

breviceps in having a tubercle at the tibio-tarsal articulation and rounded snout when viewed laterally.

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A Record of *Gehyra mutilata* (Wiegmann, 1835) from northern India (Sauria: Gekkonidae)

Gehyra mutilata (Wiegmann, 1835), as understood at present, is a widespread species of gekkonid (presumed natural distribution: south-western India and Sri Lanka, east to eastern China, Indo-Malaya, New Guinea and Oceania; Fisher, 1997; Smith, 1935: 106; Taylor, 1963: 781; Zhao and Adler, 1993) that is often a human commensal. The species has been reported from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (De Rooij, 1915: 42; Biswas and Sanyal, 1980: 284). Records from the Indian mainland are from Cochin, 09° 58'N; 76° 17'E (Smith, 1935) and Kottayam,

09° 36'N; 76° 34'E (Soman, 1964), both in Kerala State, in south-western India. An example of this widespread species was found in the collection of Museum of Natural History, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, USA, which was collected by M. K. Ghori on 8 August, 1971: LSU 24716, from Unnao (26° 48'N; 80° 43'E), Uttar Pradesh, northern India, is the first record of the species from northern India, and an extension of range of the species by ca. 1,800 km to the north. The specimen shows the following characteristics considered diagnostic for the species: paired enlarged supranasals that are in contact; enlarged scapulars, digits free, terminal phalanges of outer four toes slender, free, clawed, inner digit with tiny concealed claw, dorsal scales granular; tail depressed and pupil vertical.

The occurrence of *Gehyra mutilata* from northern India is suspected to be linked to human agency, as this species is thought to have increased its distribution in the recent past through accidental transport of these lizards and/or their eggs in baggage and boats (Taylor, 1963: 784). Records of the species are from Java (Church, 1962; Church and Lim, 1962), Borneo (Lloyd et al., 1968) and De Rooij (1915), Sri Lanka (De Rooij, 1915) and several archipelagos in the Pacific Basin (Fisher, 1997). The species has been introduced to México, southern United States, New Zealand (Bauer and Henle, 1994: 92) and more recently, to French Guyana (Ineich and Massary, 1997).

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