

A NEW SPECIES OF *CYRTODACTYLUS* (SAURIA: GEKKONIDAE) FROM PULAU TIOMAN, MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT. - A new species of *Cyrtodactylus* is described from Pulau Tioman, an island off the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia. The new species can be differentiated from congeners from south-east Asia in showing the following combination of characters: medium-sized *Cyrtodactylus* (SVL to 83.2 mm); rostral partially divided by rostral groove, contacted posteriorly by two nostrils and two semi-circular supranasals; pectoral and abdominal scales smooth, rounded, semi-circular, imbricate; no preanal groove, a distinct preanal depression; sharp boundary between small scales on posterior surface of thighs and larger ones on ventral surface of thighs; tail without lateral denticles or tubercles forming whorls or segments; supralabials (to midorbit position) 8-11; infralabials 9-11; midventral scale rows at belly to lowest row of tubercles 36-40; lamellae under toe IV 20-22; preanofemoral pores 19; and dorsal pattern comprises four pale yellow transverse bands, each narrower than the intervening pale brown areas, edges with dark brown, and a pale yellow nuchal loop joining posterior edges of eyes.

KEY WORDS. - Systematics, *Cyrtodactylus tiomanensis*, new species, Sauria, Gekkonidae, Pulau Tioman, Malaysia.

INTRODUCTION

Kluge (1993) recognised 60 nominal species of *Cyrtodactylus* Hardwicke & Gray, 1827, which earlier workers, including Wermuth (1966), allocated to the genus *Gymnodactylus* Spix, 1825, then a catchall for many cyrtodactyline gekkonids (including *Cyrtopodion*, *Cyrtodactylus* and *Tenuidactylus*). The boundary of *Cyrtodactylus* remains poorly defined (Kluge, 1983), and seven additional species have been described subsequent to this work (Ulber, 1993; Darevsky and Szczerbak, 1997; Darevsky et al., 1997; Das, 1997; Schleich and Kästle, 1998), although some workers retained members of the genus in *Gonydactylus*, presumably following the scheme of classification in Kluge (1991). Although a presumed unnamed species of the genus was known to inhabit Pulau Tioman, an island off the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia (see Mäntey and Grossmann, 1997: 228; Lim and Lim, 1999), no attempt had been made to evaluate its systematic status. In the present paper, we examine

material from the island, compare it with congeners and supply a name for the taxon.

Pulau Tioman (02° 35'N; 104° 15'E) is a large (land area: ca. 133.6 km²) continental island, located ca. 32 km east of Mersing, Johore, in Pahang State, Peninsular Malaysia. The vegetation types on this island include coastal vegetation, mangrove swamps, and tropical rainforests as represented by lowland and hill dipterocarp formations (Latiff et al., 1999). Further details of the island can be found in Jasmi (1999) and Ng et al. (1999).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The following measurements were taken with a Mitutoyo dial caliper (to the nearest 0.01 mm): snout-vent length (SVL, from tip of snout to vent), forearm (FA, from elbow to palmar surface), tail length (TL, from vent to tip of unregenerated tail), tail width (TW, measured at base of tail), head length (HL,