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TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF THE FAMILY BOIDAE

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SINCE two apparently new subspecies of boid snakes have appeared in recent collections of reptiles, it seems advisable to describe them immediately so that they may be included in a check list of the family Boidae now in preparation.

One of these new forms, a subspecies of the genus *Epicrates* from Tortola Island, was found in the Major Chapman Grant collection from Puerto Rico and neighboring islands. The collection is now in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University. This subspecies is named in honor of the collector, Major Grant.¹

Epicrates inornatus granti, subsp. nov.

TYPE.—Museum of Comparative Zoology, No. 33947, collected by Major Chapman Grant.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Tortola Island.

DIAGNOSIS.—This form may be distinguished from the most closely related forms as follows: from *E. i. inornatus* by the higher number of scale rows (48 instead of 41–43), the higher number of supralabials (14 as compared with 11–12) and infralabials (16 as compared with 11–14), the more distinct

¹ Cf. Grant, 1932, *Jour. Dept. Agri., Puerto Rico*, XVI: 344.

dorsal spots, and the grey rather than brown ground color;² from *E. i. fordii* by the higher number of scale rows (48 instead of 33–37) and the higher number of ventral scutes (269 as compared with 243–259).

DESCRIPTION.—Male. Squamation: scale rows 35–48–28; ventrals 269; caudals cannot be counted, as the tail is injured; the scales of the right side of the head cannot be counted, since the head is partially crushed; those of the left side are as follows: supralabials 14, with the seventh and eighth entering the eye; infralabials 16; preoculars 3; postoculars 6; supraocular 1; 1 large loreal on either side; 3 azygos plates between the frontal and the posterior pair of prefrontals; the posterior prefrontal in contact with the highest preocular; the internasals meeting in the midline and separated from the supralabials by the nasals. Anal spurs present.

Coloration: dorsum dark grey with 65 pairs of oblong darker spots, most of these alternating and usually fusing with the neighboring spots of the opposite side, so that the series forms an almost continuous chain; a series of smaller triangular or oval spots on either side, more often directly below the dorsal spots than alternating with them, and with the lower point of the triangle extending to the ventral scutes or to the first row of scales above them; both dorsal and lateral spots darkly outlined; ventral scutes pure yellowish white, except for a few irregular spots under the tail; lowest row of scales also whitish, except for the intrusion of the lateral spots.

The other of these new forms, an Australian subspecies of the genus *Liasis* represented by several specimens in the Harvard University Australian Expedition collection in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, is named in honor of Mr. J. Roy Kinghorn, in recognition of his notable work on the Australian snakes.

² Maj. Grant has called to my attention the fact that in life *E. i. inornatus* is a decidedly brown snake, while *E. i. granti* is distinctly greyish.

Liasis amethystinus kinghorni, subsp. nov.

TYPE.—Museum of Comparative Zoology No. 35022, collected by W. E. Schevill.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Lake Barrine, Queensland, Australia.

PARATYPES.—Museum of Comparative Zoology No. 35021, Cucania, Queensland, collected by W. E. Schevill; M. C. Z. No. 35023, Lake Barrine, Queensland, collected by W. E. Schevill; M. C. Z. No. 35024, Lake Barrine, Queensland, collected by P. J. Darlington, Jr. (this specimen is being presented to the Queensland Museum in appreciation of their coöperation with the Harvard Expedition); and United States National Museum No. 11035, Australia.

DIAGNOSIS.—This subspecies may be distinguished from the most nearly related form, *L. a. amethystinus*, by the presence of one or more interparietal scales, by the higher average number of ventral scutes (328–344, average 335.2, as compared with 289–332, average 314.5), by the higher average number of scale rows (51–55, average 53, as compared with 39–53, average 46.1), and by the more distinct markings.

DESCRIPTION.—Male. Squamation: scale rows 43–53–25; ventrals 336; caudals cannot be counted, as the tail is injured; supralabials 13, the seventh and eighth entering the eye, and 1–4 pitted; infralabials 22, with 11–18 pitted; rostral pitted; preoculars 3; postoculars 3; loreals 8 on the right side, 7 on the left; a small interparietal plate between the two anterior of the three pairs of parietals. Anal spurs present.

Coloration: dorsum grey with a median series of irregular narrow crossbars, and two irregular and broken narrow dark brown or black longitudinal streaks on either side, the crossbars being more or less confluent with one another and with the lateral streaks; belly uniformly grey; head and throat grey above, white below.

VARIATION.—The scale counts of the four paratypes listed above are as follows: scale rows 39–43 at the neck, 51–55 in the middle of the body, 23–25 anterior to the vent; ventrals 328–344; caudals 108–116; supralabials 12–14, with sixth and seventh or seventh and eighth entering the eye, and 1–4

pitted; infralabials 21-24, with 10-17, 10-18, 11-18, 12-18, or 12-19 pitted; preoculars 2-3; postoculars 3-5; loreals 7-12; 2 interparietals in M. C. Z. No. 35024, 1 in all other specimens.

I wish to express my thanks to the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan and to the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University for the privilege of studying and describing these forms, and to the National Research Council under whose auspices my work on the family Boidae has been done.