Cyrtodactylus* Gray that can not be ascribed to any known species. They are described herein as new.