

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

**SHEDDING LIGHT ON A BIODIVERSITY DARK SPOT:
SURVEY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF PEMBA REGION
IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE**

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The following material is provided by the authors and was not subjected to peer review or editing by *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*.

Below, we include six figures with photographs of important species followed by a list of all species of amphibians and reptiles recorded in this study organized by family and accompanied by general comments on micro-habitat and distribution in Mozambique.

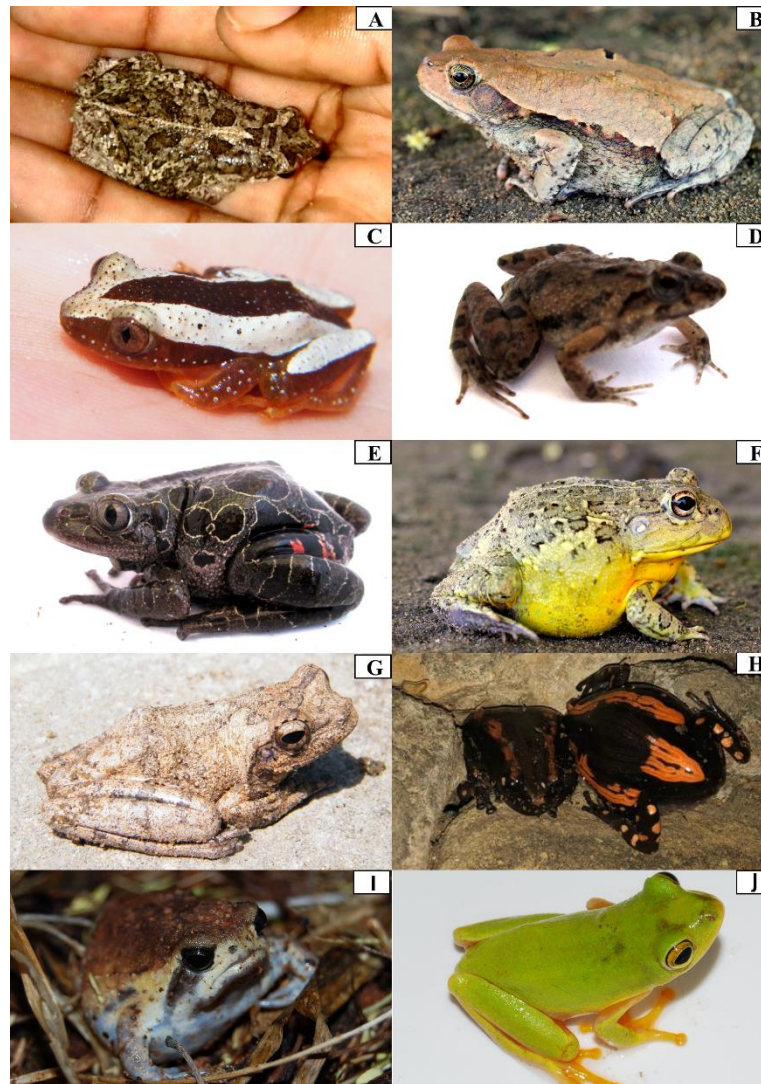


FIGURE 1. Frogs of the Pemba region: A = Lindner's Dwarf Toad (*Mertensophryne lindneri*); B = Red Toad (*Schismaderma carens*); C = Greater Leaf-folding Frog (*Afrixalus fornasinii*); D = Eastern Puddle Frog (*Phrynobatrachus acridoides*); E = Red-legged Kassina (*Hylambates maculatus*); F = Edible Bullfrog (*Pyxicephalus edulis*), G = Foam Nest Frog (*Chiromantis xerampelina*); H = Banded Rubber Frog (*Phrynomantis bifasciatus*); I = Mozambique Rain Frog (*Breviceps mossambicus*); and J = Tinker Reed Frog (*Hyperolius*

tuberilinguis). (Photographed by Harith Farooq (B, C, F, G), Cristóvão Nanvonamuquitxo (A, D, E, H), Roger Bills (I, J)).

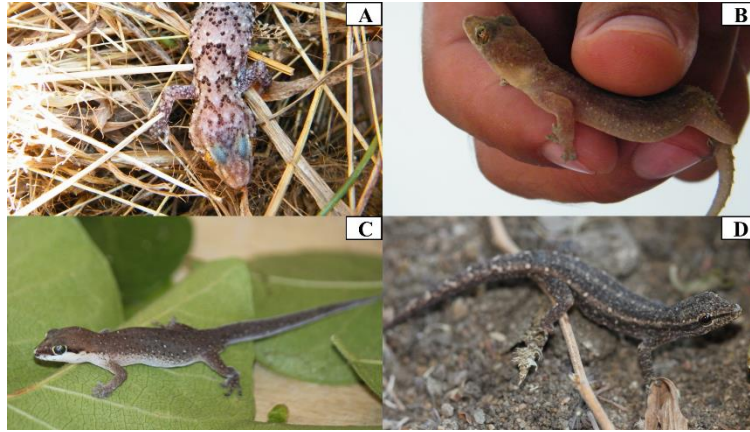


FIGURE 2. Geckos of the Pemba region: A = Fischer's Thick-toed Gecko (*Chondrodactylus laevigatus*); B = Tropical House Gecko (*Hemidactylus mabouia*); C = Speckled-lipped Thick-toed Gecko (*Pachydactylus puntactus*); and D = Grote's dwarf gecko (*Lygodactylus grotei*). (Photographed by Harith Farooq (A,B,D), Cristóvão Nanvonamuquixo (C)).

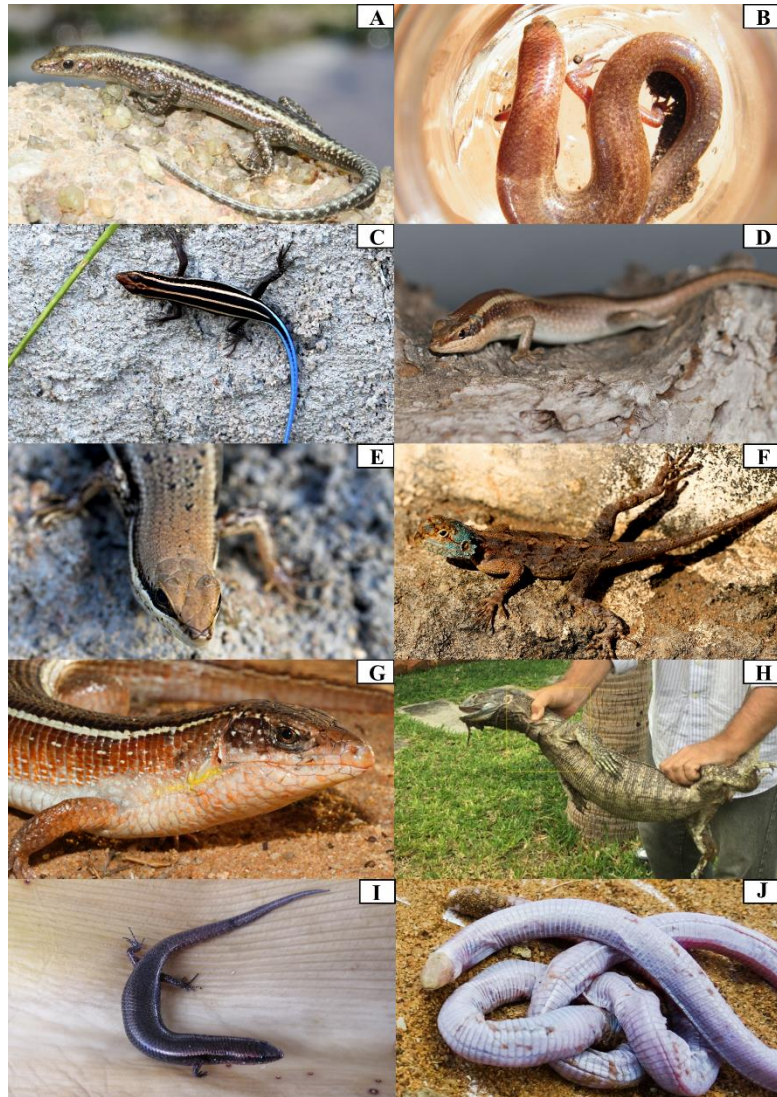


FIGURE 3. Lizards of the Pemba region: A = Coral Rag Skink (*Cryptoblepharus africanus*); B = Sundevall's Writhing Skink (*Mochlus sundevalli*); C = Rainbow Skink (*Trachylepis margaritifera*); D = Striped Skink (*Trachylepis striata*); E = Variable Skink (*Trachylepis varia*); F = Mozambican Agama (*Agama mossambica*); G = Eastern Black-lined Plated Lizard (*Gherrosaurus intermedius*); H = Rock Monitor (*Varanus albigularis*); I = Wahlberg's Snake-eyed Skink (*Panaspis* aff. *wahlbergii*), and J = Pestle-tailed Worm Lizard (*Dalophia pistillum*). (Photographed by Harith Farooq (A – G), Paulo Chuiba (H), Cristóvão Nanvonamuquitxo (I – J)).



FIGURE 4. Snakes of the Pemba region: A = Long-tailed Thread Snake (*Myriopholis longicaudus*); B = Southern African Rock Python (*Python natalensis*); C = Stiletto Snake (*Atractaspis bibronii*); D = Brown House Snake (*Boedon capensis-fulginosus* complex); E = Eastern Stripe-bellied Sand Snake (*Psammophis orientalis*); F = Rufous Beaked Snake (*Ramphiophis rostratus*); G = Common Tiger Snake (*Telescopus semiannulatus*), H =

Boomslang (*Dispholidus typus*); I = Mozambique Spitting Cobra (*Naja mossambica*); and J = Puff Adder (*Bitis arietans*). (Photographed by Harith Farooq).

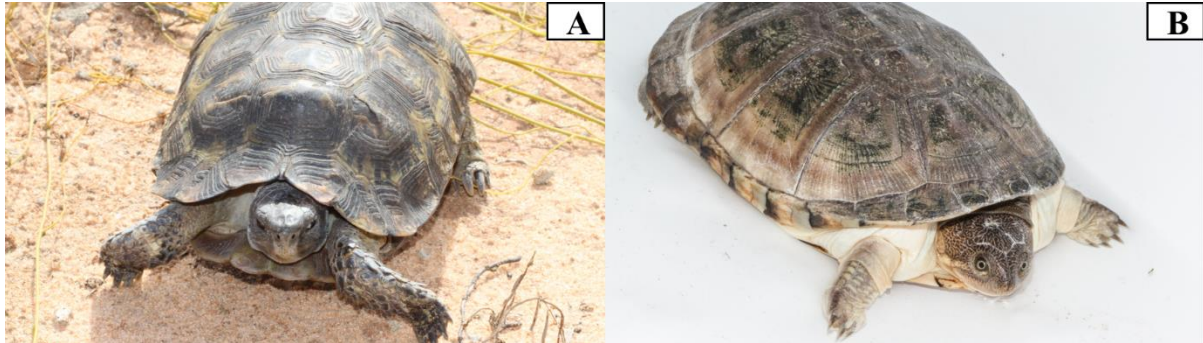


FIGURE 5. A tortoise and a terrapin from the Pemba region: A = Hinge-back Tortoise (*Kinixys spekii*) and B = Serrated Hinged Terrapin (*Pelusius sinuatus*). (Photographed by Harith Farooq).

AMPHIBIANS

Arthroleptidae

***Arthroleptis stenodactylus*; Common Squeaker.** – This species has not been seen in the urbanized areas of the city. Material: FCN0540, -13.05875° 40.52175°, Muxara; iNat: 21458924.

***Leptopelis mossambicus*; Mozambique forest Tree Frog.** – The record originated from iNaturalist. This is the most northern record published of the species, extending the range 700 km northeast. Material: iNat: 19660822.

Bufonidae

***Mertensophryne anotis*; Chirinda Toad.** – All the records for this species originated from iNaturalist and were only encountered in the Mecufi region. In Mozambique, this species is only known from Dombe Forest (Poynton and Broadley 1988) in central Mozambique,

Taratibu (Farooq et al. 2015) in Cabo Delgado, and Mount Lico in Zambezi Province (Bittencourt-Silva et al. 2020). The species was also collected under *M. loveridgei* from Rovuma River but escaped before being processed (Pascal 2011; Ohler and Fretey 2014). The taxonomic status of the new populations in northern Mozambique remains unresolved and may represent either *M. anotis*, *M. loveridgei*, or an undescribed species (Bittencourt-Silva et al. 2020). Material: iNat: 19535975, 21458586, 22156353, 22157714.

***Mertensophryne lindneri*; Lindner's Dwarf Toad (Fig. 2A)** – This species has only been observed twice in the Pemba region in an undeveloped area. This record is 100 km east of IUCN's inferred range (IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group 2013a). Material: FCN0548, -13.05875° 40.52175°, Muxara.

***Schismaderma carens*; Red Toad (Fig. 2B)**. – This is one of the most commonly observed frogs in the Pemba region. The *Schismaderma carens* collected in Pemba is 250 km east of IUCN's inferred range (IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group 2013b) but it has been recorded from west of Pemba by Branch (2004). Material: FCN0533, -12.97391° 40.53827°, Josina Machel behind Shoprite; FCN0531, FCN0535, -12.97383° 40.55138°, Bairro Eduardo Mondlane; FCN0549–552, -13.05875° 40.52175°, Muxara; FCN501, -12.97316° 40.54271°, Wimbe Beach.

***Sclerophrys pusilla*; Merten's Striped Toad**. – This species was only found once. In Ohler and Fretey (2014) we considered *Amietophrynus maculatus* as *Sclerophrys pusilla* based on Poynton et al (2016). Material: FCN0104–6, -12.97316° 40.54271°, Wimbe Beach.

Brevicipitidae

***Breviceps mossambicus*; Mozambique Rain Frog (Fig. 2I)**. – Some of the material documented here was used in a recent phylogenetic study of the genus that assigns this material to the nominal form and documents cryptic diversity further south (Nielsen et al.

2018). Material: SAIAB 88176 (8 specimens), SAIAB 88179 (4 specimens), SAIAB 201111 (9 specimens), -12.96261° 40.52944°, Pemba Beach Hotel.

Microhylidae

***Phrynomantis bifasciatus*; Banded Rubber Frog (Fig. 2H).** – It has been seen both near wetlands and in urban areas, including in houses. Expected to occur throughout Mozambique (Poynton and Broadley 1985b), but this represents the first record from Cabo Delgado Province. Material: FCN1464, -12.96954° 40.53938°, Praia do Wimbe; SAIAB 88567 (6 specimens), -12.96942 40.53583, Pemba Beach Hotel.

Hemisotidae

***Hemisis marmoratus*; Marbled Shovel-nosed Frog.** – A juvenile (uncollected) was found in a pitfall trap erected in sandy grassland in Chuiba (-13.03479° 40.55072°) and tadpoles were collected behind Pemba Marine Institute. Material: SAIAB 88556 (1 tadpole), -13.04252° 40.55525°, behind Pemba Marine Institute.

Hyperoliidae

***Afrixalus delicatus*; Delicate Leaf-folding Frog.** – Found in temporary ponds formed by accumulating rainwater. In Ohler and Fretey (2014), we considered *Afrixalus stuhlmanni brachynemis* as *A. delicatus* according to Pickersgill (2005). Material: FCN0532, -12.97383° 40.55138°, Bairro Eduardo Mondlane; SAIAB 88563 (6 specimens), -12.96942° 40.53583°, Pemba Beach Hotel.

***Afrixalus fornasini*; Greater Leaf-folding Frog (Fig. 2C).** – This species can be found throughout the city, even in more urbanized areas. Material: FCN0541, -13.05875° 40.5217°;

SAIAB 88562 (5 specimens), -12.96942° 40.53583°, Pemba Beach Hotel; SAIAB 88556 (10 tadpoles), -13.04252° 40.55525°, behind Pemba Marine Institute; iNat: 19756407

***Hyperolius argus*; Argus Reed Frog.** – Only one individual was collected in an urbanized area of Pemba. Material: FCN1030, -12.97322° 40.5518°, Bairro Eduardo Mondlane.

***Hyperolius tuberilinguis*; Tinker Reed Frog (Fig. 2J).** – Material: SAIAB 88565 (1 specimen), -12.96942° 40.53583°, Pemba Beach Hotel; SAIAB 88559 (1 tadpole), -13.04252° 40.55525°, behind Pemba Marine Institute.

***Hylambates maculatus*; Red-legged Kassina (Fig. 2E).** – Collected from most waterbodies in Pemba. In Ohler and Fretey (2014) we considered *Kassina maculata* as *Hylambates maculatus* based on Portik and Blackburn (2016). Material: FCN0542, -13.05875° 40.52175°, Muxara; FCN0528, -12.97383° 40.55138°, Bairro Eduardo Mondlane; SAIAB 88564 (2 specimens), -12.96942° 40.53583°, Pemba Beach Hotel; SAIAB 185923, -13.07606° 40.54589°, Cidade de Pemba.

Phrynobatrachidae

***Phrynobatrachus acridoides*; Eastern Puddle Frog (Fig. 2D).** – It is common near water bodies throughout the city. Material: FCN0529, FCN0543–47, -13.05875° 40.52175°, Muxara; SAIAB 88557 (3 specimens), -13.04252° 40.55525°, behind Pemba Marine Institute; SAIAB 88156, SAIAB 186322, -13.06872° 40.55044°, near Pemba Marine Institute; SAIAB 88160, -13.07147° 40.51956°, roadside pool on N1; SAIAB 88572 (6 specimens), -13.08914° 40.54458°, wetland near Atolo; SAIAB 88148 (4 specimens), -13.08917° 40.54472°, wetland near Atolo.

Ptychadenidae

***Ptychadena anchietae*; Plain Grass Frog.** – One individual was observed calling at the Airport of Pemba parking area (-12.77765, 40.54596) and another collected from the wetland near Atolo. Material: SAIAB 88570 (2 specimens) and SAIAB 88574 (4 specimens), -13.08914° 40.54458°, a wetland near Atolo.

***Ptychadena mossambica*; Mozambique Ridged Frog.** – Material: SAIAB 88566 (3 specimens), -12.96942° 40.53583°, Pemba Beach Hotel; iNat: 43584403, 19756360.

Pyxicephalidae

***Pyxicephalus edulis*; Edible Bullfrog (Fig. 2F).** – It is one of the most common frogs in the Pemba region, mostly near Wimbe Beach where they hatch in a wetland and cross the road and end up on the beach in the thousands. Material: FCN0534, -12.97392° 40.53827°, Josina Machel behind Shoprite; FCN0530, FCN0536–39, -12.97383° 40.55138°, Eduardo Mondlane; FCN0046, FCN0090, FCN0103, FCN505, -12.97316° 40.54271°, Wimbe beach; SAIAB 88568 (1 tadpole) and SAIAB 88037 (4 specimens), -12.96942° 40.53583°, Pemba Beach Hotel; SAIAB 88561 (19 tadpoles), -12.97241° 40.54694°, pools behind Pemba Beach Hotel; SAIAB 185947 (49 tadpoles), -13.06872° 40.55044°, near Atolo; SAIAB 88150 (7 tadpoles), -13.08033° 40.54530°, near Atolo; iNat: 19756319.

Rhacophoridae

***Chiromantis xerampelina*; Foam Nest Frog (Fig. 2G).** – It is a very common species in the Pemba region, where they lay their foam nests above the water level in overhanging vegetation. Material: FCN0091, FCN0098, -12.97316° 40.54271°, Wimbe beach; SAIAB 88149 (5 specimens), -13.08033° 40.54530°, near Atolo; SAIAB 88569 (1 specimen) and SAIAB 88573 (46 tadpoles), -13.08914° 40.54458°, near Atolo; SAIAB 88028 (~100 tadpoles), -13.08917° 40.54472°, near Atolo; iNat: 30640966, 21264464.

REPTILES

Gekkonidae

***Chondrodactylus laevigatus*; Fischer's Thick-toed Gecko (Fig. 3A).** –One individual was collected in the parking lot at the Lúrio University at Pemba Campus. Due to their high intraspecific variation and their overall morphological conservativeness, *Chondrodactylus* is one of the most taxonomically difficult groups of African lizards. According to (Heinz et al. 2021), the records from northern Mozambique belong to *C. laevigatus* which is only very subtly distinct from *C. turneri*. Material: FCN0045, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University at Pemba Campus.

***Hemidactylus mabouia*; Tropical House Gecko (Fig. 3B).** –One of the most common geckos in Pemba, found in most households. According to (Agarwal et al. 2021), *H. mabouia* originated in the Zambebian biogeographic region and includes as many as 20 putative species-level lineages, of which only *Hemidactylus mabouia* sensu stricto is invasive and widely distributed. Material: FCN0069, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus; FCN0208–29, -12.97316° 40.54271°, Wimbe beach; PEM R19735, -12.96350° 40.52981°, Pemba Beach Hotel; PEM R19855–6, -12.96639° 40.52972°, Pemba Beach Hotel.

***Pachydactylus punctatus*; Speckled-lipped Thick-toed Gecko (Fig. 3C).** – One individual was collected from the semi-urban area. This is the most northeastern record of the species. Material: FCN1465, -12.98018°, 40.55912°, Eduardo Mondlane.

***Lygodactylus grotei*; Common Dwarf Gecko (Fig 3. D).** – One of the most common geckos in Pemba and present throughout the city. We considered *Lygodactylus capensis* recorded in Pascal (2011) as *L. grotei* based on Roll et al. (2010). Material: FCN1452, FCN1454, FCN1455, -12.95977° 40.50172°, Ingonhane, PEM R19736, -12.9635° 40.52981°, Pemba Beach Hotel; PEM R21943–4, -13.02675° 40.53908°, Kaia Village Hotel.

Chamaeleonidae

***Chamaeleo dilepis*; Flap-necked Chameleon.** – One individual was collected in a semi-urbanized area on a road just after being run over by a car. There is a local myth that this species is highly venomous which may lead to it being actively killed by local people.

Material: FCN0057, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Scincidae

***Cryptoblepharus africanus*; Coral Rag Skink (Fig. 4A).** – Common on coral rags in the Pemba region. We considered the *Cryptoblepharus boutonii* recorded in Pascal (2011) as *C. africanus* based on Horner and Adams (2007). Material: FCN0044, -12.96675° 40.55425°, Eduardo Mondlane (beach), PEM R05958, PEM R05960, PEM R16230–8, -12.97111° 40.5389° Wimbe Beach; ReptileMap: 165509.

***Mochlus sundevalli*; Sundevall's Writhing Skink (Fig. 4B).** – This species albeit fossorial, that is common throughout Pemba, was seen walking in urban areas during the day in the rainy season. According to Freitas et al. (2018), populations from Mozambique previously referred to as *M. afer* should be assigned to *M. sundevalli*, due to lack of phylogenetic and morphological support for their differentiation. Material: PEM R19737, PEM R19739–740, -12.96350° 40.52981°, Pemba Beach Hotel garden; PEM R19850–51, PEM R19860–62, -12.96639° 40.52972°, Pemba Beach Hotel; PEM R05964, -12.97111° 40.53889°, Pemba Beach Hotel.

***Panaspis* aff. *wahlbergii*; Wahlberg's Snake-eyed Skink (Fig. 4I).** – This species is common throughout the city. According to (Medina et al. 2016) *P. wahlbergii* includes a complex of at least 13 cryptic lineages that are genetically distinct. In that study, uncatalogued material from coastal northern Mozambique was used and fell into the grouping

of *Panaspis* sp. Mozambique 4. Material: FCN1483, -12.97483° 40.57069° Eduardo Mondlane Pemba Campus;

***Trachylepis margaritifera*; Rainbow Skink (Fig. 4C).** – This species is common on buildings throughout Pemba. Material: FCN0525, -12.97483° 40.57069°, Eduardo Mondlane Pemba Campus; FCN0411, FCN0040, FCN0051, -12.97316 40.54271°, Wimbe Beach; PEM R19859, -12.96639° 40.52972°, Pemba Beach Hotel; ReptileMap: 165508.

***Trachylepis striata*; Striped Skink (Fig. 4D).** – This species is common throughout the city. Material: FCN0526, -12.97383° 40.55139°, Eduardo Mondlane.

***Trachylepis varia*; Variable Skink (Fig. 4E).** – This species is common throughout the city. Material from northern Mozambique is referred to as the typical form (see Weinell and Bauer 2018). Material: FCN0037, FCN0041, FCN0050, FCN0055, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus; FCN0557, -13.05833° 40.51767°, Muxara, PEM R21950, -13.026750° 40.53908°, Kaia Village Hotel.

Agamidae

***Agama mossambica*; Mozambican Agama (Fig. 4F).** – This agamid is common throughout the city. Material: FCN0032, -12.96379° 40.50011°, Cimento; FCN0207, FCN0031, -12.97316° 40.54271°, Wimbe beach; iNat: 30637436.

Gerrhosauridae

***Gerrhosaurus intermedius*; Eastern Black-lined Plated Lizard (Fig. 4G).** – It occurs in the least urbanized areas of Pemba. According to Bates et al. (2013), the eastern populations currently referred to *G. nigrolineatus* should now be referred to *G. intermedius* Lönnberg 1907. Records of *G. flavigularis* from northern Mozambique probably should be assigned to

G. intermedius. Material: FCN0412, -12.97585° 40.57096°, University Lúrio Pemba Campus; iNat: 5089046, 21264910, 27677035.

Varanidae

***Varanus albigularis*; Rock Monitor (Fig. 4H).** – It is not a commonly observed species in the Pemba region. Our records are based on a video of a *Varanus albigularis* underwater next to the mangroves at Pemba Bush Camp, a picture of an adult in Chuiba, and a newborn caught and released at the Lúrio University Pemba Campus. Material: -13.03849 40.56235, Chuiba (photo), -12.99358, 40.51405 Pemba Bush camp, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Amphisbaenidae

***Dalophia pistillum*; Pestle-tailed Worm Lizard (Fig. 4J).** – It was found in the backyard of a semi-urbanized area of Pemba. The specimen has 287 body annuli, and 24 caudal annuli. The new material from Pemba (*GenBank accession* MW767986) conforms genetically to a published *D. pistillum* sequence (*Genbank accession* HG425320.1) and extends its known range 220 km to the north (Loveridge 1920). Material: FCN1073, -12.97993° 40.55888°, Eduardo Mondlane.

Typhlopidae

***Afrotyphlops mucruso*; Zambezi Blind Snake.** – This is one of the largest species of blind snakes known and was previously known as *Megatyphlops* (Broadley and Wallach 2009). Material: FCN0406, FCN0520, -13.05875° 40.52175°, Muxara; iNat: 19756612.

Leptotyphlopidae

***Myriopholis longicauda*; Long-tailed Thread Snake (Fig. 5A).** – One individual was found inside a building. In Mozambique, the only published records from Cabo Delgado Province were recorded in Palma (Verburgt et al. 2018). Material: -12.96778° 40.50619° (photo).

***Leptotyphlops scutifrons*; Peter's Thread Snake.** – It is common after the rains when sandy soils get saturated with water and individuals of this species are forced to the surface. In Mozambique, all records are restricted to the south of the Zambezi River (Broadley and Broadley 1999). Material: iNat: 25668764.

Pythonidae

***Python natalensis*; Southern African Rock Python (Fig. 5B).** – One individual was seen at Murrébué beach being sold by locals. In Mozambique, the only published record from Cabo Delgado Province was recorded in Vamizi Island (Broadley and Farooq 2013). This is a protected species in Mozambique and listed under CITES appendix II. Material: -13.12869° 40.55419°, Murrébué (sight record).

Atractaspididae

***Atractaspis bibronii*; Bibron's Stiletto Snake (Fig. 5C).** – Common in non-urbanized areas. Material: FCN0024, -12.96593° 40.58151°, Maringanha; FCN0523, -12.97483° 40.57069°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Lamprophiidae

***Boaedon fuliginosus-capensis* complex; Brown House Snake (Fig. 5D).** – One of the most common snakes in the city. The only published records from Cabo Delgado Province were recorded in Vamizi Island (Broadley and Farooq 2013) and the Rovuma River (Pascal 2011). We assigned this species to the *fuliginosus-capensis* complex as the East Africa material is

unresolved and contains cryptic diversity (Spawls et al. 2018; Hallermann et al. 2020).

Material: FCN0004, -12.97296° 40.54156°, Wimbe beach; FCN0013, FCN0016–17, FCN0025, FCN0233, FCN0236, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus; iNat: 22155469.

Psammophidae

***Psammophis angolensis*; Dwarf Sand Snake.** – It was seen only once at Lúrio University at Pemba Campus. No published records exist for Cabo Delgado Province. Material: -12.97483° 40.57069°, University Lúrio Campus (sight record only).

***Psammophis mossambicus*; Olive Grass Snake.** – This snake is commonly observed in urbanized areas. In Mozambique, there are no published records from Cabo Delgado Province. Material: FCN0522, -12.97483° 40.57069°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus; iNat: 5089048.

***Psammophis orientalis*; Eastern Stripe-bellied Sand Snake (Fig. 5E).** – A common snake in the areas of Eduardo Mondlane and Chuiba. This is a very fast-moving snake and is often very hard to catch. In Mozambique, the only published records from Cabo Delgado Province were recorded in Vamizi Island (Broadley and Farooq 2013) and the Rovuma River (Pascal 2011). Material: FCN0286, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus; FCN0524, -12.97483° 40.57069°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

***Rhamphiophis rostratus*; Rufous Beaked Snake (Fig. 5F).** – One of the most observed snakes in non-urbanized areas. In Mozambique, there are no published records from Cabo Delgado Province. Material: FCN0239, FCN0224, FCN0230, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Colubridae

***Telescopus semiannulatus*; Common Tiger Snake (Fig. 5G).** – It was collected in an urbanized area. Material: FCN006, FCN0021, -13.05875° 40.52175°, near Pemba Airport.

***Dispholidus typus*; Boomslang (Fig. 5H).** – It was collected in a non-urbanized area. In Mozambique, there are no published records from Cabo Delgado Province. Eimermacher (2013) has shown deep genetic divergence among *Dispholidus* species and treated northern populations as *Dispholidus typus viridis* (Smith 1828). Material: FCN0521, -12.97483° 40.57069°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Elapidae

***Naja mossambica*; Mozambique Spitting Cobra (Fig. 5I).** – It was collected in a garden. This species is of medical importance (Longbottom et al. 2018). Material: FCN001, -12.97316° 40.54271°, garden near Wimbe-beach; iNat: 37406859

***Dendroaspis angusticeps*; Green Mamba.** – Only one record is known from the Pemba region. Material: PEM R5964, -12.97111° 40.53889°, Pemba Beach Hotel.

***Dendroaspis polylepis*; Black Mamba.** – Collected in a non-urbanized area. There are no records from the northern provinces of Mozambique (Niassa, Cabo Delgado, and Nampula), apart from Cabo Delgado Province islands and south of Angoche (Spawls 2010). This new record suggests that populations from Tanzania and southern Mozambique are continuous. This species is of medical importance (Longbottom et al. 2018). Material: FCN002, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Viperidae

***Bitis arietans*; Puff Adder (Fig. 5J).** – It is common in non-urbanized areas of Pemba. FCN0003, -12.97585° 40.57096°, Lúrio University Pemba Campus.

Testudinidae

***Kinixys spekii*; Speke's Hinge-back Tortoise (Fig. 6A).** – It was found in a non-urbanized area in Pemba. Recently, Ihlow et al. (2019) through molecular analysis enlarged the known geographical distribution range of *K. spekii* to coastal northern Mozambique but also demonstrated that the species' distribution range is still not properly known. We considered *Kinixys belliana* reported by Pascal (2011) as *K. spekii* based on Ihlow et al. (2019). Material: Photo: All three records (-13.03479° 40.55072°), Chuiba area.

Pelomedusidae

***Pelusios sinuatus*; Serrated Hinged Terrapin (Fig. 6B).** – It was found in a swamp near Wimbe beach. There are no published records from Cabo Delgado Province but it is known from throughout the country (Vamberger et al. 2019). According to Vamberger et al. (2019), *P. sinuatus* have two major clades distributed throughout East Africa. One clade occurring in the northern and central parts of the distribution range (Tanzania, Mozambique, and Botswana), and another in the south (Botswana and South Africa). Close to the border region of Botswana, Zimbabwe, and South Africa, the two clades overlap. We regard *Pelusios castanoides* recorded by Pascal (2011) as *P. sinuatus* based on Vamberger et al. (2019). Material: PEM R19857–8, -13.08931°, 40.54467°, near Atolo; PEM R19741, -13.09858° 40.54539°, PEM R19742–4, -13.08914° 40.54458°, near Atolo.

Cheloniidae

***Chelonia mydas*; Green Sea Turtle.** – Even though they are regularly seen in Pemba's bay, there is no evidence that they use the beaches as breeding sites. The species has been recorded in Cabo Delgado Province on the Island of Vamizi (Garnier et al. 2012) and has

been assessed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN. Material: -12.96049° 40.54048°, Pemba's Bay. (sight record).

***Eretmochelys imbricata*; Hawksbill Sea Turtle.** – Divers commonly record the presence of this species in Pemba's bay. Even though individuals of this species are regularly seen in Pemba's bay, there is no evidence that they use the beaches as breeding sites. The species has been recorded in Cabo Delgado on the Island of Vamizi (Garnier et al. 2012) and has been assessed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN. Material: -12.96049° 40.54048°, Pemba's Bay (sight record).

Acknowledgments. – We thank Bernard Pfeil for constructive comments on this manuscript and Byron Grant for funding Roger Bill's trips to the region. Harith Farooq is financially supported by CESAM (UIDP/50017/2020+UIDB/50017/2020), FCT/MCTES through national funds, FEDER, the PT2020 Partnership Agreement and Compete 2020, WCS Christensen Conservation Leaders Scholarship, the World Wildlife Foundation – Education for Nature scholarship, and the Antonelli Lab. Alexandre Antonelli is supported by the Swedish Research Council, the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research, and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Laboratory work was funded by the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences in Gothenburg (KVVS). We also thank the students at Lúrio University and Pemba citizens for their donations of specimens to the natural history collection at Lúrio University. Finally, we thank both reviewers who substantially improved this manuscript through their comments and suggestions.

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Table S1: Checklist of published records of amphibians in Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique.

| # | Amphibians | Ohler and Fretey 2014 | Farooq et. al. 2015 | Branch 2004 | Conradie et al. 2018 | This study |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1 | <i>Afrivalus fornasini</i> (Bianconi, 1849) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | <i>Afrivalus delicatus</i> Pickersgill, 1984 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 4 | <i>Amnirana galamensis</i> (Duméril and Bibron, 1841) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 5 | <i>Arthroleptis stenodactylus</i> Pfeffer, 1893 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 6 | <i>Arthroleptis xenodactyloides</i> Hewitt, 1933 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | <i>Breviceps mossambicus</i> Peters, 1854 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | <i>Chiromantis xerampelina</i> (Peters, 1854) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 9 | <i>Hemisis marmoratus</i> (Peters, 1854) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 10 | <i>Hildebrandtia ornata</i> (Peters, 1878) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | <i>Hyperolius argus</i> Peters, 1854 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 12 | <i>Hyperolius marmoratus</i> Rapp, 1842 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 13 | <i>Hyperolius microps</i> Günther, 1864 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 14 | <i>Hyperolius parkeri</i> Loveridge, 1933 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 15 | <i>Hyperolius tuberilinguis</i> Smith, 1849 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 16 | <i>Hyperolius stictus</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | <i>Kassina senegalensis</i> (Duméril and | | | | | |
| 17 | Bibron, 1841) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | <i>Leptopelis broadleyi</i> (Poynton, | | | | | |
| 18 | 1985) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | <i>Leptopelis flavomaculatus</i> | | | | | |
| 19 | (Günther, 1864) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Leptopelis mossambicus</i> Poynton, | | | | | |
| 20 | 1985 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Mertensophryne anotis</i> (Boulenger, | | | | | |
| 21 | 1907) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Mertensophryne lindneri</i> (Mertens, | | | | | |
| 22 | 1955) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Mertensophryne loveridgei</i> | | | | | |
| 23 | (Poynton, 1991) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Mertensophryne micranotis</i> | | | | | |
| 24 | (Loveridge, 1925) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Nothophryne unilurio</i> Conradie, | | | | | |
| 25 | Bittencourt-Silva, Farooq, Loader, Menegon, and Tolley, 2018 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Phrynobatrachus acridoides</i> (Cope, | | | | | |
| 26 | 1867) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | <i>Phrynobatrachus mababiensis</i> | | | | | |
| 27 | FitzSimons, 1932 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 28 | <i>Phrynobatrachus natalensis</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | <i>Phrynomantis bifasciatus</i> (Smith, | | | | | |
| 29 | 1847) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | <i>Hylambates maculatus</i> Duméril, | | | | | |
| 30 | 1853 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | <i>Ptychadena anchietae</i> (Bocage, | | | | | |
| 31 | 1868) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 32 | <i>Ptychadena guibei</i> Laurent, 1954 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | <i>Ptychadena mascareniensis</i> | | | | | |
| 33 | (Duméril and Bibron, 1841) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Ptychadena mossambica</i> (Peters, | | | | | |
| 34 | 1854) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 35 | <i>Ptychadena nilotica</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | <i>Ptychadena oxyrhynchus</i> (Smith, | | | | | |
| 36 | 1849) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Ptychadena taenioscelis</i> Laurent, | | | | | |
| 37 | 1954 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 38 | <i>Pyxicephalus edulis</i> Peters, 1854 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | <i>Schismaderma carens</i> (Smith, | | | | | |
| 39 | 1848) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 40 | <i>Sclerophrys pusilla</i> (Mertens, 1937) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 41 | <i>Xenopus muelleri</i> (Peters, 1844) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | Total | 31 | 2 | 1 | 26 | 19 |

Table 2: Checklist of published records of reptiles in Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique.

| # | Reptiles | Pascal 2011 | Broadley and Farooq 2013 | Garnier et al. 2012 | Broadley and Measey 2016 | Verburgt et al. 2018 | This study |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | <i>Afrotyphlops mucruso</i> (Peters, 1854) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | <i>Agama mossambica</i> Peters, 1854 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 3 | <i>Atractaspis bibronii</i> Smith, 1849 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 4 | <i>Bitis arietans</i> Merrem, 1820 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 5 | <i>Bitis gabonica</i> Duméril, Bibron and Duméril, 1854 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <i>Boaedon fuliginosus-capensis</i> | | | | | | | |
| 6 | <i>complex</i> | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 7 | <i>Causus defilippii</i> (Jan, 1863) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Chamaeleo dilepis</i> Leach, | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 1819 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Chelonia mydas</i> (Linnaeus, | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 1758) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Chirinda swynnertoni</i> | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Boulenger, 1907 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Chondrodactylus turneri</i> | | | | | | | |
| 11 | (Gray, 1864) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Cordylus tropidosternum</i> | | | | | | | |
| 12 | (Cope, 1869) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Crocodylus niloticus</i> Laurenti, | | | | | | | |
| 13 | 1768 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Cryptoblepharus africanus</i> | | | | | | | |
| 14 | Mertens, 1928 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Cycloderma frenatum</i> Peters, | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 1854 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Dalophia pistillum</i> (Boettger, | | | | | | | |
| 16 | 1895) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Dendroaspis angusticeps</i> | | | | | | | |
| 17 | (Smith, 1849) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Dendroaspis polylepis</i> | | | | | | | |
| 18 | Günther, 1864 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Dispholidus typus</i> (Smith, | | | | | | | |
| 19 | 1828) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> | | | | | | | |
| 20 | (Linnaeus, 1766) | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | <i>Gerrhosaurus intermedius</i> | | | | | | |
| 21 | Lönnberg 1907 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Gracililima nyassae</i> (Günther, | | | | | | |
| 22 | 1888) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Hemidactylus mabouia</i> | | | | | | |
| 23 | (Moreau de Jonnés, 1818) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Hemidactylus platycephalus</i> | | | | | | |
| 24 | Peters, 1854 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | <i>Kinixys spekii</i> (Gray, 1863) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Leptotyphlops scutifrons</i> | | | | | | |
| 26 | (Peters, 1854) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Lycophidion capense</i> (Smith, | | | | | | |
| 27 | 1831) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Lygodactylus grottei</i> | | | | | | |
| 28 | (Sternfeld, 1911) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Lygodactylus picturatus</i> | | | | | | |
| 29 | (Peters, 1870) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Meroles squamulosa</i> (Peters, | | | | | | |
| 30 | 1854) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Mochlus sundevalli</i> (Smith, | | | | | | |
| 31 | 1849 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Myriopholis longicauda</i> | | | | | | |
| 32 | (Peters, 1854) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 33 | <i>Naja mossambica</i> Peters, 1854 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 34 | <i>Nucras ornata</i> (Gray, 1864) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Pachydactylus punctatus</i> | | | | | | |
| 35 | Peters, 1854 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Panaspis wahlbergii</i> (Smith, | | | | | | |
| 36 | 1849) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 37 | <i>Pelusios sinuatus</i> (Smith, 1838) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 38 | <i>Philothamnus angolensis</i> Bocage, 1882 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 39 | <i>Philothamnus hoplogaster</i> (Günther, 1863) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 40 | <i>Philothamnus semivariiegatus</i> (Smith, 1840) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 41 | <i>Psammophis angolensis</i> (Bocage, 1872) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 42 | <i>Psammophis mossambicus</i> Peters, 1882 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 43 | <i>Psammophis orientalis</i> Broadley, 1977 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 44 | <i>Python natalensis</i> Smith, 1833 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 45 | <i>Rhamphiophis rostratus</i> Peters, 1854 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 46 | <i>Rieppeleon brachyurus</i> (Günther, 1893) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 47 | <i>Scaphiophis albopunctatus</i> Peters, 1870 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 48 | <i>Scolecoseps broadleyi</i> Verburgt, Verburgt An Branch 2018 | | | | | | |
| 49 | <i>Telescopus semiannulatus</i> Smith, 1849 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 50 | <i>Thelotornis mossambicanus</i> (Bocage, 1895) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 51 | <i>Thelotornis usambaricus</i> Broadley, 2001 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| | <i>Trachylepis boulengeri</i> | | | | | | |
| 52 | (Sternfeld, 1911) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Trachylepis maculilabris</i> | | | | | | |
| 53 | (Gray, 1845) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Trachylepis margaritifera</i> | | | | | | |
| 54 | (Peters, 1854) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Trachylepis striata</i> (Peters, | | | | | | |
| 55 | 1844) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Trachylepis varia</i> (Peters, | | | | | | |
| 56 | 1867) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Trioceros melleri</i> (Gray, | | | | | | |
| 57 | 1865) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Varanus albigularis</i> Daudin, | | | | | | |
| 58 | 1802 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | <i>Varanus niloticus</i> (Linnaeus, | | | | | | |
| 59 | 1766) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <i>Zygaspis maraisi</i> Broadley | | | | | | |
| 60 | and Measey, 2016 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total | 37 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 35 |
