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TWO QUEENSLAND SNAKES.

By

J. R. KINGHORN, C.M.Z.S.,
Zoologist, The Australian Museum.

(Figures 1-5.)

This brief paper contains a description and figures of a new species of *Glyphodon*, and a redescription of *Denisonia muelleri* Fischer, which is figured herein for the first time. There also is a reference to the disposition of the pre- and postfrontal bones in relation to the frontal and the orbital periphery in the above and allied genera.

Glyphodon Günther.

Glyphodon, Günther, Cat. Col. Snakes Brit. Mus., 1853, p. 210.

Boulenger, Cat. Snakes Brit. Mus., Vol. 111, 1896, p. 313.

A specimen belonging to this genus, collected by Mr. H. G. Barnard at Duaringa, Queensland, in company with Mr. J. R. Slevin, California Academy of Sciences, differs sufficiently from other well-known forms to warrant its being described as a new species. The head of a second specimen from Cooktown also agrees in detail with the Duaringa specimen. This head has been used to examine the cranial characters, but it is only necessary to mention here that the pre- and postfrontal bones meet in a broad suture, thereby excluding the frontal from the orbital periphery. Boulenger, in a footnote, makes reference to this character, but does not refer to the disposition of these bones in the closely allied genus *Pseudelaps*, now *Aspidomorphus*,¹ in which I find that they also meet, but only in a narrow suture. It might be mentioned that in some, if not all, species of *Demansia* the pre- and postfrontals form a broad suture, whilst in some species of *Denisonia* examined they do not meet, and the frontal enters the orbital periphery. This suggests that a most interesting and illuminating problem is to be solved by the examination of a complete series of skulls of Australian snakes.

The specimen before me shows that the maxillary does not extend quite as far forward as the palatine. The fang is followed by six teeth. The anterior mandibular teeth are enlarged, and much more so than in *Aspidomorphus*. The head is slightly distinct from the neck.

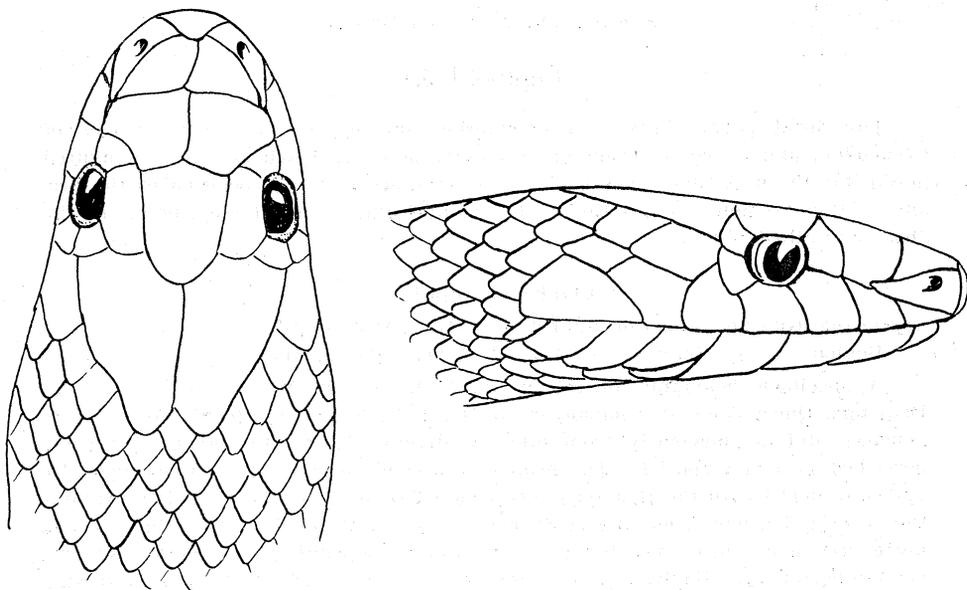
The eye is small with a vertically elliptic pupil. The nasal shield is slightly grooved but not divided.

¹ It was recently pointed out by L. D. Brongersma in his Contributions to Indo-Australian Herpetology (Zool. Med. Mus. Leiden, xvii, 1934), p. 223, that the name *Pseudelaps* must give way to *Aspidomorphus*.

The differences between the specimen before me and its nearest relative are given below:

	<i>Glyphodon tristis.</i>	<i>Glyphodon</i> , sp. n.
Temporals	2 + 2	1 + 2
Scales on mid body	17	15
Ventrals *	165 — 179	185
Subcaudals	38 — 52	40
Nasal shield	divided	single (slightly grooved)

Basing my contentions on the above, I have pleasure in naming this species after its finder, Mr. Barnard.



Figs. 1 and 2.—*Glyphodon barnardi*, sp. nov. From holotype. $\times 4\frac{1}{2}$ approx.

J.R.K., del.

***Glyphodon barnardi*, sp. nov.**

Description.—Head slightly distinct from neck. Eye small, but as deep as its distance from the mouth. Rostral about as deep as broad. Frontal shorter than the parietal, as long as its distance from the posterior border of the rostral, twice as broad as the supra-oculars. Parietals as long as their distance from the posterior border of the internasals. Prefrontals very large, wider than deep, and forming a broad suture with the second upper labial. Nasal slightly grooved, especially on its lower half, and sharply pointed posteriorly. It is widely separated from the preocular.

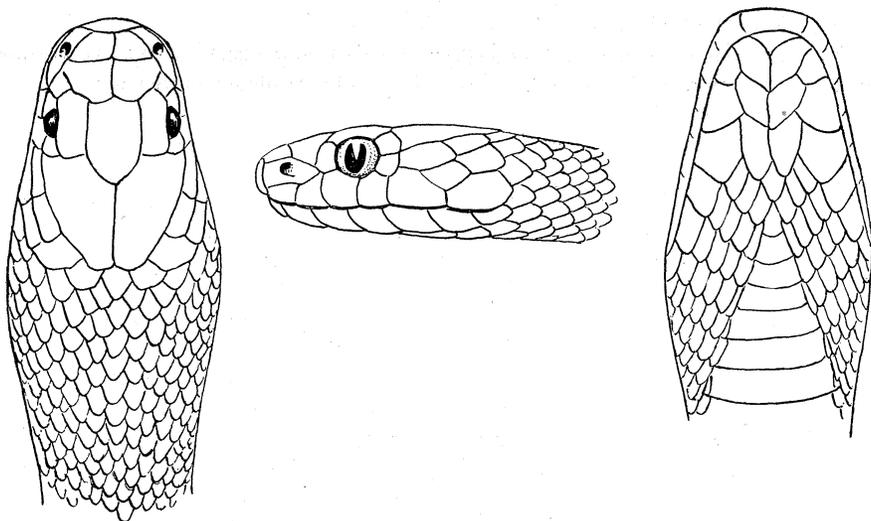
One single and two postoculars. Temporals 1+2. Upper labials 7. Lower labials 7, the third and fourth under the eye, and four in contact with the anterior chin shield. Ventrals 185. Anals 2. Subcaudals 40, paired.

Total length 480 mm., tail 60 mm.

Colour in spirits, uniform reddish brown above, the head and neck almost black with a yellowish patch on the nape. Underparts uniform yellowish.

Locality.—Fifteen miles south from Duaringa, Queensland, collected by Mr. H. G. Barnard. Holotype No. 77798, in the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, U.S.A.

The stomach of this specimen contained a comparatively large and undigested lizard of the genus *Egernia*.



Figs. 3-5.—*Denisonia muelleri*, Fischer. From a specimen in the California Academy of Sciences. $\times 4$.

J.R.K., del.

Denisonia muelleri Fischer.

This little snake has eluded collectors for many years past, but was recently rediscovered by Mr. J. R. Slevin, who collected several specimens at Coomoolaroo Station, 15 miles south of Duaringa, Queensland. It is here redescribed and figured for the first time.

Denisonia muelleri (Fischer) Boulenger, Cat. Snakes Brit. Mus., 111, 1896, p. 337. Kinghorn, Snakes of Australia, 1929, pp. 48 and 187.

Description.—Head quite as wide as body, and distinct from neck. Eye larger than its distance from the mouth, pupil vertically elliptic. Rostral a little broader than deep in front and visible from above. Frontal as long as the median parietal suture, slightly longer than its distance from the snout, broader than the supraoculars, and once and one-half times as long as broad. Prefrontals much longer than the internasals. Nostril in an undivided nasal which is in contact with the single preocular. Two postoculars. Temporals $2 + 2 + 1$, the lower anterior wedged in between the fifth and sixth upper labial. Six upper labials, the third and fourth under the eye. Two pairs of chin shields, the posterior being the longest. The first pair of lower labials form a suture behind the mental. Body scales in 17 rows at the centre; 12-14 near the anal shield, and 18-19 on the neck. Ventrals 124. Subcaudals 30, single. Anal single. Total length 188 mm., body 161, tail 27 mm.

Colour (from a fresh spirit specimen), light olive brown above, each scale being slightly mottled or blotched. Head above and nape blackish with yellowish freckles. The snout is lighter, and a thread-like white line borders the black on the nape. There are two blackish lines on the neck, and from the rostral along the sides of the head the scales are finely speckled. The upper and lower labials are black at the edges and whitish in the centre. The chin and throat are heavily spotted and blotched, and the lateral scales the entire length of the body are dark blotched. The undersurface is mainly yellowish white.

Habitat.—Queensland.

The specimen figured and described is number R.12332 in the Australian Museum collection, a donation from the California Academy of Sciences.