

REPTILES FROM QUEENSLAND AND THE
NORTHERN TERRITORY.

BY HEBER A. LONGMAN.

(Plates XIV and XV.)

SNAKES.

FURINA MULTIFASCIATA, sp. nov.

A SINGLE specimen received from Port Darwin, through the courtesy of Mr. G. F. Hill, Government Entomologist, is readily distinguished from previously described species by the larger number of ventrals and of white annuli and the absence of internasals. Unfortunately we are unable to ascertain whether this snake has the true cranial characteristics of other species of *Furina*, although the outward appearance suggests strong affinities. It may be that when further material is to hand and the cranium and dentition are available for description, a new genus will be needed to accommodate this species.

Head small. Rostral wider than deep, portion visible from above shorter than its distance from the frontal. The prefrontals are large and over two-thirds the length of the frontal, but, as in *Rhinoplocephalus bicolor*, there are no internasals. Frontal a little longer than broad, much broader than the supra-ocular, as long as its distance from the end of the snout. Parietals as long as their distance from the end of the snout. Nasals prominent, entire. Eye small; one large præocular, one or two postoculars. Temporals 1 + 1, base of anterior between fifth and sixth labials. Six labials, third and fourth entering eye; first smallest, sixth largest. Anterior chin-shields larger than posterior, the latter being separated by an azygous shield. Scales in 15 rows; ventrals 284; subcaudals $\frac{2}{3}$ + 1; anal divided.

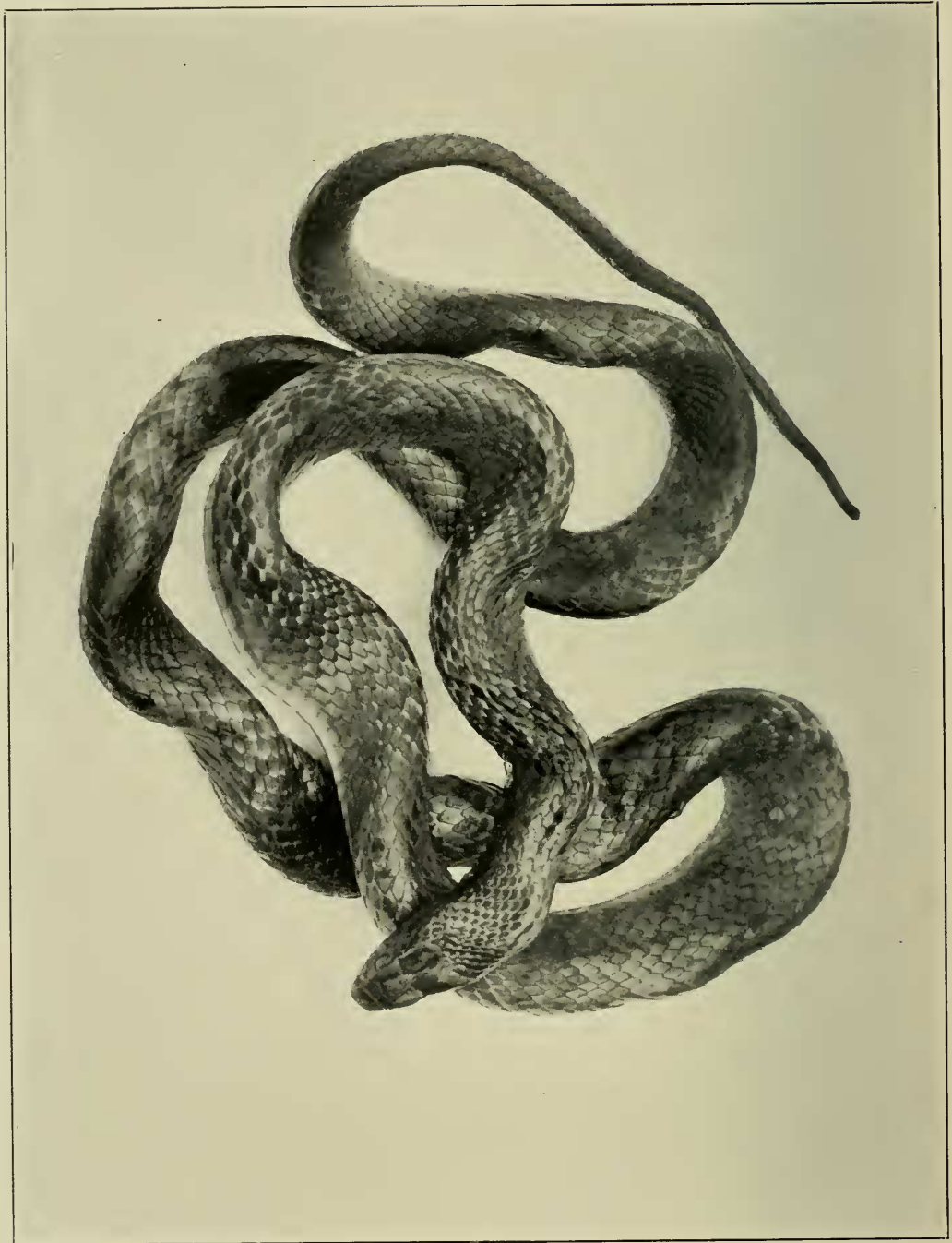
Shining black above. There are ninety narrow white annuli (enlarged laterally) on the body, the first being on the nuchal region; no white markings on head above, but the anterior labials and the infralabials are white. The ventral surface is irregularly spotted.

Length 365 mm.; tail 16 mm.

Type in Queensland Museum: Reg. No. Q.M. J 14/2019.

PSEUDECHIS PORPHYRIACUS, Shaw.

From Mr. C. G. Franklin, Hillview, Beaudesert district, the Museum has received a specimen of the common black snake in which the anal plate shows no sign of division.



DIEMANIA CARINATA Longman.
(Spirit specimen.)

DIEMENIA CARINATA, nov. sp.

(Plate XIV.)

This snake has the remarkable keeled ventral scales of *Hoplocephalus stephensii* and *bitorquatus*, but with this exception its affinities are with the genus *Diemenia*. The head is not unlike that of *Diemenia nuchalis*, and the subcaudals are in two rows. Some writers would possibly prefer to resurrect a generic name such as *Pseudonaja* to associate with this snake, yet it so greatly resembles certain species of *Diemenia* that, notwithstanding its keeled ventrals, it has been placed in that genus.

The diameter of the eye slightly exceeds its distance from the mouth. Rostral prominent, resembling that of *Diemenia nuchalis*, deeper than broad, the portion visible from above measuring nearly its distance from the frontal. Internasals shorter than the præfrontals. Frontal obtusely hexagonal, broadest anteriorly, wider than the supraoculars, shorter than the parietals, as long as its distance from end of snout. Nasal entire, but notched below, in contact with single præocular. Two postoculars, both of which touch the anterior lateral edges of the parietal. Temporals small, 1 + 2. Labials six, first two in contact with nasal, third and fourth entering eye, sixth largest. Mental small. Seven lower labials, first pair much larger than chin-shields, with which three labials are in contact; posterior chin-shields small and separated by two scales.

Head small and tapering, not distinct from neck. Ventrals strongly angulated from the neck to the vent, probably being specialised for climbing. This angulation is well shown on the photograph of spirit specimen (Plate XIV). Scales on body 17, 20 on neck, 15 near vent; dorsals somewhat imbricated and smaller than laterals. Ventrals 220; subcaudals 55; the second only being single; anal divided. Total length 1,130 mm.; tail 157.

Head dark smoky brown, shining above, the dark colouration being present below and continued on the first 15 gastrosteges, after which it is gradually lost in the prevailing whiteness of the ventral region. Body slaty brown above, darker anteriorly, barred by 15 irregular, burnished dark bands, the first of which is elongated and confined to the dorsal series. In addition to these conspicuous dark patches there are to be distinguished in the intervening spaces remains of numerous narrow dark bands, approximately one scale wide.

Locality: Cane Grass Station, *viâ* Charleville, Western Queensland.
Vernacular name: "Tiger Snake."

Donor: Mr. J. Oswald Paynter.

Type in Queensland Museum: Reg. No. Q.M. J 14/1508.

AIPYSURUS EYDOUXII, Gray.

On the coast near Bundaberg, Mr. L. H. Maynard, honorary collector, secured a sea-snake which corresponds very closely with the description of the above species and differs markedly from the normal form of *A. levis*, Lacép. On looking through our Queensland series of *A. levis* (which is frequently met with on the coast), another specimen answering to *A. eydouxi* was found. Although somewhat variable in lepidosis and evidently closely allied, these snakes are readily separable, so far as our specimens are concerned, on the points noted by Boulenger.¹ This is apparently the first record of *A. eydouxi* for the Australian coast.

DIPSADOMORPHUS FUSCUS, Gray.

(Plate XV.)

In January last the Queensland Museum received a very handsome specimen of our Brown Tree Snake from Ormiston, the donor being Miss Morris. The snake was secured alive in a canary cage, it having made a meal of the rightful occupant during the night. The wires just permitted the snake to enter, but, as frequently happens, the postprandial diameter proved too great to permit of exit. The photograph shown (Plate XV) depicts the snake in a characteristically bellicose attitude.

ACALYPTOPHIS PERONII, D. and B.

The Queensland Museum possesses a solitary specimen of this rare snake, the locality of collection being Cape York.

LIASIS CHILDRENI, Gray.

This constricting snake has been looked upon as an inhabitant solely of the northern parts of Australia, its most southerly point in our records being Port Denison. Somewhat to our surprise, a specimen was received in July last which had been obtained in the Brisbane district, the donor stating that another snake, apparently of the same kind, had been previously killed near by. It is of course possible, though rather unlikely, that this snake had been artificially transported to South Queensland, and thus its extended habit is noted with diffidence. Our specimen agrees with those recorded by Lucas and Frost from the Central and Northern districts in having but thirty-eight rows of scales.²

LIZARDS.

DIPLODACTYLUS HILLII, sp. nov.

Head high, convex; snout pointed, almost as long as the distance between the anterior border of the eye and the small ear-opening; mental projecting beyond the rostral; canthus rostralis obtusely defined; loreal region slightly

¹ Boulenger, B. M. C. Snakes, iii, 1896, p. 304.

² Lucas and Frost, Horn Expedition, ii, p. 146.