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***Cyrtodactylus dati*, a new forest dwelling Bent-toed Gecko (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from southern Vietnam**

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Abstract

A new species of Bent-toed Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus dati* **sp. nov.** is described from the secondary evergreen forests of Bu Dop District, Binh Phuoc Province, Vietnam. It differs from all other species of Indochinese and Thai-Malay *Cyrtodactylus* by having a maximum SVL of 70.1 mm (n=6); no distinct dark blotches on the head in adults; no continuous nuchal loop; a blotched dorsal pattern; 17–19 interorbital scales across the frontal bone; 23–26 scales in a straight line between eye and nostril; 42–48 rows of ventral scales between ventrolateral folds; 20–22 irregular, longitudinal rows of keeled tubercles at midbody between the ventrolateral folds; a series of five or six precloacal pores medially interrupted by one poreless scale in males; three or four femoral pores on each thigh in males; 4–7 enlarged scales beneath thighs; 12–13 subdigital lamellae on first toe; 18–19 subdigital lamellae on fourth toe; and small subcaudal scales.

Key words: *Cyrtodactylus*, Gekkonidae, description, new species, southern Vietnam

Introduction

There were four species of *Cyrtodactylus* recognized in Southern Vietnam at the end of the 20th century (Smith 1935; Bobrov 1995; Darevsky & Szczerbak 1997): *C. condorensis* (Smith), *C. intermedius* (Smith), *C. irregularis* (Smith), and *C. paradoxus* (Darevsky & Szczerbak). The distribution of *C. intermedius* in Ma Da Forest, Vinh Cuu District, Dong Nai Province (Bobrov 1995; Darevsky & Szczerbak 1997; Nguyen *et al.* 2006) was erroneous but corrected by Ngo & Grismer (2006) to the Nui Cam and O Ta Soc Mountain Hills in Tinh Bien District, An Giang Province. The *Cyrtodactylus* referred to by Bobrov (1995), Darevsky & Szczerbak (1997), and Nguyen *et al.* (2006) was later described as *C. cattienensis* Geissler, Nazarov, Orlov, Böhme, Phung, Nguyen & Ziegler. In addition, 24 new species of *Cyrtodactylus* have been described from Vietnam in the present century: *Cyrtodactylus phongnhakebangensis* Ziegler, Rösler, Herrmann & Vu, *C. badenensis* Nguyen, Orlov & Darevsky, *C. nigriocularis* Nguyen, Orlov & Darevsky, *C. caovansungi* Orlov, Nguyen, Nazarov, Ananjeva & Nguyen, *C. chauquangensis* Hoang, Orlov, Ananjeva, Johns, Hoang & Dau, *C. cryptus* Heidrich, Rösler, Vu, Böhme & Ziegler, *C. eisenmanae* Ngo, *C. grismeri* Ngo, *C. hontreensis* Ngo, Grismer & Grismer, *C. huynhi* Ngo & Bauer, *C. pseudoquadrivirgatus* Rösler, Vu, Nguyen, Ngo & Ziegler, *C. takouensis* Ngo & Bauer, *C. ziegleri* Nazarov, Orlov, Nguyen & Ho, *C. cattienensis* Geissler, Nazarov, Orlov, Böhme, Phung, Nguyen & Ziegler, *C. bichnganae* Ngo & Grismer, *C. phuquocensis* Ngo, Grismer & Grismer, *C. roesleri* Ziegler, Nazarov, Orlov, Nguyen, Vu, Dang, Dinh & Schmitz, *C. yangbayensis* Ngo & Chan, *C. cucphuongensis* Ngo & Chan, *C. huongsonensis* Luu, Nguyen, Do & Ziegler, *C. martini* Ngo, *C. bidoupimontis* Nazarov, Poyarkov, Phung, Nguyen, Hoang, & Ziegler, *C. bugiamapensis* Nazarov, Poyarkov, Phung, Nguyen, Hoang, & Ziegler, and *C. thochuensis* Ngo & Grismer, underscoring the rapidly growing diversity of this genus and that Vietnam is a center of diversity for it.

To this list I add yet another species. Field surveys were conducted during January, April and September 2011 in secondary evergreen forests in Bu Dop State Forest Enterprise, Binh Phuoc Province in Southern Vietnam. During these surveys, six gecko specimens were collected among roots and beneath dry tree bark under a closed canopy forest. Their possession of vertical pupils and bent, padless toes indicates they belong to the genus *Cyrtodactylus*, but they cannot be ascribed to any known species and are consequently described herein as a new species.