

## HERPETOLOGICAL NOTE XIII

by

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### **Pseudothecadactylus** nom. nov.

In this journal I (Brongersma, 1934, p. 176) described a new genus of gekkonid lizards under the name *Torresia*. As Dr H. A. Longman, Brisbane, kindly pointed out to me this name is preoccupied by *Torresia* Castelnau, 1875 (cf. D. S. Jordan, The Genera of Fishes, part III, 1919, p. 378). The genus of gekkonid lizards may now be named: *Pseudothecadactylus*, type of genus: *Thecadactylus australis* Gthr., 1877. For the description I may refer to my previous paper on this subject.

### **Dendroaspis** Schlegel

In recent literature on African herpetology it is usual to give the name *Dendraspis* Schlegel to a genus of snakes of which *Elaps jamesoni* Traill, 1843, is the type. Schlegel (1848?, p. 5), however, gave the name *Dendroaspis* to this genus. The date of publication could not be ascertained with certainty. The description was communicated in a meeting held on March 13th 1848; the signature of the publication containing this description ends with the first sentence of the proceedings of a meeting held on July 10th 1848; this sentence is continued in the next signature, which also contains the proceedings of the meetings of 1849. It is very well possible, however, that each signature was published separately. It may be noted that the name *Dendraspis* had been used by Fitzinger (1843, p. 28) for a genus of which *Naja bungarus* Schlegel, 1837 (= *Hamadryas hannah* Cantor, 1836) is the type, so that this name cannot be used for the African genus.

I am indebted to Dr A. L. J. Sunier, Director, Mr. J. F. Haring, and Miss J. Scheffer, Librarian of the Amsterdam Zoological Garden for their assistance in searching for any evidence that might definitely settle the date of publication.

### LITERATURE

- BRONGERSMA, L. D., 1934. Contributions to Indo-Australian Herpetology. Zool. Meded. Mus. Leiden, vol. 17, pp. 161—251, 2 pls., 49 textfigs.
- FITZINGER, L., 1843. Systema Reptilium, Fasciculus Primus, Vindobonae, 106 + IX pp.
- SCHLEGEL, H., 1848? Over *Elaps Jamesonii* Traill. Kort Verslag der Werkzaamheden verrigt door de leden van de commissie voor Bijdragen tot de Dierkunde, in het Lokaal van het Zoölogisch Genootschap onder de zinspreuk: *Natura Artis Magistra*, te Amsterdam, p. 5.