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#### A new record of *Pseudoxenodon inornatus* (Boie In: Boie, 1827) from Gunung Gedeh National Park, West Java, Indonesia (Squamata: Pseudoxenodontidae)

The genus *Pseudoxenodon* (Family Pseudoxenodontidae) comprises six nominal species from east and south-east Asia (Uetz 2012): *Pseudoxenodon bambusicola* Vogt, 1922 (distribution: southern China and northern Vietnam; Bourret 1936; Orlov *et al.* 2000); *Pseudoxenodon baramensis* Smith, 1921 (distribution: Sarawak, East Malaysia [Borneo]; Smith 1921); *Pseudoxenodon inornatus* Boie in Boie, 1827 (distribution: Java; Manthey & Grossmann 1997); *Pseudoxenodon jacobsonii* van Lidth de Jeude, 1922 (distribution: Sumatra; David & Vogel 1996; sometimes considered a subspecies of *inornatus* but considered distinct here on account of its diagnosability and disjunct distribution); *Pseudoxenodon karlschmidti* Pope, 1928 (distribution: southern China and northern Vietnam; Smith 1943; Nguyen *et al.* 2009); *Pseudoxenodon macrops* (Blyth, 1855) (distribution: Nepal, eastern India, south-western China, Myanmar; Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos; Manthey & Grossmann 1997; Zhao & Adler 1993); and *Pseudoxenodon stejnegeri* Barbour, 1908 (distribution: southern China; Barbour 1908; Zhao & Adler 1993). One additional taxon, *P. buettikoferi*, has been described from Ka-

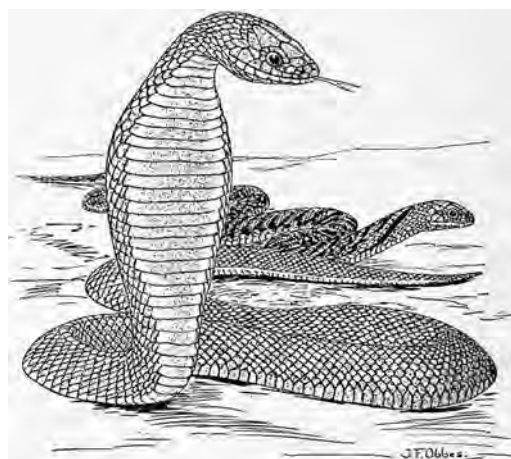


Figure 1. Line art showing a pair of *Pseudoxenodon inornatus* (reproduced from de Rooij 1917).



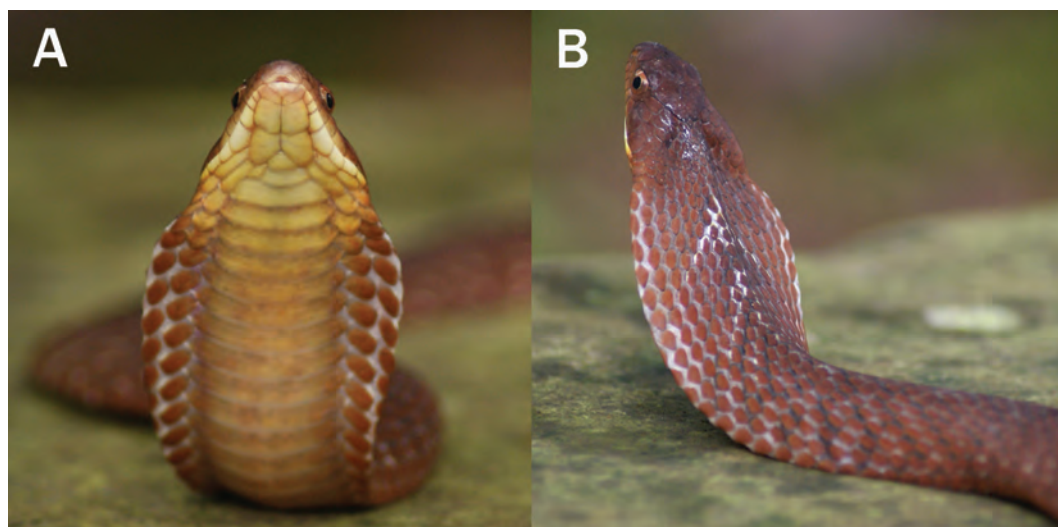
**Figure 2.** Live individual of *Pseudoxenodon inornatus* from Gunung Gede, showing lateral view of anterior aspect of body.

limantan, Borneo (Brongersma & Helle 1951), and was treated as a subspecies of *P. inornatus* by David and Vogel (1996), but its status requires reevaluation. Little has been recorded of the natural history of *Pseudoxenodon* of the Greater Sundas (Das 2010), with published data deriving chiefly from their respective holotypes.

The scarcity of biological information on *Pseudoxenodon inornatus*, the ‘Dull Bamboo snake’ or ‘Javanese False Cobra’, is the result of the small number of specimens known. No images of the species have been published in the scientific literature to the best of our knowledge, apart from a line drawing in de Rooij (1917), reproduced here as Fig. 1. The species has been assessed as Least Concern in the IUCN Red List

(Vogel *et al.* 2012). Brongersma (1950) reviewed previous data on the species, including: the holotype of Boie (1827), which was from Cihanjawan (06°50’01” S; 106°49’02” E), at the foot of Gunung Pangrango, Jawa Barat Province, collected by Salomon Müller and two additional specimens that were sent to the Zoological Museum Amsterdam (now merged with the National Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis, Leiden, The Netherlands), by J. C. Bauwens, from “Sumadra Estate near Garut” (07°23’00” S; 107°43’00” E), also in Jawa Barat Province. No further specimens have been recorded.

On 14 April 2012, at 1530 h, En. Firman photographed a snake that could be identified as *Pseudoxenodon inornatus*. It was found at the Selabintana Resort, Sukabumi (06°52’19” S; 106°56’57” E), at the base of the 2929 m Gunung Gumuruh, within the Gunung Gede Pangrango National Park, Jawa Barat Province. It was found near an ephemeral stream within submontane forests dominated by *Altingia excelsa* (Altingiaceae) and *Schima wallichii* (Theaceae), at ca. 1200 m asl. The snake was released after it was photographed. Provided here are scale counts made from images reproduced here as Figs. 2–3, arguably the first of the species in life. Given in parentheses are scale counts from de Rooij (1917) and Brongersma (1950), counts



**Figure 3.** Live individual of *Pseudoxenodon inornatus* from Gunung Gede, with raised head and flared neck in frontal (A) and posterolateral (B) views, showing extent of flaring of neck and ‘hood’ pattern.

separated by a slash ('/'), '?' being unspecified values.

Midbody scale row 19 (19/19); loreal present; 3 (2–3/2–4) preoculars; 1 presubocular; 3 (3/3) postoculars; 2 internasals; 2 prefrontals; 2 anterior chin shields; 2 posterior chin shields; 8 (8/7–8) supralabials (supralabials VI and V contact orbit); 8 (?/9–10) infralabials. Head is short, neck is distinct, eyes are large, pupil is rounded; prefrontal ca. twice as large as internasal. Total length of the new specimen was estimated to be 500–600 mm. Body is subtriangular in cross-section. Dorsum is olive brown, with three cream-coloured chevron marks on neck, the anteriormost being most distinct; upper labials are slightly paler than sides of head; lower labials are cream coloured; vertebral region is slightly darker; venter is pale yellow, except for the dark brown paired row of enlarged scales on sides of throat that form the hood.

The rediscovery of this rare snake emphasizes the potential for discoveries on the densely populated Indonesian island of Java, which still has sizeable forested areas, especially in the uplands.

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Copyright 2013 Centre for Herpetology,  
Madras Crocodile Bank Trust.**First description of male *Hemidactylus sataraisensis* Giri & Bauer 2008 (Sauria: Gekkonidae) with notes on its natural history, distribution and conservation status**

The genus *Hemidactylus* is represented in India by 27 species (Uetz 2012) and it is likely that with the increasing attention paid to this group, the number of species will increase (Giri & Bauer 2008; Mahony 2009; Agarwal *et al.* 2011).

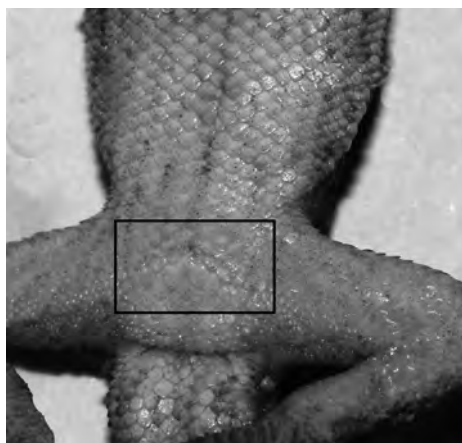
Giri & Bauer (2008) described *Hemidactylus sataraisensis* based on two female specimens (BNHS 1742–1743) from Chalakewadi (17°34'40" N, 73°49'28" E) in the Satara District in the Western Ghats of the Indian state of Maharashtra. The type locality is characterized by extensive lateritic rock outcrop and by rela-

tively extreme conditions with highly patchy and temporally variable resources and an average elevation of over 1200m above mean sea level. The microclimatic conditions vary from almost xeric to water-logged during the course of a year (Watve & Thakur 2006). This creates an extremely harsh physical environment for biodiversity inhibiting the area. Under these harsh conditions, this species takes refuge under boulders on the plateau. The landscape is dominated by numerous windmills and attracts tourists and therefore is under tremendous anthropogenic pressure. In spite of being described almost four years ago, *H. sataraisensis* remains known only from female specimens. Data on important taxonomic characters like number and nature of pores restricted to males (Smith 1935) is not known. Additionally, it is not possible from the few specimens thus far reported to assess the rarity of the species, but this data deficiency alone warrants its assessment.

Recent herpetological investigation in the area has resulted in the discovery of males of this species as well as several additional females and juveniles. This permits us to add valuable data on morphological variation in this species along with a first description of males. Observations and specimens were collected on several trips made to the type locality over a period of two years. Measurements were taken with digital calipers (to the nearest 0.1 mm) following Giri & Bauer (2008)

**Material examined.**– The female holotype (Bombay Natural History Society – BNHS 1743) and paratype (BNHS 1742) (data in Giri & Bauer 2008) were examined by Harshal Bhosale. Additional material: BNHS 2288 (male), BNHS 2289 (female), Chalakewadi, Satara District, Maharashtra, India (17°34'40" N, 73°49'28" E) on 22 July 2012. Collected by Harshal Bhosale. BNHS 2290 (male), BNHS 2291 (female), same locality as above, on 18 June 2012. Collected by Zeeshan Mirza, Ashish Jadhav, Nilesh Mane & Vishal Deshpande.

**Variation.**– Apart from morphometric and meristic variation presented in Table 1, the species also exhibits a great deal of colour variation with respect to its size. Larger individuals are more conspicuously marked as opposed to juveniles and subadults (Fig. 2). Juveniles are dark brown with a tinge of tan to them with diffused



**Figure 1.** *Hemidactylus sataraisensis* male (BNHS 2288) ventral view of trunk and cloacal region showing precloacal pores in the black square.