

Meroles squamulosus (Peters, 1854)

SAVANNA LIZARD;
COMMON ROUGH-SCALED LIZARD

Andrew A. Turner

Global: Least Concern

Taxonomy: A recent analysis using mitochondrial and nuclear sequence data showed that this species, long known by the name *Ichnotropis squamulosa*, should be transferred to the genus *Meroles* (Edwards *et al.* 2012, 2013a; Engleder *et al.* 2013).

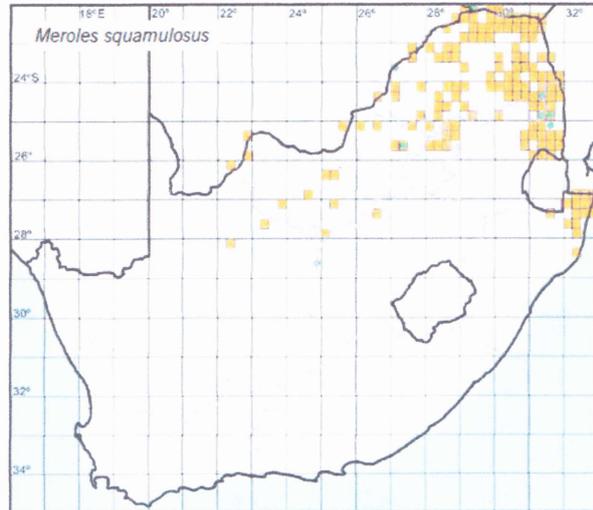
Distribution: Endemic to the southern half of Africa. Found from Angola and Tanzania southwards through Zimbabwe, central Mozambique, Botswana, eastern Namibia, and the northern and northeastern parts of the *Atlas* region (Branch 1998; Spawls *et al.* 2002). In the *Atlas* region it is found in Limpopo, northern Gauteng, northern Mpumalanga, northeastern KwaZulu-Natal, North-West Province, northwestern Free State and the northeastern parts of the Northern Cape. A Virtual Museum record at 2824DB is the southernmost record for the species.

Habitat: Occurs on sandy soils in both mesic and arid savanna (Branch 1998).

Biome: Savanna; Indian Ocean Coastal Belt; Grassland (marginal).

Assessment rationale: Occurs over a very large area and is abundant in places. No known threats.

Conservation measures: None recommended.



Meroles squamulosus—Greater KuduLand Safaris, E of Tshipise, LIMP
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