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A LIST OF THE SOMALI AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

(PUBBLICAZIONI DEL CENTRO DI STUDIO
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It is only now that Somali herpetofauna, long since among the least known of Africa, can be said to have been adequately investigated, though further research will undoubtedly bring to light species new to Somalia and to science.

This paper, which precedes some monographs on the subject, outlines the herpetological research conducted in Somalia and lists the amphibians and reptiles discovered to date in the Somali Democratic Republic.

HISTORY

The first significant collections were made by G. Revoil (1881, 1882-83) and studied by the French scholars VAILLANT (1882) and MOCQUARD (1888). These were followed by the field research of a good number of American, British, German, Swedish and above all Italian explorers and residents: L. Bricchetti Robecchi (1890, 1891), E. Ruspoli (1891, 1893), V. Bòttega (1892-93, 1895-97; with C. Citerni, U. Ferrandi, M. Sacchi and L. Vannutelli), E. Lort-Phillips (1894, 1896-97), A. Donaldson Smith (1894-95, 1899), C. von Erlanger and O. Neumann (1900-01), G. W. Bury (1905), U. Casale (1910), Th. Engdahl (about 1910), C. Citerni (1911), G. Stefanini and G. Paoli (1913), V. Tedesco Zammarano (1921-22), G. Stefanini and N. Puccioni (1924), etc. While part of their material was published by BOETTGER (1893), MEEK & ELLIOT (1897), TORNIER (1905), NEUMANN (1905), STEINDACHNER (1891, 1907a, 1907b), SORDELLI (1908), LEPRI (1911), LÖNNBERG & ANDERSON (1913), CALABRESI (1915,

1916, 1918, 1923, 1927) etc., the majority was described by the noted Belgian herpetologist BOULENGER (1891, 1895a, 1895b, 1895c, 1896a, 1896b, 1896c, 1898a, 1898b, 1901, 1906, 1907, 1909a, 1909b, 1912), who worked almost exclusively at the British Museum of Natural History in London. Of fundamental importance were the collections made in northwestern Somalia by R. H. R. Taylor (1929-34), published by PARKER (1930, 1932, 1935, 1942, 1949), and the collections made in the remaining areas of the country by G. Scortecci (1931, 1953, 1957), some Italian residents and the amateur naturalist S. Patrizi (1934). Their material was published by CHERCHI (1954, 1958a, 1958b, 1958c, 1958d, 1958e, 1958f, 1958g, 1958h, 1958i), LANZA (1963, 1964), ARILLO et al. (1965, 1967), BALLETTO et al. (1978a, 1978b, 1980) and above all by SCORTECCI himself (1929, 1930a, 1930b, 1931a, 1931b, 1932a, 1932b, 1933a, 1933b, 1933c, 1934, 1935a, 1935b, 1939a, 1939b, 1939c, 1941, 1948). Subsequently, there have been the recent collections made by the American biologist C. Gans (1961), studied by GANS et al. (1965), and the very important ones made during the course of several expeditions, begun in 1959, under the auspices of the University of Florence and the « Centro di Studio per la Faunistica ed Ecologia Tropicali » of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Florence (directed by Prof. L. Pardi). I have participated in many of these expeditions and published part of the herpetological material collected thus far (LANZA, 1966, 1978a, 1978b, 1978c, 1979a, 1979b), also in collaboration (LANZA & CARFI, 1966, 1968; LANZA & SASSI, 1966; LANZA & ROMOLI SASSI, 1968; LANZA & POGGESI, 1975). A recent paper by HOEVERS & JOHNSON (1982) deals with the Middle Juba snakes.

A nearly complete bibliography on Somali herpetology concludes this paper; many references can also be found in SCORTECCI (1933b), PARKER (1942, 1949), BALLETTO (1968) and LANZA (1981).

In a future, which I hope to be very near, the study of the natural history of this fascinating land must be carried on — in even greater detail — by the young Somali university graduates, to whom the Government in recent years has offered the educational opportunity and technical means of undertaking this challenging task. In fact, no country can ever be adequately known until it has become the object of enlightened and dedicated research by its native sons.

LIST OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The name of each species or subspecies is followed by the name of the author, year of description, general range, Somali distribution by regions or group of regions (Fig. 1), and remarks.

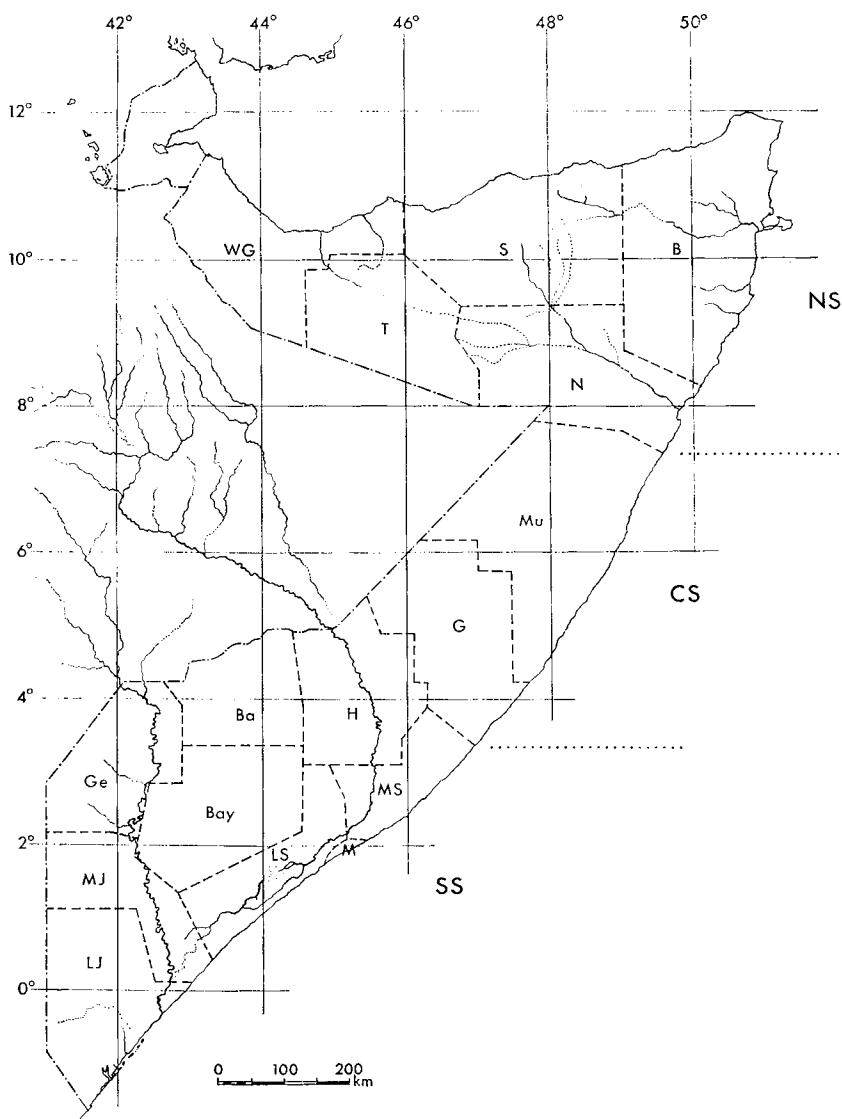


Fig. 1. — Map of the Somali Democratic Republic; abbreviations of the name of the regions: B = Bari; Ba = Bakool; Bay = Bay; G = Galgadud; Ge = Gedo; H = Hirran; LJ = Lower Juba; LS = Lower Shebelli; M = Mogadishu; MJ = Middle Juba; MS = Middle Shebelli; Mu = Mudug; N = Nugal; S = Sanaag; T = Togdheer; WG = West Galbeed; CS = central Somalia (Mu + G); NS = northern Somalia (WG + T + S + B + N); SS = southern Somalia (H + Bay + Ba + Ge + MS + M + LS + MJ + LJ).

Class **AMPHIBIA** Latreille, 1825

ORDER *SALIENTIA* Laurenti, 1768

FAMILY **BUFONIDAE** Hogg, 1841

Genus **BUFO** Laurenti, 1768

Bufo blanfordi Boulenger, 1882.

Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, S, B, N. Remarks: *Bufo somalicus* Calabresi, 1927 and *Bufo viridis somalicus* (sic!) Meek, 1897 are synonyms.

Bufo dodsoni Boulenger, 1895.

Ethiopia; Djibouti; Somalia: NS, CS, H. Remarks: *Bufo brevipalmata* (sic!) Ahl, 1924 is a synonym.

Bufo garmani Meek, 1897.

Wide distribution in savannas and arid areas of Africa; Somalia: WG.

Bufo lugensis Loveridge, 1932.

Ethiopia; Kenya; Somalia: B, N, Mu, Ms, LS, Ba, Ge, Bay, LJ. Remarks: *Bufo gardoensis* Scortecci, 1932 is a synonym.

Bufo steindachneri Pfeffer, 1893.

Tanzania; Kenya; Somalia: MS, LS, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *Bufo incertus* Scortecci, 1933 is a synonym.

Bufo xeros M. Tandy, J. Tandy, Keith & MacKay, 1976.

Dry savannas and arid regions of Senegal, Cameroon, Niger, Chad, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia: CS, SS.

FAMILY **RANIDAE** Bonaparte, 1831

Genus **HEMISUS** Günther, 1858

Hemisus marmoratus marmoratus (Peters, 1854).

Most of Africa south of the Sahara; Somalia: Bay, LJ.

Genus HILDEBRANDTIA Nieden, 1907

Hildebrandtia macrotympanum (Boulenger, 1912).

Kenya; Ethiopia; Somalia: B, LS, Ba, Bay or Ge? Remarks: *Tomopterna* (?) *scorteccii* Balletto, Cherchi & Lanza, 1978 is a synonym.

Genus HYLARANA Tschudi, 1838

Hylarana galamensis (Duméril & Bibron, 1841).

From Senegal to Sudan; Cameroon; Zaire; Uganda; Kenya; Tanzania; Zimbabwe; Mozambique; Somalia: H, MS, LS, MJ. Remarks: *Limnodytes bravanius* Peters, 1882, *Rana fiechteri* Scortecci, 1929 and *Rana somalica* Scortecci, 1933 are synonyms.

Genus LANZARANA Clarke, 1982

Lanzarana largeni (Lanza, 1978).

Somalia: N, Ba, Bay, LS.

Genus PHRYNOBATRACHUS Günther, 1862

This genus badly needs a revision.

Phrynobatrachus acridoides (Cope, 1867)?

Most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: MJ, LJ.

Phrynobatrachus sp.

Somalia: MS, LJ.

Genus PTYCHADENA Boulenger, 1918

Ptychadena anchietae (Bocage, 1867).

East Africa from Ethiopia to Natal; Somalia: WG, S, B, H, MS, LS, Ge, Bay. Remarks: *Phrynobatrachus haliensis* Meek, 1897 and *Rana oxyrhynchus migiurtina* Scortecci, 1933 are synonyms.

Ptychadena floweri (Boulenger, 1917).

From north Cameroon to Egypt; east Africa from Sudan to Mozambique; Somalia: MS, LS, Bay, MJ, LJ.

Ptychadena gansi Laurent, 1965.

Somalia: MS, LS, Bay, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *P. gansi* is probably a synonym of *P. mossambica* (Peters, 1854), a species living in Natal, Transvaal, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Tanzania.

Genus PYXICEPHALUS Tschudi, 1838

Pyxicephalus adspersus Tschudi, 1838.

Most of Africa south of the Sahara; Somalia: LS, Bay, LJ. Remarks: *Pyxicephalus flavigula* Calabresi, 1916 is a synonym.

Pyxicephalus obbianus Calabresi, 1927.

Somalia: B, Mu, G. Remarks: *Rana (Pyxicephalus) cimmarutai* Scortecci, 1932 is a synonym.

Genus TOMOPTERNA Duméril & Bibron, 1841

Tomopterna cryptotis (Boulenger, 1907).

This species, which badly needs a revision, lives in savannas and arid areas of most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: NS, CS, H, MS, LS, Ba, Bay, Ge. Remarks: *Rana (Tomopterna) hieroglyphica* Ahl, 1925 and *Arthroleptis elegans* Calabresi, 1927 are synonyms.

FAMILY RHACOPHORIDAE Hoffmann, 1932

Genus CHIROMANTIS Peters, 1855

Chiromantis petersi kelleri Boettger, 1893.

Ethiopia, Somalia and north Kenya (subsp. *kelleri*); Kenya (south of the equator) and Tanzania (subsp. *petersi* Boulenger, 1882). Somalia: S, B, N, Mu, MS, M, LS, Ba, Ge, Bay, LJ. Remarks: *Hylambates enantiocryptus* Calabresi, 1916 is a synonym.

FAMILY HYPEROLIIDAE Laurent, 1951

Genus HYPEROLIUS Rapp, 1842

Hyperolius argus Peters, 1854.

Mozambique; Malawi; Tanzania; Kenya; Somalia: MJ, LJ.

Hyperolius nasutus Günther, 1864.

Widely distributed in African savannas; in East Africa: Zambia; Malawi; Tanzania; Uganda; Kenya; Somalia: LJ.

Hyperolius pusillus (Cope, 1862).

Natal; Transvaal; Zimbabwe; Malawi; Zambia; Tanzania; Kenya; Somalia: LJ.

Hyperolius viridiflavus (Duméril & Bibron, 1841).

A very variable species widely distributed in the tropical savannas of west, north-east, east and south-east Africa. Somalia: MS, LS, MJ, LJ. Remarks: the Somali specimens almost surely belong to the subsp. *viridiflavus*, which lives in Etiopia, north-west Kenya and north-east Uganda.

Genus KASSINA Girard, 1853

Kassina argyrevittis Peters, 1854.

From Malawi and Mozambique to south Somalia, usually in the coastal regions. Somalia: LJ.

Kassina parkeri (Scortecci, 1932).

North-east Kenya; Somalia: B, N, Bay.

Kassina somalica Scortecci, 1932.

North Tanzania; Kenya; Somalia: B, N?, MS, LS, Bay, LJ.

FAMILY MICROHYLIDAE Günther, 1858

Genus PHRYNOMERUS Noble, 1926

Fichteria Scortecci, 1941 is a synonym.

Phrynomerus bifasciatus bifasciatus (Smith, 1847).

Range of the species and subsp. *bifasciatus*: Africa south of Angola, Zaire (Katanga), Uganda, Kenya and southernmost Somalia. Somalia: LJ.

Phrynomerus bifasciatus somalicus (Scortecci, 1941).

Somalia: MS, LS, Bay.

Class **REPTILIA** Laurenti, 1768ORDER **TESTUDINES** Linnaeus, 1758SUBORDER **CRYPTODIRA** Cope, 1870FAMILY **TESTUDINIDAE** Gray, 1825Genus **GEOCHELONE** Fitzinger, 1835

Geochelone pardalis babcocki (Loveridge, 1935).

East Africa from Sudan and Ethiopia to Natal; west, through Cape Province, to South-West Africa [where it meets with the subsp. *pardalis* (Bell, 1828)] and south Angola. Somalia: WG, T, N.

Genus **KINIXYS** Bell, 1827

Kinixys belliana belliana Gray, 1831.

Range of the species: Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *belliana*: eastern Africa from Somalia south to Zululand. Somalia: WG, LS, Ge, Bay, LJ.

FAMILY **CHELONIIDAE** Günther, 1864Genus **CARETTA** Rafinesque, 1814

Caretta caretta (Linnaeus, 1758).

Indian, Pacific and Atlantic oceans; Mediterranean Sea.

Genus **CHELONIA** Latreille, 1801

Chelonia mydas japonica (Thunberg, 1787).

Indian and west Pacific oceans; other two subspecies in the Mediterranean Sea, Atlantic and east Pacific oceans.

Genus **ERETMOCHELYS** Fitzinger, 1843

Eretmochelys imbricata bissa (Rüppell, 1835).

Indian and Pacific oceans; the subsp. *imbricata* (Linnaeus, 1766) in the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean.

Genus **LEPIDOCHELYS** Fitzinger, 1843

Lepidochelys olivacea (Eschscholtz, 1829).

Indian, Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

FAMILY DERMOCHELYIDAE Gray, 1825

Genus **DERMOCHELYS** Blainville, 1816

Dermochelys coriacea (Linnaeus, 1766).

Indian, Atlantic and Pacific oceans; Mediterranean Sea.

FAMILY TRIONYCHIDAE Bell, 1828

Genus **TRIONYX** Geoffroy, 1809

Trionyx triunguis (Forskål, 1775).

Africa (except the northernmost and southernmost regions); southwest Anatolia; Israel; Somalia: Shebelli and Juba rivers.

SUBORDER **PLEURODIRA** Cope, 1870

FAMILY PELOMEDUSIDAE Cope, 1868

Genus **PELOMEDUSA** Wagler 1830

Pelomedusa subrufa (Lacépède, 1788).

South-west Arabia; tropical and southern subtropical regions of Africa; Madagascar. Somalia: S, B, N, MS, Bay.

Genus **PELUSIOS** Wagler, 1830

Pelusios sinuatus (Smith, 1838).

East Africa from south Somalia to Kwazulu, westwards to Lake Tanganyika and Victoria Falls. Somalia: H, MS, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

ORDER CROCODYLIA Gmelin, 1788

FAMILY CROCODYLIDAE Cuvier, 1807

Genus CROCODYLUS Laurenti, 1768

Crocodylus niloticus pauciscutatus Deraniyagala, 1948.

Range of the species: Africa south of the Sahara and Madagascar; the subsp. *pauciscutatus* lives in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Somalia: Shebelle and Juba rivers.

ORDER SQUAMATA Oppel, 1811

SUBORDER SAURIA Macartney, 1802

FAMILY GEKKONIDAE Gray, 1825

Genus HEMIDACTYLUS Gray, 1825

Hemidactylus albopunctatus Loveridge, 1947.

North Kenya; Somalia; NS, SS.

Hemidactylus arnoldi Lanza, 1978.

Somalia: WG (11°N-43°E).

Hemidactylus barodanus Boulenger, 1901.

North Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, T. Remarks: synonym of *Hemidactylus jubensis* Boulenger, 1895? (1).

Hemidactylus bavazzanoi Lanza, 1978.

Somalia: Ge (03°40'N-42°40'E).

Hemidactylus citernii Boulenger, 1912.

Somalia: WG, S, B, N, Bay, H, G.

(1) Of the two syntypes of *H. jubensis* only the male no. CE 28846 of Genoa Museum can be taken in consideration as the specimen no. 95.3.51 (re-registered 1946.8.23.66) of the British Museum (N. H.) is a female *H. smithi* Boulenger, 1895.

Hemidactylus curlei Parker, 1942.

Somalia: WG.

Hemidactylus flaviviridis Rüppell, 1835.

From the Red Sea (Sudan; Ethiopia) and Gulf of Aden (Somalia) coasts (where introduced!) to India, through Arabia, Iran and Iraq. Somalia: WG (Berbera), B (Bosaso).

Hemidactylus fragilis Calabresi, 1915.

Somalia: Bay (Bur Meldac, about 56 km south of Dinsor).

Hemidactylus frenatus Duméril & Bibron, 1836.

An oriental gecko, whose wide dispersal must be partly attributed to human agency: South Africa; Somalia and Lamu Island; Madagascar; Mauritius; Nepal; India; Ceylon; Maldives; Nicobars and Andamans islands; Assam; Burma; Thailand; Cambodia; Vietnam; Malaysia; south China; Corea; Formosa; Japan (Okinawa Island); Philippines; Suli islands; Indo-Australian Archipelago; New Guinea; west Australia; Oceania; St Helena Island; Mexico. Somalia: M, MS, LS, Bay, MJ, LJ (including Ciuai Island).

Hemidactylus funaiolii Lanza, 1978.

Central Kenya (Archer's Post: 00°39'N-37°41'E); Somalia: Bay (Berdale, about 50 km WNW of Baidoa).

Hemidactylus granchii Lanza, 1978.

Somalia: Mu (about 06°N-48°30'E and 06°30'N-47°25'E), MS (about 02°20'N-45°40'E).

Hemidactylus isolepis Boulenger, 1895.

Ethiopia; north Kenya; Somalia: WG, T, Ge.

Hemidactylus klauberi Scortecci, 1948.

Somalia: MJ (Gelib).

Hemidactylus laevis Boulenger, 1901.

Somalia: T (Mount Gaan Libah: about 09°52'N-44°48'E).

Hemidactylus macropholis Boulenger, 1896.

North and east Ethiopia; north Kenya; Somalia: all the region but LJ.

Hemidactylus megalops Parker, 1932.

Somalia: S ($10^{\circ}13'N$ - $48^{\circ}46'E$), N ($08^{\circ}54'N$ - $48^{\circ}54'E$).

Hemidactylus mercatorius Gray, 1842.

Madagascar; Seychelles, Mauritius, Aldabra and Pemba islands; east Africa from Mozambique to south Somalia. Somalia: LJ.

Hemidactylus ophiolepis Lanza, 1978.

Somalia: WG ($09^{\circ}55'N$ - $43^{\circ}10'E$), T ($08^{\circ}34'N$ - $45^{\circ}15'E$).

Hemidactylus parkeri Loveridge, 1936.

Zanzibar (introduced?); Eritrea and Dahlak islands (Dahlak, Dissei, Entedebir, Nocra); Somalia: all the regions but G and MJ.

Hemidactylus platycephalus Peters, 1854.

East Africa from south Somalia to Mozambique and east Zimbabwe; Lamu, Pemba, Zanzibar, Mafia and Anjoana (Comores) islands. Somalia: H, MS, M, LS, Ba, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ (including Ciuai, Coiama and Ngumi islands).

Hemidactylus puccionii Calabresi, 1927.

Somalia: Mu, G, MS, M.

Hemidactylus ruspolii Boulenger, 1896.

East Ethiopia; north Kenya; Somalia: T, N, Mu, H, M, LS, Bay, Ge, LJ.

Hemidactylus sinaitus Boulenger, 1885.

South-west Arabia; coastal Sudan; north Ethiopia (including Sheik-Said Island, off Massawa); Somalia: WG ($11^{\circ}25'N$ - $43^{\circ}15'E$), S (Las Khoreh).

Hemidactylus smithi Boulenger, 1895.

East Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, T, S, B, Mu, G, M?

Hemidactylus somalicus Parker, 1932.

Somalia: S, N, B. Remarks: perhaps just a subspecies of *H. puccionii* Calabresi, 1927.

Hemidactylus squamulatus squamulatus Tornier, 1896.

East Africa from southernmost Somalia to central Tanzania; two other subspecies: *floweri* Werner, 1908 (Sudan: Blue Nile) and *barbouri* Loveridge, 1942 (coastal Kenya and Tanzania, from Malindi to Tanga). Somalia: LJ (Ola Uager; Afmadu).

Hemidactylus taylori Parker, 1932.

Somalia: S (09°45'N-49°E), B (Gardò), N (09°10'N-49°E).

Hemidactylus tropidolepis Mocquard, 1888.

North-east Kenya, south to Tana River. Somalia: MS, LS, Bay, Ge, LJ.

Hemidactylus yerburii pauciporus Lanza, 1978.

Subspecies *yerburii* Anderson, 1895: southern Arabia; subsp. *pauciporus*, Somalia: WG, S, B, N.

Genus HEMITHECONYX Stejneger, 1893

Hemitheconyx taylori Parker, 1930.

Somalia: WG, T, S, B, N.

Genus HOLODACTYLUS Boettger, 1893

Holodactylus africanus Boettger, 1893.

East and south Ethiopia; north Kenya; Somalia: all the regions but H and Ba.

Holodactylus cornii Scortecci, 1931.

Somalia: B, N, Mu, LS.

Genus HOMOPHOLIS Boulenger, 1885

Homopholis fasciata Boulenger, 1890.

South-east Ethiopia; Kenya; Tanzania; Somalia: S, N, G, H, LJ.

Genus LYGODACTYLUS Gray, 1864

Lygodactylus gutturalis (Bocage, 1873).

From Senegal to Ethiopia and Somalia, south to Katanga along the Rift Valley. Somalia: Ba (Oddur; Uegit).

Lygodactylus scorteccii Pasteur, 1959.

East Kenya; south Ethiopia?; Somalia: MS, LS, M, MJ, LJ.

Lygodactylus somalicus somalicus Loveridge, 1935.

Range of the species: south-east Ethiopia; north-east Kenya and Somalia; subsp. *somalicus*, north-east Somalia: S, N.

Lygodactylus somalicus battersbyi Pasteur, 1962.

North-east Kenya; north-west, central and south Somalia: WG, T, Mu, G, H, MS, M, Bay, Ge, LJ.

Genus PRISTURUS Rüppell, 1835

Geisopristurus Lanza & Romoli Sassi, 1968, seems to be a synonym (ARNOLD, 1977).

Pristurus crucifer (Valenciennes, 1861).

North and east Ethiopia; south Arabia; Somalia: S, T, B, N, Mu, G, H, MS, LS, M, Ge. Remarks: *Pristurus stefaninii* Calabresi, 1927 and *Pristurus crucifer laticephalus* Scortecci, 1933 are synonyms.

Pristurus flavipunctatus Rüppell, 1835.

Sudan; Ethiopia; south Arabia; Somalia: WG, T, S, B, N, Mu, G, H. Remarks: *Pristurus percrustatus* Boulenger, 1896 and *Pristurus percrustatus pseudoflavipunctatus* Scortecci, 1933 are synonyms.

Pristurus phillipsi Boulenger, 1895.

Somalia: WG, T, B, N, Mu, G, H, MS, Bay. Remarks: *Pristurus somalicus* Parker, 1932 is a synonym.

Pristurus rupestris Blanford, 1874.

From Pakistan to north Somalia, through south Iran, south Jordan and Arabia. Somalia: WG, B. Remarks: *Pristurus migiurtinicus* Scortecci, 1933 is a synonym.

Pristurus simonettai (Lanza & Romoli Sassi, 1968).

Coastal Somalia from Mogadishu to Sar Uanle, about 20 km south of Kismayu: M, LS, MJ, LJ.

Genus PTYODACTYLUS Gray, 1825

Ptyodactylus hasselquisti (Donndorff, 1798).

North Africa from Morocco to north Ethiopia and north Somalia; Sinai; Israel; Jordan; Arabia. North-west Somalia: WG.

Genus TARENTOLA Gray, 1825

Tarentola annularis (Geoffroy, 1823).

Lybia; Egypt; Sudan; Ethiopia; Arabia; Somalia: WG, S, B.

Genus TROPIOCOLOTES Peters, 1880

Tropiocolotes somalicus Parker, 1942.

Somalia: WG.

FAMILY AGAMIDAE Gray, 1827

Genus AGAMA Daudin, 1802

Agama bottegi Boulenger, 1898.

Somalia: Ge, Bay.

Agama persimilis Parker, 1942.

Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia and Kenya. Somalia: T, Mu, G, H.

Agama robecchii Boulenger, 1891.

Somalia: T?, S, B, N, Mu, MS, M.

Agama rueppelli rueppelli Vaillant, 1895.

East Ethiopia and north Somalia (subsp. *rueppelli*); south Ethiopia and north Kenya (susp. *occidentalis* Parker, 1932); central and south Kenya (subsp. *septentrionalis* Parker, 1932). Somalia: WG, S, T, B, N.

Agama rueppelli subsp.

Somalia: Mu, MS, Bay.

Agama spinosa Gray, 1831.

From Egypt to north Ethiopia and north Somalia. Somalia: WG, T, S, B.

Agama sp.

An unidentified *agama*-like species from south Somalia: LJ.

Genus STELLIO Laurenti, 1768

Stellio annectens (Blanford, 1870).

North and east Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, S, N, B, H.

Stellio atricollis (Smith, 1849).

East Africa from north Ethiopia and north-west Somalia to Natal, through Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Katanga, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Transvaal; Kivu Mts; Angola. Somalia: WG. Remarks: the Somali populations could belong to the subsp. *minutus* (Klausewitz, 1957).

Stellio phillipsi (Boulenger, 1895).

North Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, T.

Genus UROMASTYX Merrem, 1820 (1)

Uromastyx macfadyeni Parker, 1932.

Somalia: WG.

Uromastyx princeps O'Shaugnessy, 1880.

Somalia: S, B, N, Mu. Remarks: the subsp. *scorteccii* Cherchi, 1954 could either be not valid or a full species.

(1) About the use of the incorrect transliteration *Uromastyx* see WERMUTH (1967, footnote of p. 100). As both the words μαστίξ (Greek) and *mastix* (Latin) are of feminine gender, also the name of the genus is feminine.

Genus *XENAGAMA* Boulenger, 1895

Xenagama batillifera (Vaillant, 1882).

North Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, S, B.

Xenagama taylori Parker, 1935.

Somalia: T.

FAMILY CHAMAELEONIDAE Gray, 1827

Genus *BROOKESIA* Gray, 1865

Brookesia kersteni robecchii (Boulenger, 1892).

From Tanzania to Kenya [subsp. *kersteni* (Peters, 1868)] and from north Kenya to north Somalia (subsp. *robecchii*). Somalia: WG, T, S, B, N, Mu, MS, M, LS, Bay, LJ. Remarks: *Rhampholeon mandera* Meek, 1897 is a synonym.

Genus *CHAMAELEO* Laurenti, 1768

Chamaeleo africanus Laurenti, 1768.

From Nigeria and Cameroon to Egypt, Ethiopia and north Somalia. Somalia: WG, B.

Chamaeleo dilepis dilepis Leach, 1819.

Range of the species: most of Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *dilepis*: Zaire; Gabon; Guinea; Uganda; Kenya; Tanzania; Malawi; Mozambique; Zambia; Zimbabwe; South Africa; north South-West Africa; Angola; Somalia: M, LS, Ge.

Chamaeleo gracilis gracilis Hallowell, 1842.

Zaire, Central African Republic, Gabon, Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Gambia, Senegal, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia (subsp. *gracilis*); Zaire, Gabon and Angola (subsp. *etiennei* Schmidt, 1919). Somalia: B ($10^{\circ}09'N$ - $49^{\circ}E$)?, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, LJ.

Chamaeleo ruspolii Boettger, 1893.

Northwestern Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: T.

Chamaeleo quilensis Bocage, 1866.

Togo; Nigeria; Cameroon; Gabon; Congo (Brazzaville); Zaire; Angola; Uganda; Tanzania; Malawi; Mozambique; Zambia; Zimbabwe; South Africa; Kenya; Somalia: Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ. Remarks: according to D. G. BROADLEY (1966. The herpetology of southeast Africa. Ph. D. Thesis, Univ. Natal, 680 pp.) it is a synonym of *C. dilepis*.

FAMILY SCINCIDAE Gray, 1825

Genus CHALCIDES Laurenti, 1768

Chalcides ocellatus ocellatus (Forskål, 1775).

Range of the species: southern Mediterranean countries; Arabia; Somalia; subsp. *ocellatus*: from south Tunisia to Sind, through Lybia (Barca excluded), Egypt, Greece and Arabia; Somalia: WG, S, B, MS, M, LS. Remarks: *Lyogsoma* (sic!) *akeleyi* Meek, 1897 is a synonym.

Chalcides ocellatus sacchii Lanza, 1954.

Somalia: Ge (Lugh).

Chalcides ragazzii Boulenger, 1890 subsp.

Range of the species according to PASTEUR (1981): Air; east Hoggar; Sudan; Ethiopia; north Kenya; Somalia: WG, T, S.

Genus CRYPTOBLEPHARUS Wiegmann, 1834

Cryptoblepharus africanus (Sternfeld, 1918).

Rocky coastal stretches of Somalia, Kenya (including Manda, Lamu and Mombasa islands), Tanzania, Pemba, Zanzibar and Mafia islands, Mozambique and perhaps north Zululand. Somalia: MS, M, LS, LJ (including Ciuai and Coiama islands), Ge (Lugh)?

Genus HAACKGREERIUS gen. n.

Type species (by present designation): *Lygosoma miopus* Greer & Haacke, 1982.

Diagnosis. — A lygosomine skink with: strongly wedge-shaped and protruding snout; countersunk lower jaw; prefrontal reduced and fused to the posterior loreal (or absent?); supranasal and postnasal fused to the

nasal; no preoculars, postoculars, suboculars or supraciliaries; frontoparietals and interparietal fused; single supraocular; vestigial eye covered by an undifferentiated ocular scale; no front limbs; rear limbs with two toes; undifferentiated subdigital lamellae; premaxillary edentulous; reduced number of maxillary and dentary teeth; ventrolateral part of the body with a ridge.

Derivatio nominis. — I take pleasure in dedicating this new genus to my colleagues Allen E. Greer and Wulf D. Haacke who recognized the many peculiarities of its unique species, but preferred to consider it as belonging to the genus *Lygosoma*.

Haackgreerius miopus (Greer & Haacke, 1982).

Central Somalia: G [7 km north-west of Rugno Well (about 04°N-47°E), about 80 km south-east of El Bur on the road to El Dere].

Genus LYGOSOMA Hardwicke & Gray, 1827

Lygosoma afrum (Peters, 1854).

Sudan; Ethiopia; Zaire; Uganda; Kenya; Tanzania (and Zanzibar); east Zambia; south Malawi; Mozambique; Somalia: WG, S, Mu, H, MS, M, LS, Ba, Ge, Bay, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *Lygosoma ferrandii* Boulenger, 1898 is a partial synonym.

Lygosoma grandisonianum (Lanza & Carfi, 1966).

Somalia: B, Mu.

Lygosoma laeviceps laeviceps (Peters, 1874).

Range of the species: Somalia, subsp. *laeviceps*, south-east Somalia: M, LS.

Lygosoma laeviceps paedocarinatum (Lanza & Carfi, 1968).

North-west Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: T.

Lygosoma mabuiiforme (Loveridge, 1935).

Northern coastal Kenya (Ngatana, at the mouth of the Tana River); Somalia: MS, MJ.

Lygosoma productum Boulenger, 1909.

Somalia: MS, Ge; Bay, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *Lygosoma parisii* Scortecci, 1929 is a synonym.

Lygosoma simonettai Lanza, 1979.

Somalia: LS (Afgoi).

Lygosoma sundevalli modestum (Günther, 1880).

Range of the species: south Angola, north and central South West Africa, east through Botswana and Transvaal to west Mozambique, north through Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania and Kenya to east Ethiopia and north-west Somalia; subsp. *modestum*: north of a broad belt of *L. sundevalli sundevalli* (Smith, 1849) \times *L. sundevalli modestum* intergrades extending from South West Africa to Malawi. South Somalia: LS, LJ. Remarks: *Lygosoma sphenopiforme* Boulenger, 1909 is almost surely a synonym.

Lygosoma sundevalli somalicum (Parker, 1942).

North-west Somalia: WG, T.

Lygosoma tanae (Loveridge, 1935).

Northern coastal Kenya (mouth of the Tana River); Somalia: M, LJ.

Lygosoma vinciguerrae Parker, 1932.

Somalia: T, N, G, LS, Ge. Remarks: *Lygosoma ferrandii* Boulenger, 1898 is a partial synonym.

Genus MABUYA Fitzinger, 1826

Mabuya ferrarii Lanza, 1978.

Somalia: MS (Balad), LS (Agfoi).

Mabuya hemmingi Laurent & Gans, 1965.

Somalia: WG, S, B, N.

Mabuya hildebrandti (Peters, 1874).

Somalia: S, B, N, Mu, MS, M, LS, Ge, LJ.

Mabuya maculilabris maculilabris (Gray, 1845).

Both the species and the subsp. *maculilabris* are widely distributed in Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: M, MJ, LJ.

Mabuya planifrons (Peters, 1878).

Tanzania; Kenya; Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, T, N, G, MS, M, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ (including Coima Island).

Mabuya quinquetaeniata quinquetaeniata (Lichtenstein, 1823).

Range of the species: Egypt and Africa south of the Sahara; the subsp. *quinquetaeniata* occupies approximately the portion north of Uganda and east of the Ubangi and Shari rivers. Somalia: WG.

Mabuya somalica Calabresi, 1915.

Djibouti; east Ethiopia; Kenya; Arabia (?); Somalia: all the regions but M and Ba. Remarks: I tentatively consider *M. somalica* as a full species rather than a synonym of *M. brevicollis* (Wiegmann, 1837). *Mabuya brevicollis* (*sensu lato*), is a highly variable species which badly needs revision. It lives in Sudan, Ethiopia, Aschik Island, Arabia, Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. *M. somalica* could be a synonym of *Euprepes pyrrhocephalus* Wiegmann, 1837 (type locality: Aschik Island, Red Sea) and/or *Tiliqua burtoni* Blyth, 1856 (type locality: «Somali Country»), *Mabuya chanleri* Stejneger, 1893 (type locality: Tana River, Kenya), *Mabuya tessellata* Anderson, 1895 (type locality: near Aden), *Mabuia* (sic!) *Rotschildi* Mocquard, 1905 (type locality: Endessa, 08°40'N-40°E, Ethiopia), *Mabuya pulchra* Matschie, 1893 (type locality: Lahej, near Aden).

Mabuya striata striata (Peters, 1844).

The species has a wide distribution in east, central and south Africa; subsp. *striata*: from Ethiopia and south-east Sudan, south to Natal, west to east Zaire, Malawi, south-east Zimbabwe, north and east Transvaal. Somalia: WG, T, S, B, H, MS, M, LS, Ba, MJ, LJ.

Mabuya varia varia (Peters, 1867).

Range of the species and subsp. *varia*: from Sudan and Ethiopia to South Africa, through Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique; South West Africa; Angola. Somalia: WG, S, B.

Genus PANASPIS Cope, 1868

Panaspis wahlbergi (Smith, 1849).

East Africa from Ethiopia to Natal, west to South West Africa, north-east through Angola to Zaire. Somalia: WG, B, N, H, MS, Ba, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

FAMILY CORDYLIDAE Mertens, 1937

Genus GERRHOSAURUS Wiegmann, 1828

Gerrhosaurus flavigularis fitzsimonsi Loveridge, 1942.

Range of the species: East Africa from Sudan to South Africa; subsp. *fitzsimonsi*: Sudan; Ethiopia; Kenya; Tanzania; Somalia; MS, LS.

Gerrhosaurus major bottegoi Del Prato, 1895.

Range of the species: East Africa from Ethiopia to Natal; South West Africa; Angola; Togo; Zaire; subsp. *bottegoi*: Tanzania; Kenya; Ethiopia; Somalia; WG, MS, LS, Bay.

FAMILY LACERTIDAE Bonaparte, 1831

Genus EREMIAS Wiegmann, 1834

Eremias (?) ercolinii Lanza & Poggesi, 1975.

Somalia: G. (Bud Bud). Remarks: ascribed to the genus *Mesalina* by WELCH (1982).

Genus HELIOBOLUS Fitzinger, 1843

Helobolus spekii scorteccii (Arillo, Balletto & Spanò, 1965).

Range of the species: from north Sudan and Ethiopia to Tanzania; Somalia: B, Mu.

Helobolus spekii sextaenius (Stejneger, 1894).

Somalia: WG, T, N, G, H, MS, M, LS, Ge, Bay, LJ.

Genus LATASTIA Bedriaga, 1884

Latastia boscai boscai Bedriaga, 1884.

Range of the species: Ethiopia and Somalia; subsp. *boscai*, north-west Somalia: WG.

Latastia boscai arenicola Parker, 1942.

Somalia: T, N, Mu, Ge.

Latastia boscai burii Boulenger, 1907.

Somalia: WG, S, B, N.

Latastia boscai subsp.

Somalia: H, Ms, LJ.

Latastia carinata carinata (Peters, 1875).

Range of the species: Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia; subsp. *carinata*, south-east Somalia: MS, LS, LJ.

Latastia carinata caeruleopunctata Parker, 1935.

North and central Somalia: T, CS, H.

Latastia cherchii Arillo, Balletto & Spanò, 1967.

Somalia: Mu (Obbia).

Latastia doriai doriai Bedriaga, 1884.

Range of the species: north-west Somalia and adjacent parts of Djibouti and Ethiopia; subsp. *doriai*: north-west Somalia (south of the range of the subsp. *scorteccii*) and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG.

Latastia doriai scorteccii Arillo, Balletto & Spanò, 1967.

North-west Somalia (north of the range of the subsp. *doriai*) and adjacent parts of Djibouti and Ethiopia. Somalia: WG.

Latastia lanzai Arillo, Balletto & Spanò, 1967.

Kenya? Tanzania? Somalia: H, MS, M, LS, Ba, Ge, Bay, LJ.

Latastia longicaudata longicaudata (Reuss, 1834).

Range of the species: south-west Arabia; Sinai; from Nigeria to Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia (south to Zaire, Kenya and Tanzania?); subsp. *longicaudata*: Sinai; Sudan; Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, B.

Latastia longicaudata revoili (Vaillant, 1882).

Somalia: WG, S, B, N, Mu.

Latastia taylori Parker, 1947.

Somalia: S, B, N.

Genus MESALINA Gray, 1838

Mesalina olivieri martini (Boulenger, 1897).

Range of the species: Senegal; Mauritania; Rio de Oro; Morocco; Algeria; Tunisia; coastal Lybia; Egypt; Sudan; Ethiopia; north-west Somalia; subsp. *martini*: coastal Sudan; Ethiopia; Somalia: WG.

Genus PHILOCHORTUS Matschie, 1893

Philochortus hardeggeri (Steindachner, 1891).

Somalia and adjacent parts of Djibouti and Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, N, G, MS, LS.

Philochortus intermedius intermedius Boulenger, 1917.

Range of the species: Lybia (subsp. *zolii* Scortecci, 1934); north Kenya (Lake Rudolf: subsp. *rudolfensis* Parker, 1932); subsp. *intermedius*: Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, B, N, G, M, Ba, Ge.

Philochortus phillipsi (Boulenger, 1898).

Ethiopia (Shoa); Somalia: WG, S, B, N, Mu.

Philochortus spinalis (Peters, 1875).

Ethiopia; Somalia: WG.

Genus PSEUDEREMIAS Boettger, 1883

Pseuderemias brenneri (Peters, 1869).

Somalia and adjacent parts of Djibouti and Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, B, N, CS, H, Ms, M, LS, Ge.

Pseuderemias erythrosticta (Boulenger, 1891).

Somalia: T, B, N, Mu.

Pseuderemias mucronata mucronata (Blanford, 1870).

Range of the species: Sinai; west coast of the Red Sea; Eritrea; west and central regions of north Somalia (subsp. *mucronata*); north-east Somalia north of the Darror Valley (subsp. *savagei*); north-east Somalia south of the Darror Valley and central Somalia (subsp. *septemstriata*). Somalia: WG, T, S.

Pseuderemias mucronata savagei (Laurent & Gans, 1965).

Somalia: B.

Pseuderemias mucronata septemstriata (Parker, 1942).

Somalia: B, N, Mu.

Pseuderemias smithi (Boulenger, 1895).

East Ethiopia; north coastal Kenya south to the Tana River; Somalia: WG, Ge, Bay.

Pseuderemias striata striata (Peters, 1875).

Range of the species: Somalia and adjacent parts of Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya; subsp. *striata*: about the same range of the species. Somalia: G, H, LS, Ba, Ge, Bay.

Pseuderemias striata gardoensis (Ariollo, Balletto & Spanò, 1965).

Somalia: T, B, N, Mu, G, MS.

FAMILY VARANIDAE Gray, 1827

Genus VARANUS Merrem, 1820

Varanus exanthematicus microstictus Boettger, 1893.

Range of the species: most of Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *microstictus*: from Ethiopia and Somalia, west to West Africa, south to Mozambique. Somalia: WG, T, S, B, N, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, LJ.

Varanus niloticus niloticus (Linnaeus, 1758).

Range of the species: Africa south of the Mediterranean countries; subsp. *niloticus*: same range of the species, except the western forestal regions. Somalia: Shebelli and Juba rivers; zone of Ola Uager.

SUBORDER *AMPHISBAENIA* Gray, 1844

FAMILY *TROGONOPHIDAE* Gray, 1844

Genus *AGAMODON* Peters, 1882

Agamodon anguliceps anguliceps Peters, 1882.

Range of the species: Somalia; subsp. *anguliceps*: south Somalia: MS, M, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Agamodon anguliceps immaculatus Calabresi, 1927.

Central Somalia: Mu (Afghedud), G (7 km north-west of the Rugno Well: about 04°N-47°E).

Agamodon compressus Mocquard, 1888.

Southern coastal Somalia: M, MS.

FAMILY *AMPHISBAENIDAE* Gray, 1825

Genus *ANCYLOCRANIUM* Parker, 1942

Ancylocranium somalicum somalicum (Scortecci, 1931).

Range of the species: Somalia; subsp. *somalicum*: south Somalia: MS, LS, LJ.

Ancylocranium somalicum parkeri Gans & Kochva, 1966.

North Somalia: T.

SUBORDER SERPENTES Linnaeus, 1758

FAMILY TYPHLOPIDAE Merrem, 1820

Genus RAMPHOTYPHLOPS Fitzinger, 1843

Ramphotyphlops braminus (Daudin, 1803).

Continental and insular south Asia; tropical islands of Pacific and Indian oceans; New Guinea; north Australia (vicinity of Darwin); west Mexico; coastal Tanzania; Mozambique; South Africa (?); Benin; Togo; Ivory Coast; Cameroon; Somalia: M (probably introduced). Remarks: almost surely an all-female species.

Genus RHINOTYPHLOPS Fitzinger, 1843

Rhinotyphlops leucocephalus (Parker, 1930).

North-west Somalia: T (Las Anod).

Rhinotyphlops schlegeli brevis (Scortecci, 1929).

Range of the species: most of Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *brevis*: south Sudan; south Ethiopia; Uganda; north Kenya; Somalia: WG, T, B, LS, MJ, LJ.

Rhinotyphlops scorteccii (Gans & Laurent, 1965).

South-east Somalia: M, LS.

Rhinotyphlops unitaeniatus (Peters, 1878).

Tanzania; Kenya; south Somalia: M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ: phenotype « *unitaeniatus* »; T, Mu, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ: phenotype « *ataeniatus* » (Boulenger, 1912).

Genus TYPHLOPS Oppel, 1811

Typhlops cuneirostris Peters, 1879.

Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, N, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ (including Coima Island). Remarks: *Typhlops cuneirostris calabresii* Gans & Laurent, 1965 seems to be a synonym.

Typhlops lineolatus Jan, 1863 subsp. nova?

Range of the species: intertropical Africa. South Somalia: MJ.

FAMILY LEPTOTYPHLOPIDAE Stejneger, 1891

Genus LEPTOTYPHLOPS Fitzinger, 1843

The Somali members of the genus badly need a revision.

Leptotyphlops cairi (Duméril & Bibron, 1844).

Isolated populations in Niger (?) and Mauritania (?); Egypt; Sudan; Ethiopia; Somalia: WG, S (?), MJ.

Leptotyphlops nigricans nigricans (Schlegel, 1839).

Range of the species: Pemba Island (subsp. *pembae* Loveridge, 1941); southern Cape Province; central Zambia through eastern Angola, eastern Zaire, Rwanda and Tanzania (including Mafia Island); Kenya and Uganda to the south Sudan; south Somalia: Ge (subsp. *nigricans*). Remarks: *L. emini* (Boulenger, 1890) is a synonym.

Leptotyphlops longicaudus (Peters, 1854).

East Africa lowlands from south Somalia south to the east Transvaal and Swaziland, reaching its western limit in Zimbabwe and east Botswana. Somalia: MS, M, LS, Ba?, LJ (Belet Amin)? Remarks: *Glauconia fiechteri* Scortecci, 1929 is a synonym.

Leptotyphlops reticulatus (Boulenger, 1906).

North-west Somalia: WG.

Leptotyphlops macrorhynchus macrorhynchus (Jan, 1861).

Range of the species: Niger (subsp. *bilmaensis* Angel, 1936); west and north Africa; south-west Asia, north to Turkey and east to Sind; Eritrea; north-east Somalia: B (Bosaso; Galgala Oasis) (subsp. *macrorhynchus*). Remarks: *Glauconia erythraea* Scortecci, 1928 and *Glauconia brachianii* Scortecci, 1929 are synonyms.

FAMILY BOIDAE Gray, 1825

Genus ERYX Daudin, 1803

Eryx colubrinus (Linnaeus, 1758).

Egypt south to Kenya and west to Niger; Somalia: WG, T, B, CS, MS, M, Ba, Bay, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Eryx somalicus Scortecci, 1939.

Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, B, M, MS.

Genus PYTHON Daudin, 1803

Python sebae (Gmelin, 1789).

Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: MS, M, Bay, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

FAMILY COLUBRIDAE Oppel, 1811

Genus AELUROGLENA Boulenger, 1898

Aeluroglena cucullata Boulenger, 1898.

North-west Somalia: WG, T.

Genus AMBLYODIPSAS Peters, 1849

Amblyodipsas polylepis bildebrandti (Peters, 1877).

Range of the species: Angola; Namibia; Botswana; Zaire; Zambia; Mozambique; Zimbabwe; Malawi; Transvaal; Natal [subsp. *polylepis* (Bocage, 1873)]; coastal Kenya and Tanzania; south Somalia: MJ (subsp. *bildebrandti*).

Genus APARALLACTUS Smith, 1849

The genus badly needs a revision.

Aparallactus jacksoni (Günther, 1888).

Uganda; north Tanzania; Kenya; south Sudan; Ethiopia; south Somalia: MJ.

Aparallactus lunulatus (Peters, 1854).

Africa south of the Sahara, except southernmost and northwestern countries. Somalia: WG, T, MS, M, LS, MJ, LJ. Remarks: it is uncertain whether the Somali subsp. *scorteccii* Parker, 1949 [= *Aparallactus concolor boulengeri* (non Werner) Scortecci, 1931] merits taxonomic recognition.

Aparallactus sp.

Somalia: Mu (Obbia).

Genus ATRACTASPIS Smith, 1849

Atractaspis bibroni Smith, 1849.

South and East Africa, north to Angola and south Somalia. Somalia: LS (Afgoi).

Atractaspis engdahli Lönnberg & Andersson, 1913.

Somalia: LS, MJ, LJ.

Atractaspis leucomelas Boulenger, 1895.

North-west Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG (11°N-43°05'E).

Atractaspis microlepidota Günther, 1866.

North Africa south of the Sahara from Mauritania to Ethiopia and East Africa from Ethiopia to Tanzania; south-west Arabia. Somalia: T, B, Mu, H, MS, M, Bay, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Atractaspis scorteccii Parker, 1949.

North Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, B.

Genus BRACHYOPHIS Mocquard, 1888

Brachyophis revoili revoili Mocquard, 1888.

Range of the species: coastal Somalia; subsp. *revoili*: south Somalia: MS, M, LS, LJ.

Brachyophis revoili cornii Scortecci, 1932.

Central Somalia: Mu (Obbia; between Durghale and Magghiore), G (Meregh).

Brachyophis revoili krameri Lanza, 1966.

North end of central Somalia: Mu (Geriban).

Genus COLUBER Linnaeus, 1758 (1)

Coluber brevis (Boulenger, 1895).

Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, B, N, Mu, Ge or Bay? Remarks: *Zamenis boschisi* Scortecci, 1930 could be either a good subspecies or a synonym.

(1) According to WELCH (1982) the Old World species belong to the genus *Haemorrhois* Boie, 1826.

Coluber florulentus Geoffroy St. Hil., 1827.

Egypt; Sudan; north Ethiopia; north Somalia: WG, B.

Coluber rhodorbachis subniger (Boettger, 1893).

Range of the species: from Egypt and Arabia to north-west India (subsp. *rhodorbachis* Jan, 1865); north Ethiopia; Somalia: NS, Mu (subsp. *subniger*).

Coluber scorteccii Lanza, 1963.

Somalia: N (south of the Nogal Valley), G.

Coluber smithi (Boulenger, 1895).

Kenya; south Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: H, MS, Ge, Bay, MJ, LJ (including Coima Island).

Coluber taylori Parker, 1949.

From Shoa (Ethiopia) to north-west Somalia; north-west Somalia: WG.

Genus CROTAPHOPELTIS Fitzinger, 1843

Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia (Laurenti, 1768).

Most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: H, MS, M, LS, Ba, MJ, LJ.

Crotaphopeltis sp.

Somalia: SS.

Genus DASYPELTIS Wagler, 1830

Dasypeltis medici lamuensis Gans, 1957.

Range of the species: extreme south Kenya, Tanzania (including Zanzibar and Mafia islands), north and central Mozambique, inland to Malawi and north-east Zimbabwe [subsp. *medici* (Bianconi, 1859)]; coastal East Africa from south Somalia to Kenya-Tanzania frontier; Somalia: MJ (Alessandra Island, near Gelib; zone of Mareri, south-west of Gelib, about 00°30'N-42°46'E), LJ (Belet Amin).

Dasypeltis scabra (Linnaeus, 1758).

Most of Africa south of the Sahara; Nile Valley; south-west Arabia; Somalia: WG, T, S, MS, M, LS, Ge, Bay, MJ, LJ.

Genus DIPSADOBIA Günther, 1858

Dipsadoboa aulica aulica (Günther, 1864).

Range of the species: Malawi [subsp. *flavida* (Broadley & Stevens, 1971)]; south-east Kenya; Tanzania; Mozambique; south-east Zimbabwe; east Transvaal; Zululand; south Somalia: MJ (zone of Mareri, south-west of Gelib, about 00°30'N-42°46'E) (subsp. *aulica*).

Genus DISPHOLIDUS Duvernoy, 1832

Dispholidus typus (Smith, 1829).

Most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: WG, G, H, MS, LS, Bay, MJ, LJ.

Genus HEMIRHAGERRHIS Boettger, 1893

Hemirhagerrhis kelleri Boettger, 1893.

Ethiopia; Kenya; Somalia: T, H, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Hemirhagerrhis nototenia nototaenia (Günther, 1864).

Range of the species: Namibia and south Angola (subsp. *viperinus* Bocage, 1973); east Zaire, Zambia, East Africa from south Sudan and Ethiopia to Botswana and Transvaal (subsp. *nototaenia*). Somalia: G, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Genus LAMPROPHIS Fitzinger, 1843

Lampropolis fuliginosus (Boie, 1827).

Africa south of the Sahara, west and north Morocco and Mauritania; south-west Arabia; Somalia: WG, T, H, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Lampropolis maculatus (Parker, 1827).

Djibouti; Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: T, B, N, G, Ba.

Genus LYCOPHIDION Fitzinger, 1843

Lycophidion capense (Smith, 1831).

Most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: WG, T, H, MS, M, LS, LJ (?).

Lycophidion depressirostre Laurent, 1968.

Tanzania; Uganda; Kenya; south Sudan; Somalia: T (08°29'N-45°34'E; 08°20'N-46°E), H, MS, M, LS, Ba, Bay, MJ, LJ (?).

Genus MEHELYA Csiki, 1903

Mehelya capensis savorgnani (Mocquard, 1887).

Range of the species: most of Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *savorgnani*: Kenya; south Sudan; Uganda; Zaire; Congo; Cameroon; Gabon; Central African Republic; south Somalia: WG, H, MS, M, LS, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *Mehelya somaliensis* Lönnberg & Andersson, 1913 and *Mehelya fiechteri* Scortecci, 1929 are synonyms.

Mehelya nyassae (Günther, 1888).

Kenya and Rwanda south through Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe to north-east South Africa; south Somalia: MJ.

Genus MEIZODON Fischer, 1856

Meizodon plumbiceps (Boettger, 1893).

Sudan (?); east Ethiopia; Somalia: MS, LS, Bay, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *Meizodon loveridgei* Bogert, 1940 and *Coronella somalica* Scortecci, 1932 are synonyms.

Meizodon semiornatus (Peters, 1854).

East Africa from Ethiopia and Somalia south to Zambia, Mozambique, Transvaal, Zimbabwe and Zwaziland; Somalia: MS, M, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ. Remarks: *Zamenis citerñii* Boulenger, 1912 is a synonym.

Genus MICRELAPS Boettger, 1880

Micrelaps boettgeri Boulenger, 1896.

South Sudan; Ethiopia; Uganda; Somalia: WG, T, MS, M, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Micrelaps vaillanti (Mocquard, 1888).

The only known specimen was collected in an undetermined locality of south Somalia.

Genus NATRICITERES Loveridge, 1953

Natriciteres olivacea (Peters, 1854).

Most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: M.

Genus PHILOTHAMNUS Smith, 1847

Philothamnus irregularis battersbyi Loveridge, 1951.

Range of the species: Africa south of 15°N and north of 20°S; subsp. *battersbyi*: from south Sudan and Ethiopia to Tanzania, through Somalia, Uganda and Kenya; north-east Zaire. Somalia: LS, MJ, LJ.

Philothamnus semivariegatus semivariegatus (Smith, 1847).

Range of the species and subspecies *semivariegatus*: most of Africa south of the Sahara. Somalia: WG, T, H, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Genus PROSYMNA Gray, 1849

Astenophis Boulenger, 1896 is a synonym.

Prosymna ambigua stuhlmanni (Pfeffer, 1893).

Range of the species: most of Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *stuhlmanni*: from south Somalia south to Zululand, extending west to eastern Zambia, Zimbabwe and Transvaal. Somalia: LJ (Belet Amin).

Prosymna ruspolii ruspolii (Boulenger, 1896).

Range of the species: Kenya (subsp. *keniensis* Broadley, 1980); south Ethiopia; south Somalia: H, MS, M, LS, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ (subsp. *ruspolii*). Remarks: *Prosymna agrestis* Scortecci, 1929 is a synonym.

Prosymna somalica Parker, 1930.

North Somalia and adjacent parts of Ethiopia. Somalia: WG, T, B.

Genus *PSAMMOPHIS* Boie, 1826

Psammophis biseriatus Peters, 1881.

South Lybia; Sudan; East Africa from Ethiopia to Tanzania. Somalia: NS, CS, SS (including Coiama Island).

Psammophis punctulatus punctulatus Duméril & Bibron, 1854.

Range of the species: East Africa from Sudan to Tanzania; subsp. *punctulatus*: Sudan; Ethiopia (except the Ogaden); Kenya (Lake Rudolf region), north Somalia: WG (north-west edge of the Guban, between 10°30'N-42°40'E and 10°55'N-42°55'E, about 500-1200 m a.s.l.), B (Galgala, 11°00'N-49°03'E, about 800 m a.s.l.).

Psammophis punctulatus trivirgatus Peters, 1878.

South (?) and south-east Ethiopia; Kenya; Uganda; north Tanzania; Somalia (except some northern regions): WG (Golis Mts and near Berbera), T (Haud, between 08°00'N-45°50'E and 08°29'N-45°34'E, about 800 m a.s.l.), N, CS, H, MS, LS, Ba, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Psammophis schokari (Forskål, 1775).

From north and north-east Africa to north-west India. Somalia: WG, T, S, B.

Psammophis sibilans sibilans (Linnaeus, 1758).

Range of the species: most of Africa (savanna countries), including Zanzibar; subsp. *sibilans*: same range of the species, except Transvaal, south-east Botswana, north Cape Province, south-west Mozambique, east and south-west Zimbabwe (subsp. *brevirostris* Peters, 1881), Angola, north Namibia and north Zambia (subsp. *leopardinus* Bocage, 1887). Somalia: WG, T, S, H, MS, LS, MJ, LJ.

Genus RHAMPHIOPHIS Peters, 1854

Rhamphiophis oxyrhynchus rostratus Peters, 1854.

Range of the species: most of Africa south of the Sahara; subsp. *rostratus*: East Africa from south Sudan and Ethiopia to Mozambique and Transvaal, through Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania (including Zanzibar), Malawi, south-east Zaire and Zimbabwe. Somalia: WG, T, B, N, Mu, M, LS, Ba, Bay, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Rhamphiophis rubropunctatus (Fischer, 1884).

South Sudan; Ethiopia; east Kenya; north Tanzania; Somalia: T, MS, M, Bay, MJ, LJ.

Genus SPALEROSOPHIS Jan, 1865 (1)

Spalerosophis josephscorteccii Lanza, 1966.

Somalia: B (Galgala Oasis).

Genus TELESCOPUS Wagler, 1830

Telescopus dhara (Forskål, 1775).

From Mauritania to Egypt, Arabia and Israel through north Nigeria; east Africa from Egypt to north Kenya. Somalia: WG, T, N, B, CS, SS. Remarks: in my opinion the subsp. *somalicus* Parker, 1949 (south Somalia) as well as the other races are doubtful.

Telescopus pulcher (Scortecci, 1935).

North Somalia: T ($44^{\circ}44' E - 08^{\circ}45' N$) and Mijarten (undetermined locality).

Genus THELOTORNIS Smith, 1849

Thelotornis capensis mossambicanus (Bocage, 1895).

Range of the species: south Somalia; south Kenya; Tanzania; south-east Zaire; Angola; Namibia; Zambia; Malawi; Zimbabwe; Mozambique; Botswana; Transvaal; Zwaliland; Zululand; Natal; subsp. *mossambicanus*: south Kenya; Tanzania; Malawi; north Zambia; Mozambique; Zimbabwe; south Somalia: M (?), MJ, LJ.

(1) See INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE (1966).

FAMILY ELAPIDAE Boie, 1827

Genus DENDROASPIS Schlegel, 1848

Probably the Common Green Mamba [*D. angusticeps* (Smith, 1848)] is present in the southernmost coastal Somalia.

Dendroaspis polylepis Günther, 1864.

From Ethiopia and Somalia south to Swaziland, Transvaal and Lesotho, west to include Uganda, Zaire, Angola and Botswana. Somalia: WG, MJ.

Genus ELAPSOIDEA Bocage, 1866

Elapsoidea chelazzii Lanza, 1979.

South Somalia: LS (Afgoi).

Elapsoidea loveridgei Parker, 1949?

Kenya, south Ethiopia, Zaire, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda. South Somalia: MJ (Gelib).

Genus NAJA Laurenti, 1768

Naja haje haje (Linnaeus, 1758).

Range of the species: savannas and semi-deserts of most of Africa; west and south Arabia; subsp. *haje*: from Morocco to Egypt; in East Africa south to Tanzania; west from Sudan and north-east Zaire to Senegal. Somalia: WG, T, S, B.

Naja melanoleuca Hallowell, 1857.

From Senegal to east Ethiopia and south Somalia, south to Angola and Natal; south Somalia: LJ.

Naja mossambica Peters, 1854.

Most of Africa south of the Sahara, except some western, central and southern countries. Somalia: NS, CS, MS, Ba, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Naja nigricollis Reinhardt, 1843.

Relatively moist savannas and deforested areas which border the equatorial forest, from Senegal east to Somalia and south to north Angola, Zambia and Tanzania. Somalia: H, MS, LS, Bay, MJ, LJ.

FAMILY HYDROPHIIDAE Fitzinger, 1843

Genus PELAMIS Daudin, 1803

Pelamis platurus (Linnaeus, 1766).

Pacific and Indian oceans. Somalia: Mu (Obbia). Remarks: almost surely present along all the Somali coasts.

FAMILY VIPERIDAE Laurenti, 1768

Genus BITIS Gray, 1842

Bitis arietans somalica Parker, 1949.

Range of the species: most of Africa; Arabia; subsp. *somalica*: east Ethiopia; north Kenya; Somalia: NS, CS, SS (including Coiama Island).

Genus CAUSUS Wagler, 1830

Causus resimus (Peters, 1862).

East Zaire; Sudan; Ethiopia; Uganda; Rwanda; Burundi; Kenya; Tanzania; north Mozambique; Angola; Somalia: H, MS, M, Bay, LS, Ge, MJ, LJ.

Genus ECHIS Merrem, 1820

According to HUGHES (1976) the genus needs revision and could be represented in Somalia by two distinct species.

Echis carinatus (Geoffroy, 1827).

North Africa; East Africa south to north Kenya; south-west Asia east to India. Somalia: WG, S, B, N, Mu, SS (?).

CONCLUSIONS

The amphibians are represented in the Somali Democratic Republic by at least 27 species: 6 Bufonidae, 12 Ranidae, 1 Rhacophoridae, 7 Hyperoliidae, 1 Microhylidae; all these species belong to the Ethiopian sub-region *sensu* DARLINGTON (1957). Four species (= 14.8%) are endemic

to Somalia (1): 2 Ranidae (= 16.7% of the family: *Lanzarana largeni* and *Pyxicephalus obbianus*) and 2 Hyperoliidae (26.6% of the family: *Kassina parkeri* and *K. somalica*). One genus is endemic: *Lanzarana*.

The reptiles are represented by at least 200 species: 10 Testudines (2 Testudinidae, 4 Cheloniidae, 1 Dermochelyidae, 1 Trionychidae, 2 Pelomedusidae), 1 Crocodilia (1 Crocodylidae), 109 Sauria (44 Gekkonidae, 13 Agamidae, 6 Chamaeleonidae, 23 Scincidae, 2 Cordylidae, 19 Lacertidae, 2 Varanidae), 3 Amphisbaenia (2 Tropgonophidae, 1 Amphisbaenidae), 77 Serpentes (7 Typhlopidae, 5 Leptotyphlopidae, 3 Boidae, 51 Colubridae, 7 Elapidae, 1 Hydrophiidae, 3 Viperidae).

Excluding the marine species (five turtles and one snake), there are 194 species of which 75 (= 38.6%) are endemic; 52 Sauria (= 47.7% of the suborder): 23 Gekkonidae (= 52.3% of the family: *Hemidactylus albopunctatus*, *H. arnoldi*, *H. bavazzanoi*, *H. citernii*, *H. curlei*, *H. fragilis*, *H. granchii*, *H. krauberi*, *H. laevis*, *H. megalops*, *H. ophiolepis*, *H. puccinii*, *H. ruspolii*, *H. smithi*, *H. taylori*, *H. tropidolepis*, *Hemitheconyx taylori*, *Holodactylus cornii*, *Lygodactylus scorteccii*, *L. somalicus*, *Pristurus phillipsi*, *P. simonettai*, *Tropiocolotes somalicus*), 7 Agamidae (= 53.8% of the family: *Agama bottegi*, *A. persimilis*, *A. robecchii*, *Uromastyx macfadyeni*, *U. princeps*, *Xenagama batillifera*, *X. taylori*), 1 Chamaeleonidae (= 16.7% of the family: *Chamaeleo ruspolii*), 11 Scincidae (= 47.8% of the family: *Haackgreierius miopus*, *Lygosoma grandisonianum*, *L. laeviceps*, *L. mabuiiforme*, *L. productum*, *L. simonettai*, *L. tanae*, *L. vinciguerrae*, *Mabuya ferrarii*, *M. hemmingi*, *M. hildebrandti*), 10 Lacertidae (= 52.6% of the family: *Eremias* (?) *ercolinii*, *Latastia carinata*, *L. cherchii*, *L. lanzai*, *L. taylori*, *Philochortus hardeggeri*, *Pseudoderemias brenneri*, *P. erythrosticta*, *P. smithii*, *P. striata*); 3 Amphisbaenia (= 100% of the suborder): 2 Tropgonophidae (= 100% of the family: *Agamodon anguliceps*, *A. compressus*), 1 Amphisbaenidae (= 100% of the family: *Ancylocranium somalicum*); 20 Serpentes (= 26% of the suborder): 2 Typhlopidae (= 42.8% of the family: *Rhinotyphlops leucocephalus*, *R. scorteccii*, *Typhlops cuneirostris*), 1 Leptotyphlopidae (= 20% of the family: *Leptotyphlops reticulatus*), 1 Boidae (33.3% of the family: *Eryx somalicus*), 14 Colubridae (= 27.4% of the family: *Aeluroglena cucullata*, *Aparallactus* sp., *Atractaspis engdahli*, *A. leucomelas*, *A. scorteccii*, *Lampropolis maculatus*, *Brachyophis revoili*, *Coluber brevis*, *C. scorteccii*, *Crotaphopeltis* sp., *Micrelaps vaillanti*, *Prosymna somalica*, *Spalerosophis josephscorteccii*, *Telescopus pulcher*), 1 Elapidae (= 14.3% of the family: *Elapsoidea chelazzii*).

(1) The term « Somalia », used here in a physiographic sense, includes some adjacent territories such as the Northeastern and Coast districts of Kenya (of this only the eastern part west to the Tana River) as well as the Ogaden.

There are four endemic genera *Xenagama* (Agamidae), *Haackgreerius* gen. n. (Scincidae), *Aeluroglena* and *Brachyophis* (Colubridae).

There are 89 non-endemic species belonging strictly (1) to the Ethiopian region *sensu* DARLINGTON (1957) (= 45.9%): 5 Testudines (= 100% of the order), 1 Crocodilia (= 100% of the order), 45 Sauria (= 41.3% of the suborder), 13 Gekkonidae (= 29.5% of the family: *Hemidactylus barodanus*, *H. funaiolii*, *H. isolepis*, *H. macropholis*, *H. mercatorius*, *H. parkeri*, *H. platycephalus*, *H. sinaitus*, *H. squamulatus*, *H. yerburi*, *Holodactylus africanus*, *Homopholis fasciata*, *Lygodactylus gutturalis*), 6 Agamidae (= 46.1% of the family: *Stellio annectens*, *S. atricollis*, *S. phillipsi*, *Agama rueppelli*, *A. spinosa*, *Agama* sp.), 5 Chamaeleonidae (= 83.3% of the family: *Brookesia kersteni*, *Chamaeleo africanus*, *C. dilepis*, *C. gracilis*, *C. quilensis*), 10 Scincidae (= 43.5% of the family: *Chalcides razzii*, *Panaspis wahlbergi*, *Cryptoblepharus africanus*, *Lygosoma afrum*, *L. sundevalli*, *Mabuya maculilabris*, *M. planifrons*, *M. quinquetaeniata*, *M. striata*, *M. varia*), 2 Cordylidae (= 100% of the family: *Gerrhosaurus flavigularis*, *G. major*), 7 Lacertidae (= 36.8% of the family: *Helobolus spekii*, *Latastia boscai*, *L. doriai*, *L. longicaudata*, *Philochortus phillipsi*, *P. spinalis*, *Pseuderemias mucronata*), 2 Varanidae (= 100% of the family: *Varanus exanthematicus*, *V. niloticus*); 38 Serpentes (= 49.3% of the suborder): 2 Typhlopidae (= 28.6% of the family: *Rhinotyphlops schlegeli*, *Typhlops lineolatus*), 3 Leptotyphlopidae (= 60% of the family: *Leptotyphlops cairi*, *L. nigricans*, *L. longicaudus*), 2 Boidae (= 66.7% of the family: *Eryx colubrinus*, *Python sebae*), 32 Colubridae (= 62.7% of the family: *Amblyodipsas polylepis*, *Aparallactus jacksoni*, *Atractaspis bibronii*, *A. microlepidota*, *Coluber florulentus*, *C. smithi*, *C. taylori*, *Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*, *Daspeltis medici*, *D. scabra*, *Dipsadoboaaulica*, *Dispholidus typus*, *Hemirhagerrhis kelleri*, *H. nototaenia*, *Lamprophis fuliginosus*, *Lycophidion capense*, *L. depressirostre*, *Mehelya capensis*, *M. nyassae*, *Meizodon plumbiceps*, *M. semiornatus*, *Micrelaps boettgeri*, *Natriciteres olivacea*, *Philothamnus irregularis*, *P. semivariegatus*, *Prosymna ambigua*, *P. ruspolii*, *Psammophis biseriatus*, *P. punctulatus*, *Rhamphiophis oxyrhynchus*, *R. rubropunctatus*, *Thelotornis capensis*), 5 Elapidae [= 71.4% of the family: *Dendroaspis polylepis*, *Elapsoidea loveridgei* (?), *Naja melanoleuca*, *N. mossambica*, *N. nigricollis*], 1 Viperidae (= 33.3% of the family: *Causus resimus*).

Therefore, the total number of strictly Ethiopian species (endemic to Somalia + non-endemic ones) is 164 (= 84.5%): 5 Testudines (= 100% of the order), 1 Crocodilia (100% of the order), 97, Sauria (= 89% of the suborder), 3 Amphisbaenia (= 100% of the suborder), 58 Serpentes (= 73.3% of the suborder).

(1) A few species reach Egypt along the Nile Valley.

The remaining 30 species (= 15.5%) have a different geonomy: north-African (*Mesalina olivieri*), almost pantropical (*Ramphotyphlops braminus*), prevalently south-Mediterranean (as *Ptyodactylus hasselquisti*, *Pristurus rupestris*, *Tarentola annularis*, *Chalcides ocellatus*, *Leptotyphlops macrorhynchus*, *Coluber rhodorhachis*, *Telescopus dhara*, *Psammophis schokari*, *Echis carinatus*), etc. The oriental gecko *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* is surely introduced.

Some species inhabiting both Somalia and south-west Arabia confirm the well-known close biogeographic relationship existing between the two countries (1): *Pelomedusa subrufa*, *Hemidactylus sinaitus*, *H. yerburi*, *Latastia longicaudata*, *Atractaspis microlepidota*, *Dasypeltis scabra*, *Lamprophis fuliginosus* and *Naja haje*. This relationship is also confirmed by the prevalently or strictly Somali-south Arabian genera such as *Pristurus*, *Philochortus* and *Agamodon*. The ancestor of the southernmost member of the Saharo-Sindian genus *Spalerosophis*, the Somali endemic *S. josephscorteccii*, presumably reached Somalia not through the Isthmus of Suez but from south Arabia before the opening of the Gulf of Aden. The same applies to another Saharo-Sindian genus, *Tropiocolotes*, represented in Somalia by the endemic *T. somalicus* (see also Addendum).

SUMMARY

Herpetological research in Somalia dates from 1881 (G. Revoil's Expedition) and progressively spread over most of the Somali territory thanks above all to the scientific missions conducted by R.H.R. Taylor (1929-34), G. Scortecci (1931, 1953, 1957) and, since 1959, by the University of Florence and the « Centro di Studio per la Faunistica ed Ecologia Tropocali » of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Florence, Italy).

According to this list of the amphibians and reptiles reported to date for the Somali Democratic Republic, there are 27 species of amphibians, four of which (= 14.8%) are endemic; all these species belong strictly to the Ethiopian subregion *sensu DARLINGTON* (1957). A monotypic genus, *Lanzarana*, is endemic.

The reptiles are represented by at least 200 species. Excluding the marine species (six turtles and one snake), there are 194 species, of which 75 (= 38.6%) are endemic to Somalia. Four genera are endemic: *Xenagama* (Agamidae), *Haackgreerius* gen. n. (Scincidae), *Aeluroglena*

(1) SCORTECCI (1932c) recorded *Eryx thebaicus* (= *E. colubrinus*), *Lycophidion capense*, *Philothamnus semivariegatus*, *Coronella somalica* (= *Meizodon plumbiceps*), *Brachyophis revoili* (subsp. *revoili* according to LANZA, 1966) and *Lygosoma sundevalli* (= *L. afrum*) for the Yemen. These species are not considered here as they actually come from the southern Somalia (erroneously labelled material! See also LANZA, 1966, p. 37, note 10).

and *Brachyophis* (Colubridae). The majority of the Somali reptilian fauna is composed of species belonging strictly to the Ethiopian subregion *sensu* DARLINGTON (1957): 164 species (= 84.5%). The remaining 30 species (= 15.5%) have a different, prevalently south-Mediterranean geomomy. Some reptiles inhabiting both Somalia and south-west Arabia confirm the well-known close biogeographic relationship existing between the two countries.

RIASSUNTO

La ricerca erpetologica in Somalia, iniziata nel 1881 (Spedizione G. Revoil), si è progressivamente estesa sino a interessare quasi l'intero territorio somalo, grazie soprattutto alle missioni effettuate da R.H.R. Taylor (1929-34), da G. Scortecci (1931, 1953, 1957) e, a partire dal 1959, dall'Università di Firenze e dal « Centro di Studio per la Faunistica ed Ecologia Tropicali » del C.N.R. (Firenze).

Secondo la presente lista degli Anfibi e dei Rettili sinora noti della Repubblica Democratica Somala, vivono in questo Paese 27 specie di Anfibi, 4 delle quali (= 14.8%) sono endemiche; tutte fanno stretta parte della sottoregione etiopica *sensu* DARLINGTON (1957). Il genere monotypico *Lanzarana* è endemico.

I Rettili vi sono rappresentati da almeno 200 specie. Escludendo le specie marine (sei tartarughe ed un serpente), le specie presenti nel territorio assommano a 194, delle quali 75 (= 38,6%) endemiche. I generi endemicci sono 4: *Xenagama* (Agamidae), *Haackgreerius* gen. n. (Scincidae), *Aeluroglaena* e *Brachyophis* (Colubridae). La maggior parte dei Rettili somali appartiene strettamente alla fauna della sottoregione etiopica: 164 specie, pari all'84.5% del totale. Alcuni Rettili presenti sia in Somalia che nell'Arabia sud-occidentale confermano i ben noti, stretti rapporti biogeografici esistenti fra i due Paesi.

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ADDENDUM

According to Mr J. GASPERETTI (*in litteris*, 9.X.1983) *Panaspis wahlbergi* (Smith) has been recently discovered in Saudi Arabia.

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