AN ANNOTATED CHECKLIST OF THE LIZARDS OF FRENCH GUIANA, MAINLY BASED ON TWO RECENT COLLECTIONS

by

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With 1 text-figure and 1 plate

ABSTRACT

At the moment 36 species of lizards (6 Gekkonidae, 12 Iguanidae, 1 Scincidae and 17 Teiidae) are known for certain to occur in French Guiana. Of these 36 species, four are reported from that country for the first time (Anolis marmoratus speciosus Garman, Cercosaura o. ocellata Wagler, Prionodactylus argulus (W. Peters) and Tretioscincus agilis (Ruthven)). Moreover, there remain four species of which the occurrence in French Guiana is very likely and which presumably will be found when more lizards are collected by specialists. Eleven species were erroneously reported from French Guiana by various authors. The reasons for their removal from the list of French Guianese lizards are given. The zoogeographical conclusions of Hoogmoed (1973) remain valid, although his arguments are weakened by the presence of Kentropyx borckianus W. Peters in the western part of French Guiana, a fact he was acquainted with, but which unfortunately he did not incorporate in his zoogeographical conclusions. Also the north-western limit of the distribution of Dracaena guianensis Daudin appears not to be formed by the river Sinnamary, but by the Rio Araguari, which is a further weakening of part of the first author's (1973) views.

RÉSUMÉ

Trente-six espèces de Lézards sont connues actuellement de Guyane française (6 Gekkonidés, 12 Iguanidés, 1 Scincidé et 17 Téidés). Quatre d'entre elles sont signalées de ce pays pour la première fois (Anolis marmoratus speciosus Garman, Cercosaura o. ocellata Wagler, Prionodactylus argulus (W. Peters) et Tretioscincus agilis (Ruthven)). Trente-trois espèces sont communes aux trois Guyanes, trois autres (Gonatodes varius (A. Duméril), Crocodilurus lacertinus (Daudin) et Anolis marmoratus speciosus Garman (d'origine guadeloupéenne et d'introduction récente) sont absentes de Guyane et du Surinam. Quatre espèces connues dans les pays voisins devraient encore être récoltées en Guyane française. Onze autres y ont été signalées par erreur et les raisons de leur retrait de la liste des Lézards de Guyane française sont exposées. Les conclusions zoégographiques du premier auteur (1973) restent valides. Ses arguments sont cependant affaiblis par la présence de Kentropyx borckianus W. Peters en Guyane.
The lizards of French Guiana are still poorly known. Though the study of this group of reptiles started early, with Lacépède (1788) mentioning three species occurring in that country, it soon stopped. The last authors to deal with the entire lizard-fauna of the area were Duméril & Duméril (1851), who listed the specimens present at that time in the Muséum d'Histoire naturelle in Paris. Between the work of Lacépède (1788) and that of Duméril & Duméril (1851), several authors of general works on reptiles reported on lizards from French Guiana: Daudin (1801, 1802 a, b) mentioned a total of seven species; Latreille (1801a, b) recorded five species; Cuvier (1816) also mentioned five species and Bory de St. Vincent (1828) three. Our knowledge of the saurian fauna of French Guiana was given a big impetus by Duméril & Bibron (1836, 1837, 1839), who listed 27 species as occurring in French Guiana; in addition they mention two species which they thought likely to occur in French Guiana and two others of which they doubted whether the locality, stated to be French Guiana, was correct. Duméril & Duméril (1851) listed 22 species from French Guiana and one of which they doubted the locality. Since Duméril & Duméril (1851), no review of the lizards of French Guiana has appeared, but several species were described from that country by Duméril (1856), Bocourt (1870, 1874) and Van Lidth de Jeude (1904). Also in revisions of genera, e.g., Uzzell (1966), Etheridge (1968, 1969, 1970) and in faunistical work (Hoogmoed, 1973), lizards from French Guiana were recorded. As has already been pointed out (Hoogmoed, 1973), much still remains to be learned concerning the lizards of French Guiana.

Since 1963, several collections of lizards were assembled in French Guiana, which were available for the present study. Material collected by T. Monath in 1963 is now preserved in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massasuchetts, and was reported upon by the first author (1973). P. A. Silverstone collected lizards in the lower Approuague River region and near Cayenne in 1968; this material now is in the Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles (LACM). The second author (LG), during his work on the frog-fauna of French Guiana, also assembled some lizards, most of which are now in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN), while a few are in the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden (RMNH). Moreover, Lescure received some specimens from other sources, which are in the same collection as most of his own.
specimens. Since both Silverstone's and Lescure's collections have become available for study, it seemed useful to compile a list of the species of lizards, known to occur in French Guiana and to add some comments and the most important synonyms. We refrain from giving keys or descriptions of the species involved, because extensive descriptions of most of the species may be found elsewhere (Hoogmoed, 1973). In that review 40 lizards are recorded from Surinam, 32 of which occur also in French Guiana. Moreover, three species are reported to occur in French Guiana but not in Surinam while five additional species, not yet reported from French Guiana but very probably occurring there, bring the total up to 40 lizards.

In his 1973 paper, the first author recorded material from the Paris Museum, collected by Geay, that, judging by the labels, originated from the Tumuc Humac Mountains in French Guiana. The second author succeeded in tracing down the exact locality where these specimens were collected. Thus, the Lunier River turns out to be a tributary of the Rio Carsevenne (=Calgoene), now in Amapá, Brazil, just on the other side of the watershed. As a consequence, some amendments had to be made to that paper.

During a recent visit (31 March - 5 April, 1975) of the first author to French Guiana, a number of lizards could be collected, while in the collections of ORSTOM (Office de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique Outre-mer) and SEPANGUY (Société de protection de la nature de Guyane) several lizards were examined. As this material provides new data concerning the distribution in French Guiana of the species concerned, it seemed useful to include these data in the present paper. The recently collected material, which will be incorporated in the collections of the RMNH, has not yet been catalogued and consequently has been indicated with the collector's 1975 field-numbers.

THE LIZARDS OCCURRING IN FRENCH GUIANA

**Geckonidae**

*Hemidactylus mabouia* (Moreau de Jonnès)


**Hemidactylus Mabouia**: Duméril & Bibron, 1836: 362; Duméril, & Duménil, 1851: 39.

**Hemidactylus mabouia**: Hoogmoed, 1973: 29, 46.


This species was reported from Cayenne by Duméril & Bibron (1836) and by Duméril & Duméril (1851), from the lower Marowijne River (fleuve Maroni), 150 km inland, on the border between Surinam and French Guiana, by Hoogmoed (1973). The species appears to be restricted to the coastal region and only to venture farther south along the rivers. There is a strong bond between this species and human habitations and it probably always occurs with these.

**Thecadactylus rapicauda** (Houttuyn)

*Gekko Rapicauda* Houttuyn, 1782: 323.


A wide-spread species, which was reported from French Guiana for the first time by the first author (1973), though without recording specimens from that country. Both males possess postanal slits and bones, the females only have postanal slits.

**Coleodactylus amazonicus** (Andersson)

*Sphaerodactylus amazonicus* Andersson, 1918: 1.


Mont Cabassou (6 km SSE of Cayenne): 4 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, 1 hgr., LACM 44445-52, 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀, LACM 44489-91, 1968, all leg. P. A. Silverstone.


A wide-spread species in the Amazon basin and in the Guianas. It was previously reported from Cayenne (Vanzolini, 1968a), from Sophie and from between Sophie and La Grève (Hoogmoed, 1973). From these data we may infer that this species is present throughout the forested part of the country.
Gonatodes annularis Boulenger


This species was reported from French Guiana for the first time by the present first author (1973), who examined specimens from Cayenne (Mont Cabassou), Crique Ipoucin (Approuague River) and from the lower Matarony River. The male from Saül has the beebei-type pattern, the female has a grey vertebral zone bordered by a dark-brown paravertebral line on each side and the juvenile has the annularis-type pattern (Hoogmoed, 1973). In life the ventral parts of RMNH 17500 and MNHN 1973-1444 were orange. The male (LACM 44454), reported upon previously (Hoogmoed, 1973), is of the boonii-type, both the female (LACM 44471) and the juvenile (LACM 44444), recorded in the same paper, are of the annularis-type.

Both adult specimens from Saül were captured in a small artificial cave, that had been dug in a vertical earthen bank. The juvenile from the Inini River was collected in a hollow tree in primary forest near a trail.

Probably the species occurs throughout the forested part of the country.

Gonatodes humeralis (Guichenot)


Both Vanzolini (1968b) and Hoogmoed (1973) report this species from French Guiana, but neither of them provides exact localities. In view of the fact that the species is wide-spread in all surrounding countries, it seems likely that it occurs throughout French Guiana.

Gonatodes varius (A. Duméril)

Gymnodactylus varius A. Duméril, 1856: 475.

Material. — Cayenne: 4 9 9, 1 hgr., MNHN 6746.
It seems useful to point out here that the distributional map of 'Gonatodes varius' presented by P. Müller (1973) does not pertain to the species under discussion. Judging only by the distribution we have come to the conclusion that the map represents the distribution of *G. annularis* Boulenger.

We thought it profitable to tabulate the differences between the three species of *Gonatodes* inhabiting French Guiana (table 1). The colour pattern of *G. varius* is different from that of both other species and has been adequately described elsewhere, thus needs not to be discussed here. We also refer to pl. 1.

The only specimens known of this species are the types, which are stated to have come from Cayenne, but there is no recent confirmation about that locality.

**Table 1**

Differences between the species of *Gonatodes* inhabiting French Guiana.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><em>G. annularis</em></th>
<th><em>G. humeralis</em></th>
<th><em>G. varius</em></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Scales on snout as large as those on posterior part of head.</td>
<td>Scales on snout larger than those on posterior part of head.</td>
<td>Scales on snout larger than those on posterior part of head.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Subdigital lamellae of fourth toe narrower than toe, 24-30.</td>
<td>Subdigital lamellae of proximal part of fourth toe as wide as the digit, narrower than the toe in the distal part, abrupt transition, 17-21.</td>
<td>Subdigital lamellae of proximal part of fourth toe as wide as the digit, narrower than the toe in the distal part, gradual transition, 20-22.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Mental large, its posterior border reaching to the level of the posterior border of the second supralabial.</td>
<td>Mental relatively small, its posterior border not reaching further than halfway the second supralabial.</td>
<td>Mental large, its posterior border reaching to the level of the posterior border of the second supralabial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Maximum snout-vent length: males 50 mm, females 55 mm.</td>
<td>Maximum snout-vent length: males 38 mm, females 37 mm.</td>
<td>Maximum snout-vent length: males unknown, females 40 mm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Profile of snout in lateral view convex.</td>
<td>Profile of snout in lateral view straight.</td>
<td>Profile of snout in lateral view convex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Anterior margin of upper eyelid with 7-12 enlarged scales.</td>
<td>Anterior margin of upper eyelid with 1-6 slightly enlarged scales.</td>
<td>Anterior margin of upper eyelid with 9-14 enlarged scales.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>No white antehumeral bar.</td>
<td>A white antehumeral bar.</td>
<td>No white antehumeral bar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IGUANIDAE

Anolis auratus auratus Daudin

Norops auratus: Duméril & Bibron, 1837: 82; Gray, 1845: XVII, 207; Bocourt, 1837: 108.
Norops Auratus: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 55.


For this species only one locality has been recorded from French Guiana, viz., Cayenne (Duméril & Duméril, 1851). On the basis of its ecological requirements it is likely that the species only occurs in the coastal area, in and around the town of Cayenne and on the savannahs near Montsinéry, Kourou and Iracoubo.

Anolis chrysolepis chrysolepis Duméril & Bibron


Montagne La Gabrielle: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, no. 802, 3-IV-1971, leg. M. S. Hoogmoed.
Saut Kaïnoua (Upper Oyapock River): 1 juv. ♂, MNHN 50-23, leg. Aubert de la Rüe.

This species has been known to occur in French Guiana for a considerable time. It was recorded from Sophie, Cayenne, Mana and the lower Matarony River by Vanzolini & Williams (1970). It is distributed throughout French Guiana.

Duméril & Duméril (1851) recorded the species from “La Mana (île Cayenne)”, but we are convinced that a locality of that name does not exist on the Île de Cayenne. La Mana is the name of a river situated in western French Guiana. Near its mouth there is a small village called Mana, which was founded in 1820. Nearly all herpetological material collected by Leschenault and Doumerc came from La Mana or Mana. All this material was reported upon by Duméril & Duméril (1851), but only in one other case did they suggest that La Mana was on the Île de Cayenne, namely in
the case of *Polychrus marmoratus* (Linnaeus). In all other instances they just give the name *La Mana*. This leads us to the supposition that Dumérlil & Dumérlil did not succeed in locating the locality. It seems important to mention that the first time the addition “ile Cayenne” was used on page 54, with the first record of *La Mana*; the second time both were used on page 56. From there on only *La Mana* was used.

**Anolis fuscoauratus kugleri** Roux


The species was erroneously reported from French Guiana by Dumérlil & Dumérlil (1851), who misidentified a specimen of *Anolisortonii* Cope, the same specimen that subsequently was used by Bocourt (1870) for his description of *A. cynocephalus*. The species has been reported from French Guiana before (Hoogmoed, 1973), but no exact locality was given. It probably occurs throughout the forested part of the country.

**Anolis marmoratus speciosus** Garman

*Anolis speciosus* Garman, 1887: 45.


This lizard is an inhabitant of the island of *La Guadeloupe* in the French West Indies, where it occurs in the south-western part of Grande Terre, an area in which the harbour Pointe-à-Pitre is situated (Lazell, 1964). Thus, there are good opportunities for this form to be inadvertently transported. Evidently this is a recent immigrant in French Guiana, from where its occurrence is here reported for the first time. The lizards have apparently established themselves only in the city of Cayenne, where they are numerous in a ruin of an old prison, frequenting walls, trees and bushes. 1)

1) On September 6, 1975, Hoogmoed observed this species in Bourda, a small village 4 km E. of Cayenne.
Anolis ortonii Cope

*Anolis fusco-aurantius*: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 56.

*Anolis cynocephalus* Bocourt, 1870: 13; Bocourt, 1873: pl. XIV fig. 7.

Known only from a few places in French Guiana: Cayenne (Bocourt, 1870, 1873) and between Sophie and La Grève (Hoogmoed, 1973). The species may be expected to occur throughout the forested part of the country.

**Iguana iguana iguana** (Linnaeus)


*Iguana delicatissima*: Daudin, 1802a: 263; Latreille, 1801a: 255; Anslijn, 1827: 68.


*Iguana Tuberulata*: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 63.


Camopi: 1 ex., MNHNP 02-253, leg. Geay.

This lizard was first reported to occur in French Guiana by Lacepède (1788), who mentioned it from Cayenne. All other authors referred to in the list of synonyms (except Hoogmoed) list the species from this same locality. Duméril & Duméril (1851) also report it from La Mana. It seems safe to assume that it occurs throughout the country.

**Plica plica** (Linnaeus)

*Lacerta Plica* Linnaeus, 1758: 208.

*Agama umbra*: Daudin, 1802a: 375.


The first to report this species from French Guiana was Daudin (1802b: Cayenne). Duméril & Bibron (1837), Etheridge (1970) and Hoogmoed (1973) just report it from French Guiana, while Duméril & Duméril (1851) give a locality: La Mana. Presumably this lizard is present throughout the forested part of the country.

**Plica umbra umbra** (Linnaeus)

*Lacerta umbra* Linnaeus, 1758: 207.

*Iguana umbra*: Latreille, 1801a: 263.
Hoogmoed & Lescure, Lizards of French Guiana

Uperanodon ochrocollare: Duméril & Bibron, 1837: 248 (partly).
Uperanodon Ochrocollare: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 68.


In its first report from French Guiana, Latreille (1801a) merely stated that the species came from the interior of the country. The only localities from French Guiana known for this species, taken from literature, are Cayenne and La Mana (Duméril & Duméril, 1851). Judging by the information on this species from surrounding countries, we may assume that it occurs throughout the forested part of the country.

The type-locality of this species was restricted to the vicinity of Paramaribo, Surinam, by Etheridge (1970) and further narrowed down by Hoogmoed (1973) to the confluence of the Cottica River and the Perica Creek in Surinam. The present first author did this for all material that was likely to have reached Linnaeus either via Dahlberg or via Rolander. He also showed that the specimens of Plica umbra available to Linnaeus were present in Sweden at least from 1745 on, that is, before either Dahlberg or Rolander presented any material to Swedish collections. Therefore, his restriction of the type-locality of this species is erroneous and we wish to state clearly that Etheridge's restriction is the only valid one. Thus, the type-locality of this species is the vicinity of Paramaribo, Surinam.

As Hoogmoed (1973) restricted quite a few type-localities of lizards to the confluence of the Cottica River and the Perica Creek, but did not indicate that locality on any of his maps, we thought it useful to provide a map on which this locality is indicated (fig. 1).

Polychrus marmoratus (Linnaeus)

Lacerta marmorata Linnaeus, 1758: 208; Cuvier, 1816: 41; Bory de St. Vincent, 1828: 121.
Polychrus Marmoratus: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 54.


This species has been reported from Cayenne and La Mana (île Cayenne) by Duméril & Duméril (1851), and from the "Rio Opprongsque"
by Burt & Burt (1931). For comment on the locality La Mana we may refer to what was said about it under *Anolis c. chrysolepis* Duméril & Bibron. The locality given by Burt & Burt (1931) could not be found on any of the maps that were at our disposal, and it seems evident that it is a misspelling of Approuague River in eastern French Guiana. This is made even more likely by the circumstance that there is the further specification “frontier”, while that is exactly where the Approuague River is situated: close to the frontier between French Guiana and Brazil. The species may be expected to occur throughout the country in riverine forest.

**Tropidurus torquatus hispidus** Spix

*Agama hispida* Spix, 1825: 12.

*Ecphymotes torquatus* Duméril & Bibron, 1837: 344.

*Ecphymotes Torquatus* Dumériel & Duméril, 1851: 81.


Material. — Cayenne: 1 ♂, MNHN 6875, leg. Leprieur.

The present first author (1973: 28) recorded this species tentatively from French Guiana, not being aware of the existence of the specimen mentioned above. Probably the species will be found to occur only in isolated places throughout French Guiana. We expect it to inhabit the savannahs of the coastal area and the inselbergs in the interior, mainly in the Tumuc Humac Mountains (after this paper was submitted for publication, Gasc (1973) reported its occurrence in the Tumuc Humac Mountains (Massif du Mataraca)). It also may be expected on extensive boulder complexes in rapids in the interior.

**Uracentron azureum** (Linnaeus)


*Stellio brevicaudatus* Daudin, 1802b: 40.

*Stellio brevicauda* Latreille, 1801b: 20.


*Doryphorus Azureus*: Dumériel & Duméril, 1851: 85.


This species was reported from several localities in French Guiana by Etheridge (1968): Cayenne, Saint-Laurent, Mornes du bas Mahury. Undoubtedly it occurs throughout the forested part of the country. In the collection of SEPANGUY in Cayenne, the first author saw two more specimens of this species: one from Saül and another one from the Montagnes de Kaw.
Uranoscodon superciliosa (Linnaeus)

Lacerta superciliosa Linnaeus, 1758: 200.
Ophryoessa superciliosa: Duméril & Bibron, 1837: 238.


In the literature only a few localities in French Guiana are recorded: Cayenne (Duméril & Bibron, 1837), “Rio Oppronsque” (= Approuague River), see under Polychrus marmoratus (Linnaeus) (Burt & Burt, 1931). Undoubtedly this species is present throughout the forested part of the country, in the vicinity of water.

Scincidae

Mabuya mabouya mabouya (Lacépède)

Lacertus Mabouya Lacépède, 1788: Synopsis methodica Quadrupedum Oviparorum.
Gonylepus spirii Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 642.
Emmeces Spiiri: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 156.
Mabuya agilis: Bocourt, 1870: 395, pl. XXII B fig. 2.


Cayenne is the only other place in French Guiana from where this species is known, but judging by its extensive distribution in all neighbouring countries, we may safely assume that it will be found to occur throughout the country.

Teiidae

Alopoglossus angulatus (Linnaeus)

Lacerta angulata Linnaeus, 1758: 204.

Hitherto this species has been reported from French Guiana only from Bienvenue in the Camopi River valley (Hoogmoed, 1973). When more extensive research is done on the lizards of French Guiana, it will probably turn out that A. angulatus (Linnaeus) is present throughout the forested part of the country.
Ameiva ameiva ameiva (Linnaeus)

Lacerta Ameiva Linnaeus, 1758: 202; Latreille, 1802a: 224; Cuvier, 1816: 27; Bory de St. Vincent, 1828: 102.
"L'Améiva" Lacépède, 1788: 328.
Lacerta ameiva: Daudin, 1802a: 98; Cloquet, 1827: 526.
Monitor ameiva: Anslijn, 1827: 76.
Teyus ameiva: Anonymus, 1841: 81.
Ameiva vulgaris: Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 100.


Though known to be very common elsewhere, there were only few records of this species from French Guiana. An additional locality from the literature is La Mana, from where it was reported by Duméril & Duméril (1851) and by Barbour & Noble (1915). During a recent visit (March 15, 1975) to French Guiana, the first author collected a specimen of this species on the road between St. Laurent and St. Jean, 3 km north of this last locality. Moreover, he observed a specimen on the road between St. Laurent and Mana, 14 km NE. of St. Laurent. The species is now shown to be present throughout the country.

Arthrosaura kockii (Van Lidth de Jeude)


This lizard was reported from French Guiana for the first time from Maripasoula (Hoogmoed, 1973). The specimens the present first author (1973) recorded from the upper Lunier River (MP 99-71, 72) in reality came from Amapá, Brazil. The species presumably is present throughout the forested part of the country.

Arthrosaura reticulata versteegii Van Lidth de Jeude

As has been pointed out previously (Hoogmoed, 1973), the type-locality (Cottica Mountains) of this species is not situated in Surinam, but on the other side of the Marowijne River (fleuve Maroni), in French Guiana. As this lizard also occurs in Amapá, near French Guiana, it is likely that it occurs throughout the forested part of the country.

Bachia cophias (Schneider)

The only definite locality known for this species, and cited by all authors, is Cayenne. The present first author (1973) mentioned specimens from the upper Lunier River, but as has been pointed out before, this locality is in Amapá, Brazil. Though not much is known about its distribution in French Guiana, it is very likely that the species is present throughout the country, wherever there is rain-forest.

MNHNP 1973-1502 was found between two flat stones in a garden in Cayenne.

Cercosaura ocellata ocellata Wagler

This is the first time the present species is recorded from French Guiana, though the first author (1973) already thought it very likely that it would occur in that country, being known from several localities in surrounding countries. It may be expected to occur throughout the country, in open places in forested areas.

**Cnemidophorus lemniscatus lemniscatus** (Linnaeus)

*Lacerta lemniscata* Linnaeus, 1758: 209; Daudin, 1802a: 175.
*Cnemidophorus Lemniscatus*: Duméryl & Duméryl, 1851: 16.
*Cnemidophorus lemniscatus lemniscatus*: Burt, 1931: 30; Donoso-Barros, 1968: 118.


This savannah-inhabiting species is still only known from Cayenne. In French Guiana there are only few places that offer a suitable habitat for the species, so its distribution must be restricted to these parts. Likely places for this species to occur might be along the sandy beaches near Organabo and at other places where such beaches are present, and in the savannah-areas near Montsinéry, Kourou and Iracoubo.

So far only female specimens had been collected, which seemed to indicate that the Cayenne population is unisexual (Hoogmoed, 1973). However, during a visit to Mana on March 15, 1975, the present first author observed a bisexual population of this species, of which the adult males were predominantly green. Unfortunately, no adult males could be collected, only two juveniles. The first author (1973) noticed a difference in the number of light longitudinal stripes, between specimens collected east (ten stripes) and west (nine stripes) of the Suriname River, which character was correlated with a slight difference in the number of scales around midbody. The Cayenne specimens examined all have nine light longitudinal stripes, the number of scales around midbody varies between 118 and 131. The two juveniles from Mana also have nine light longitudinal stripes on the back, and the number of scales around midbody is respectively 124 and 127. Thus, both the Cayenne and the Mana population agree with the eastern Surinam populations in the number of scales around midbody, but differ from them in the number of light longitudinal stripes. Because material from French Guiana is still very scarce, it remains difficult to decide whether the differences between specimens collected east of the Suriname
River and those collected west of it are taxonomically significant or not. Much more material from French Guiana should be investigated to be able to make such a decision.

**Crocodilurus lacertinus** (Daudin)

* Tupinambis lacertinus * Daudin, 1802a: 85.
* Crocodilurus Lacertinus: * Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 46.

There is not much information to substantiate the occurrence of this species in French Guiana. Until recently the only definite record of its occurrence in that country was from Duméril & Bibron (1839), who stated about the distribution of this lizard: “se trouve au Brésil et à la Guyane”. They also report that the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle possessed two specimens of this species from “ce dernier pays” (= French Guiana). However, in 1851, Duméril & Duméril only list one specimen of this species, from the Ucayali River. At the moment there is one specimen of this species (Daudin’s type) from French Guiana present in the Paris Museum (MNHN 8372). Subsequent authors, like Goeldi (1902) and J. A. Peters & Donoso-Barros (1970), give the distribution of this lizard as comprising Amazonian Brazil and the Guianas. According to J. A. Peters & Donoso-Barros (1970), the genus *Crocodilurus* occurs in: “Guiana, Surinam, French Guiana and Amazonian Basin of Brazil”. No specimens of *C. lacertinus* (Daudin) have been recorded from Guyana and Surinam, and the present first author (1973) pointed out that probably in French Guiana it does not occur west of the Sinnamary River. Judging by the habitat notes available from nearby Belem (Crump, 1971), the species inhabits swamp-forest bordering rivers (“várzea”). During the first author’s recent visit to French Guiana a trip was made (by courtesy of M. Condamin of ORSTOM) by corial to the Montagne La Gabrielle via the Crique Gabrielle, south-east of Cayenne. The Crique Gabrielle is a small tributary of the Fleuve Mahury, emptying into it opposite Dégrad Stoupan. In its lower reaches the creek is influenced by the tides and along its banks mocou-mocou (*Montrichardia arborescens*) and swamp-forest with *Mauritia flexuosa*, which is inundated during high tide, are present. The creek originates in a large swamp at the base of the Montagne La Gabrielle. Along the lower reaches of the Crique Gabrielle two adult specimens of *Crocodilurus lacertinus* (Daudin) were observed, but could not be collected, because no weapon was available to shoot them. The first specimen was observed at 9.10 a.m., when it was basking on the left bank of the creek, in
an open spot close to the water. The specimen could be approached to approximately one and a half meter and could be observed for several minutes. When attempts were made to capture it, it dived into the (deep) water of the creek and disappeared from sight. The second specimen was observed at 5.15 p.m. when it was crossing the creek. It swam with strong, undulating movements of body and tail, with only its head above the surface. Upon our approach it took refuge in a stand of mocou-mocou and was not seen again. These observations, though unfortunately not (yet) substantiated by collected material, establish beyond any doubt the presence of this species in French Guiana. 1)

Iphisa elegans Gray


The occurrence of this species in French Guiana was established by the present first author (1973), who recorded a specimen from between Sophie and La Grève. The specimen mentioned by him from the Upper Lunier River actually comes from Amapá, Brazil.

Kentropyx borckianus W. Peters

Centropyx striatus: Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 151 (partly).
Centropyx Striatus: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 117 (partly).
Centropyx Borckiana W. Peters, 1869: 64.

Material. — La Mana: 1 2, MNHN 2661, leg. Leschenault.

As pointed out by several authors (Boulenger, 1885; Burt & Burt, 1931; Hoogmoed, 1973), there has been much confusion with regard to the name of this species. Also the definition of the species (until recently known as K. intermedius (Gray)) was not very clear and most authors before W. Peters (1869) confused K. borckianus W. Peters and K. striatus (Daudin) and presented under the species name "striatus" a mixture of both species. This is also true for the papers by Duméril & Bibron (1839) and Duméril & Duméril (1851): the specimen from La Mana (MNHNP 2661) they had before them is not K. striatus, but K. borckianus. This is the only known locality for this species in French Guiana. Because next to nothing is known about the ecology of this lizard it is difficult to give an opinion as to its distribution in the country.

The first author (1973) reported this lizard from French Guiana in the

1) The SEPANGUY early in September 1975 received a specimen of this species, collected by Roland Cimonad on August 28, 1975, along the Crique Gabrielle. The specimen was investigated by Hoogmoed on September 5, 1975.
systematic part of his book. In the general part, however, under faunal relationships, he argues that *K. borckianus* W. Peters reaches its eastern limit in Surinam. This discrepancy between the two sections necessitates some slight changes in his zoogeographical conclusions. Thus, there remain only two species of lizards and one species of amphisbaenian that seem to reach their eastern limit in Surinam. Also, French Guiana consequently has 32 or probably even 37 species of lizards and two amphisbaenians in common with Surinam and Guyana, which would make a probable total of 39 species in common (but these numbers have changed in the meantime, see Conclusions). These alterations do not change the author's conclusions, though they do diminish the force of his arguments.

**Kentropyx calcaratus** Spix

*Kentropyx calcaratus*: Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 149.
*Kentropyx Calcaratus*: Duméril & Duméril, 1851: 117.


Other localities for this species are Cayenne (Duméril & Bibron, 1839; Duméril & Duméril, 1851) and La Mana (Duméril & Duméril, 1851). The species undoubtedly occurs throughout the country, except in savannah areas.

**Leposoma guianense** Ruibal


This species was recorded from French Guiana for the first time by J. A. Peters & Donoso-Barros (1970), who did not provide an exact
locality. Uzzell & Barry (1971) and Hoogmoed (1973), however, did give localities: Camopi, Sophie, between Sophie and Dorlin. It appears to be present throughout the forested part of the country.

**Neusticurus bicarinatus** (Linnaeus)

*Lacerta bicarinata* Linnaeus, 1758: 201.
*Neusticurus bicarinatus*: Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 201 (not certain of locality); Uzzell, 1966: 281 (not certain of locality); Hoogmoed, 1973: 27, 337.


The first to record specimens of this species that definitely came from French Guiana was the present first author (1973: Mount Yanioué). Until then the species was only assumed to occur there. Both Duméril & Bibron (1839) and Uzzell (1966), studying the same specimen (MNHN 4181), gave as their opinion that it might have come from French Guiana. The species probably is distributed throughout the country.

**Neusticurus rudis** Boulenger


This species was reported from French Guiana for the first time by the present first author (1973: Marowijne River (fleuve Maroni), Upper Camopi River). As the species is not known to occur in Amapá, the present localities may well represent the eastern limit of its distribution.

**Prionodactylus argulus** (W. Peters)

*Cercosaura argulus* W. Peters, 1862: 184.

The present first author (1973) erroneously reported this species from French Guiana. The specimen he had at hand, from the upper Lunier River, is from Amapá, Brazil, as has been pointed out before. It seems possible that the species is restricted to the southern part of the country.

**Tretioscincus agilis** (Ruthven)


This is another species erroneously reported from French Guiana by the present first author (1973). For the arguments we may refer to what was said in the introductory sentences and under the previous species, *P. argulus* (W. Peters). The single locality from which *T. agilis* (Ruthven) is known does not give us much of a clue concerning its distribution in French Guiana, but on the basis of what is known about its distribution in Surinam (Hoogmoed, 1973) and Brazil (Vanzolini & Rebouças-Spieker, 1969) we may safely assume that it is present throughout the country wherever there is rain-forest.

**Tupinambis nigropunctatus** Spix


*Tupinambis monitor*: Daudin, 1802b: 20.

*Lacerta teguixin*: Cloquet, 1837: 526.


*Salvator Merianae* Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 85 (partly).

*Salvator nigropunctatus*: Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 90.


In the literature only few localities in French Guiana are recorded for this species. Duméril & Duméril (1851) mention Cayenne and La Mana. The species probably is present throughout the country.

In a recent paper, Presch (1973) advocates the view that *Tupinambis nigropunctatus* Spix and *T. teguixin* (Linnaeus) are conspecific and should be named *T. teguixin* (Linnaeus). His arguments for lumping these two nominal species are not very convincing. Presch argues that the condition
of the loreal scale(s), which for a long time has been used to distinguish between the two species, is variable and that he has found that specimens from one locality may have from one to tree loreals. However, he does not amplify this statement by providing information on the arrangement of the loreals in these specimens and neither does he say in which locality this variable condition was found. Furthermore he writes "I find that variation in other characters (Table 1) in Tupinambis nigropunctatus falls within the range of Tupinambis teguixin", but on examination of table 1, we found nothing to confirm this statement. In table 1 only the variation in a number of characters for T. teguixin and T. rufescens is given, the values for T. teguixin probably covering those for T. nigropunctatus as well. Another character which is useful to tell the two forms apart is the colourpattern (Hoogmoed, 1973), but Presch does not discuss the variation in this character at all.

From Presch's (1973) distribution map it becomes clear that his material of 'T. teguixin' is easily to be divided into a northern group, occurring north of, say, 15°S and a southern group occurring south of 20°S. These two groups exactly coincide with the distribution of respectively T. nigropunctatus Spix and T. teguixin (Linnaeus), as these species are generally understood (Hoogmoed, 1973). This allopatric distribution indeed might point to T. nigropunctatus Spix and T. teguixin (Linnaeus) being one species, but in that case nigropunctatus should at least be retained as a subspecies of teguixin, as Mertens (1969, 1972) did. However, we feel that, at the present moment, there still is not enough evidence to lump the two forms into one species. It would be of much help if Presch would present more pertinent data to enable a more accurate estimation of variation in teguixin and in nigropunctatus. Keeping this in mind, we prefer to treat the two forms as different species and to consider the species occurring in French Guiana (and the rest of northern South-America north of 15°S) as Tupinambis nigropunctatus Spix.

SPECIES PROBABLY OCCURRING IN FRENCH GUIANA

**Iguanidae**

**Anolis punctatus punctatus** Daudin


Though this species was reported to occur in French Guiana several times, we are not aware of any material actually collected there, and
therefore we prefer to treat it in this section. As the species is known to occur in the surrounding countries, it may be expected to occur throughout the forested part of the country.

**Teiidae**

**Gymnophthalmus underwoodii** Grant

*Gymnophthalmus underwoodii* Grant, 1958: 228.

The present first author (1973) thought it likely that this species would occur in French Guiana, because it is known to occur along the western bank of the Marowijne River (fleuve Maroni). As there are no indications that this river acts as a barrier for reptiles (or, for that matter, for any other terrestrial vertebrates) it seems justified to assume its presence in French Guiana.

**Kentropyx striatus striatus** Daudin

*Lacerta striata* Daudin, 1802a: 247.

Duméril & Bibron (1839) and Duméril & Duméril (1851) erroneously reported this species from French Guiana. As has been pointed out before, the specimen they had before them was a *Kentropyx borckianus* W. Peters. P. Müller (1973), dealing with the zoogeography of neotropical terrestrial vertebrates, published a map with the distribution of *K. striatus* Daudin. In this map the localities from where the species is known are numbered. No. 23 is in the coastal region of French Guiana, but unfortunately it is not clear whether the author used the references mentioned above (which is most likely) or whether he actually had material of this species from that locality at hand. If Müller’s French Guiana locality is based on the references of Duméril & Bibron (1839) and Duméril & Duméril (1851), he is also referring to *K. borckianus* W. Peters and, as a consequence, the occurrence of *K. striatus* Daudin in French Guiana still has not been established beyond doubt. On the other hand, it seems very likely that the species occurs in this country (only on savannahs and in swamps) because it is known to occur in adjacent regions in Surinam and Brazil.

**Leposoma percarinatum** (L. Müller)

*Hylosaurus percarinatus* L. Müller, 1923: 146.

In a recent revision of some species of the genus *Leposoma*, Uzzell & Barry (1971) did not mention any specimens of this species from French Guiana. The present first author (1973) mentioned it tentatively for that
country. As the species is known to be widely distributed both in Guyana and Surinam (Hoogmoed, 1973) and moreover was described from Peixeboi, Pará, Brazil, it seems likely that the species is present in the intermediate area as well.

SPECIES ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED FROM FRENCH GUIANA

**IGUANIDAE**

*Anolis cristatellus* Duméril & Bibron was reported by these authors (1837: 143) from "Guyane", but they themselves doubted this locality. Duméril & Duméril (1851) repeat this doubtful locality but provide it with a question-mark. The species is known to occur on the Virgin Islands and on Puerto Rico.

*Anolis garmani* Stejneger was reported from Cayenne (as *A. Edwardsii*) by Duméril & Bibron (1837: 161) on the authority of Bell, who sent them a specimen (MNHN 8986) allegedly received by him from that country. The species, however, is only known to occur on Jamaica.

*Basiliscus basiliscus* (Linnaeus) was reported (as *B. mitratus*) from several localities, all of which were erroneous, by Duméril & Bibron (1837: 181). One of these localities was "Guyane". Duméril & Duméril (1851) do not list any material from "Guyane". *B. basiliscus* (Linnaeus) only occurs in north-western South America and southern Central America, not reaching farther east than the Venezuelan state of Mérida (J. A. Peters & Donoso-Barros, 1970; Hoogmoed, 1973).

*Enyalius rhombifer* Spix was reported from Cayenne by Duméril & Bibron (1837: 231), but Etheridge (1969: 252) pointed out that these specimens belong to a new species which he described as *E. boulengeri*. As all known specimens of this species come from Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais in south-eastern Brazil (except the two specimens reported from Cayenne, MNHN 2373, 6815), it seems logical to suppose that the locality Cayenne is an error.

*Uperanodon pictum*: Duméril & Bibron (1837: 251) is, as pointed out by Etheridge (1969: 240), the same as *Enyalius pictus* (Wied), a species only known from near the mouth of the Rio Mucuri in the extreme south-eastern part of Bahia, Brazil. There is no definite record of this species from French Guiana, but Duméril & Bibron (1837: 252) say: "Sa patric
est aussi la même que celle de l'espèce précédente”. They do not mention any specimens, but the preceding species (*Uperanodon ochrocollaris* = *Plica umbra*) was reported to come from Brazil and French Guiana. On this basis *U. pictum* is included here.

**Teiidae**

*Ameiva major* Duméril & Bibron (1839: 117) is, or better was, an inhabitant of the island of Martinique, where it seems to have become extinct by the action of the mongoose (Baskin & Williams, 1966). These authors gave a detailed account of the confusion concerning the provenance of the type specimens. They clearly showed that Cayenne as type-locality must have been an error.

*Ameiva major* var. *flaviceps* Bocourt (1874: 247) is another *Ameiva* inhabiting the Antilles. It is a synonym of *A. erythrocephala* (Daudin), a species inhabiting Nevis, St. Kitts and St. Eustatius. Again Baskin & Williams (1966) could terminate the confusion around the type-locality.

*Cnemidophorus murinus* (Laurenti) has repeatedly been reported from French Guiana (*Duméril & Bibron*, 1839: 126; *Duméril & Dumérl*, 1851: 11; *Bocourt*, 1874: pl. XX C fig. 1). As was pointed out by Lammerée (1970) and Hoogmoed (1973), most subsequent records reporting *C. murinus* (Laurenti) as occurring in the Guianas were based on adult males of *C. l. lemniscatus* (Linnaeus). The records of the French authors here referred to are all based on one specimen stated to originate from French Guiana. For these the remarks by Lammerée (1970) and the present first author (1973) are not appropriate, because both the description by Duméril & Bibron (1839) and the drawing by Bocourt (1874) clearly concern *C. m. murinus* (Laurenti). Therefore, here we seem to have a case of mislabeling, as it has been established beyond doubt that *C. m. murinus* (Laurenti) is restricted in its distribution to the island of Curaçao (Burt, 1931, 1935; Lammerée, 1970; J. A. Peters & Donoso-Barros, 1970).

**Dracaena guianensis** Daudin

"La Dragonne" Lacépède, 1788: 243; Cuvier, 1816: 26.
*Lacerta Dracoena* Lacépède, 1788: 622.
*Lacertus Dracoena* Lacépède, 1788: Synopsis methodica Quadrupedem Oviparorum.
*Lacerta Dracoena*: Latreille, 1801a: 216.
*Thorictes Dracoena*: Duméril & Bibron, 1839: 56; Duméril & Dumérl, 1851: 111.
*Monitor crocodilinus* Anonymus, 1841: 79.
For this species all records from French Guiana seem to be based on one single specimen, reported for the first time by Lacepède (1788) as sent from Cayenne to the 'Cabinet du Roi' in Paris by De la Borde (= De Laborde). This specimen is still present in the Paris Museum under number MNHNP 8385. De la Borde gave information about its habitat ("savanes noyées, & les terrains marécageux") and kept the specimen in captivity for some time. He did not provide precise information regarding the locality where it was captured, and consequently its origin was noted down as 'Cayenne'. This may mean either of two things: 1. The specimen really was captured in or near Cayenne, which in the light of recent information seems unlikely; and 2. Cayenne just represents the port of shipment. In the second case we have to realise that during that period French Guiana was much more extensive than it is now, and covered the present area of French Guiana but also the greater part of the area now known as Amapá in Brazil. The southern border of the French territory in that period was formed by the Rio Araguari. Thus, in the second case, 'Cayenne' could mean that the specimen was captured somewhere in the area between the rivers Marowijne (fleuve Maroni) and Araguari.

The second author, during one of his sojourns in French Guiana, talked with a hunter who knows Amapá well and who said that Dracaena guianensis Daudin is very frequent in the estuary of the Amazon River, but that it does not occur north of the Rio Araguari. However, the second author has seen a specimen which probably came from the Ouassa River in Amapá.

The first interpretation, as presented above, was subject to doubt already in 1839, when Duméril & Bibron expressed their disbelieve with regard to the origin of De la Borde's specimen, because since its arrival in the Paris Museum no similar specimens had arrived from French Guiana. And this still seems to be the case. If the species occurred in or near Cayenne, it would undoubtedly have been collected, as it is a large lizard which does not easily escape notice. Thus, it seems reasonable to accept the second point of view, which would mean that MNHNP 8385 was captured in Amapá, where, however, it seems to be extremely rare north of the Rio Araguari.

An additional source for confusion is that the popular French name for this species ("Lézard-caïman") is used by the people inhabiting the large swamps of Kaw and Crique Gabrielle, which are connected with those of Amapá, for smaller species of lizards inhabiting these swamps. Probably the name is applied to both species of Neusticurus and Crocodilurus lacertinus. *Salvator meriana* Duméril & Bibron (1839:85) was stated to originate,
amongst other localities, from Cayenne, and this caused subsequent authors to include *Tupinambis tequixin* (Linnaeus) (of which *S. meriana* Dumérl & Bibron is a synonym) in the herpetofauna of French Guiana. But, as has been pointed out by the present first author (1973), Dumérl & Bibron (1839) made the mistake to list all material of the genus *Salvator* under *S. meriana* Dumérl & Bibron, thus causing all the confusion.

**Anguidae**

*Ophiodes striatus* (Spix) was reported from Cayenne by Dumérl & Bibron (1839: 789), Dumérl & Dumérl (1851: 188) and Bocourt (1881: 458, pl. XXII G fig. 4). These records are all based on a specimen (MNHNP 5557) sent to Paris by Leprieur and stated to originate from Cayenne. Leprieur is also the person who sent one of the specimens of *Enyalius boulengeri* Etheridge, allegedly originating from Cayenne. Probably there has been made some mistake in labelling, because both *O. striatus* (Spix) and *E. boulengeri* Etheridge are inhabitants of south-eastern Brazil. Outside that area *O. striatus* (Spix) occurs only in northern Argentina and Uruguay (J. A. Peters & Donoso-Barros, 1970). The species was treated by Da Cunha (1961), in his account of the Amazonian lizards, but this is rather confusing because for this species there are no Amazonian records at all.

**Conclusions**

There is not much to add to the present first author’s (1973) conclusions concerning the zoogeography of the Guianese lizards. This seems the appropriate place to stress the importance of more, and thorough, collecting of lizards (and, for that matter, reptiles in general) in French Guiana. As must be evident from this paper, our knowledge of the distribution of lizards within the country is still very scanty and opinions concerning that subject only can be propounded with much reserve. However, judging by the data from neighbouring Surinam (Hoogmoed, 1973), we may expect most species listed here to be present throughout the country, which is mostly forested. Only two species (*Anolis auratus* Daudin and *Cnemidophorus lemniscatus* (Linnaeus)) are restricted in their distribution to savannas and human habitations, one species (*Hemidactylus mabouia* (Moreau de Jonnès)) is restricted to human habitations, of one species (*Kentropyx borcekianus* W. Peters) we known hardly anything about its habitat and one species (*Anolis marmoratus speciosus* Garman) was imported and is restricted to the town of Cayenne and some neighbouring seaside villages.
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Dorsal aspect of the types-series of *Gonatodes varius* (A. Duméril), Cayenne, French Guiana, MNHN 6746.