



## A new insular species of *Cyrtodactylus* (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from northeastern Peninsular Malaysia, Malaysia

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### Abstract

A new species of endemic *Cyrtodactylus* is described from Pulau Tenggol, Terengganu, off the northeastern coast of Peninsular Malaysia. It differs from other Sunda Shelf species by having a maximum SVL of 92 mm, enlarged tubercles on body and hind limbs but none on fore limbs, 27–35 ventral scale, a single row of transversely enlarged, median subcaudal scales, 18–20 subdigital lamellae on fourth toe, four preloacal pores, and a single row of enlarged, non pore-bearing femoral scales beneath each thigh which are not continuous with the preloacal pores.

**Key words:** Bent-toed gecko, endemic, insular, Tenggol Island

### Introduction

Members of the genus *Cyrtodactylus* Gray, 1827 are terrestrial to scansorial forest-dwelling lizards noted for their slender, inflected digits, and long limbs (Grismer & Norhayati 2008). They inhabit primary and secondary forests from sea level up to an elevation of 2000 m (Manthey & Grossman 1997) and collectively range from India, eastward to the Philippines, through the Indo-Australian Archipelago to as far east as the Solomon Islands (Bauer & Henle 1994). Fifteen species of *Cyrtodactylus* are known to occur in Peninsular Malaysia (Grismer 2008b; Grismer & Norhayati 2008; Grismer *et al.* 2008) and of these, five are island endemics. On the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia, *Cyrtodactylus batuocolus* Grismer *et al.* and *C. jarakensis* Grismer *et al.* are endemic to the islands of Pulau Besar, Melaka and Pulau Jarak, Perak respectively (Grismer *et al.* 2008) whereas *C. aurensis* Grismer, *C. seribuatensis* Youmans & Grismer and *C. tiomanensis* Das & Lim are endemic to the Seribuat Archipelago which flank the southeast coast along the southern states of Pahang and Johor (Das & Lim 2000; Grismer 2005; Youmans & Grismer 2006).

Offshore islands associated with Peninsular Malaysia have been shown to contain a substantial portion the nation's herpetofaunal diversity and endemism (Grismer & Pan 2008 and references therein), but many of these remain unexplored and have yet to be studied. The Tenggol Archipelago is a composed of a cluster of six islands off the coast of Kuala Dungun, Terengganu on the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia and is the southernmost group of islands included in Terengganu's Marine Parks. The main island, Pulau Tenggol (=Tenggol island) is the largest and has an area of approximately 0.5 km<sup>2</sup>, spanning less than 3 km in length and 2 km at its widest point. Most of the island's interior remains heavily forested with large granite boulders and steep cliffs lining its coast. Of the six islands in the group, only Pulau Tenggol and Pulau Nyireh are forested, whereas the remaining four islands, Tokong Timur, Tokong Burung, Tokong Talang and Tokong Laut are little more than rocky outcrops rising from the ocean (Fig. 1). During June 2009, our field work on Pulau Tenggol resulted in the discovery of a large population of forest-dwelling *Cyrtodactylus* which does not morphologically resemble any known species and is herein described as a new species.