BULLETIN: MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOÖLOGY

The species is a northern form which extends along the mountain chain of the north of the country and in the coastal zone. It has not yet been recorded from the region south of the mountains in British Somaliland but occurs in the Ogaden (Boettger, 1893; Boulenger, 1895, 1896) and the Sultanate of Obbia (Calabresi, 1927).

Eremias smithi Boulenger

Eremias smithi Boulenger, 1895, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 534, pl. xxix, fig. 4.

3 ♂ ♂, 5 ♀ ♀ Burao, 3500 ft.

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8 ♂ ♂, 11 ♀ ♀ from the mountains around Borama, 4500–5300 ft.

This series shows little variation beyond that already described for the species (Boulenger, 1921, p. 247) except that there may be as few as 61 scales across the body and only 16 femoral pores; there are never less than 8 rows of ventrals and frequently indications of an additional series on each side are present.

The species appears to range from the coastal plain through the mountains and the Ogaden southwards to Kenya Colony.

Eremias septemstriata spec. nov.

Eremias striata (non Peters) Parker, 1932, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 354.

Holotype a male, number 1931. 7. 20. 300 from the Halin district, Somaliland (9°7′N x 48°38′E) at 2000 ft., collected 14. III. 30 by Capt. R. H. R. Taylor.

The specimens mentioned in the above reference were noted to deviate from the normal of *striata*, and the additional comparative material of that species now available makes it appear more probable that they represent a distinct form which is in many ways intermediate between *brenneri* and *striata*, but differs from either in its smooth or only feebly striated head shields and dorsal scales and in the distinctive colour pattern.

Head shields smooth or very feebly rugose, disposed and proportioned as in *E. brenneri*, except that the subocular, though narrowed inferiorly, broadly enters the lip; snout long, with a fronto-nasal slightly longer than broad; constantly 4 nasals. Dorsal and lateral scales juxtaposed, smooth or feebly unicarinate, in 54 to 68 series across the middle of the body; ventrals in 8 longitudinal series; enlarged brachials and subcaudals smooth or keeled in conformity with the dorsals. Femoral pores 15–20.

Colour white or pale brown with 7 dark brown longitudinal stripes arranged as follows: A broad lateral band from the subocular through the upper part of the ear and above the limbs, extending on to the tail, and usually enclosing a single row of small circular, white spots; a dorso-lateral stripe, similar in width, extends from the posterior corner of the eye, but does not extend on to the tail and may, or may not, have a row of white spots included in it; three narrower dorsal stripes, of which the median alone extends on to the tail, the two outer varying in length, being as a rule shortest in juveniles where they may not extend backwards beyond the nape; there may also be traces of an indistinct dark, ventro-lateral stripe between the fore- and hind-limbs; lower surfaces uniform white; limbs brown, with numerous large, circular white spots.

Length from snout to vent 42 mm.
Tail (partly regenerated) 107 mm.
Fore-limb 16 mm.
Hind-limb 35 mm.

The paratypes are:

1931.7.20.301 \circlearrowleft 3300 ft. Buran Distr. (10°13′N x 48°46′E) 7.i.30. 1931.7.20.298 \circlearrowleft 2000 ft. Haud (8°N x 48°E) 2.v.30. 1931.7.20.299 \circlearrowleft 1900 ft. (8°54′N x 48°54′E) 17.iii.30. 1931.7.20.306 \circlearrowleft 2375 ft. Buran Valley (10°21′N x 49°E) 2.x.29. 1931.7.20.302–305 4 juvs. 2600 ft. Buran Valley (10°16′N x 48°55′E) 29.xi.29.

The largest female measures 50 mm. from snout to vent, with an unregenerated tail of 125 mm., a fore-limb of 17 mm. and a hind-limb of 37 mm.

As indicated above, this species is allied to E. *striata* but also shows affinities with the northern, smooth-scaled species such as E. *mucro-nata* and E. *smithi*.

Eremias erythrosticta Boulenger

Eremias erythrosticta Boulenger, 1891, Ann. Mus. Genova, (2), 12, p. 10, pl. i, fig. 2.

This species was not collected by Capt. Taylor, but is probably an inhabitant of the eastern part of the country south of the maritime mountains. It was originally described from specimens collected "between Obbia and Berbera" and has since (Calabresi, 1927) been recorded from Obbia, the dunes between Obbia and Sissib and the Nogal Valley.