

First Records for *Ophisaurus harti* and *Python molurus bivittatus* from Jiangxi Province, China

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Abstract.—*Ophisaurus harti* and *Python molurus bivittatus* are reported for the first time from Jiangxi Province China. The measurements, characteristics, and distributions of these two species and subspecies are described in detail.

Key Words: Reptilia, Lacertilia, Anguidae, *Ophisaurus harti*, Serpentes, Boidae, *Python molurus bivittatus*, China, distribution

Ophisaurus harti Boulenger (Fig. 1)

On October 22, 1980 a specimen of *O. harti* was caught by Weitao Ji and Songlin Cheng of the Wuyi Shan Natural Reserve at an altitude of 900 meters on Mt. Wuyi, Yanshan County, Jiangxi Province, China. The specimen is kept in the Department of Biology, Jiangxi Medical College, Nanchang.

Measurements of specimen, in mm.

Specimen Number	600
Sex	male
Head width	21
Snout to ear	28
Body width	19
Total length	279
<u>Tail* length</u>	166

*Regenerated

Characteristics.—Body cylindrical and no vestiges of limbs externally. Head with large symmetrical shields; two shields in a line between the nasal and the azygous prefrontal; ear-opening minute, smaller than the nostril. Dorsal scales keeled, in 16 longitudinal rows and 99 transverse series (counted in the length of the lateral fold); ventrals smooth, in 10 longitudinal series. The tail is long and fragile, and regenerates quickly. The regenerated tail is shorter than the original one, and the regenerated scales are smaller than the original ones. Brown above, with 21 transverse blue marking; under parts whitish.

Distribution.—Vietnam; China: Sichuan, Yunnan, Guizhou, Anhui, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Jiangxi (Mt. Wuyi in



FIG. 1. *Ophisaurus harti*.

Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Jiangxi (Mt. Wuyi in Yanshan County), Hunan, Fujian, Taiwan, Guangxi.

Python molurus bivittatus Schlegel (Fig. 2)

A piece of skin of *P. molurus bivittatus* was collected in 1965 from the people of Mt. Daji in Quannan County by the author, and one living specimen was caught in a mountain stream in the countryside of the city of Longnan County by a fisherman with a fishing net. The specimen was purchased by Chunhuo Teng of Nanchang People's Park in 1979.

Measurements of specimen, in mm.

Specimen Number	1001
Sex	unknown
Head width	55
Body width	120
Total length	2936
Tail length	34



FIG. 2. *Python molurus bivittatus*.

Characteristics.—Size large, with vestiges of hind limbs externally. Head distinct from neck, with large symmetrical shields; rostral with a deep pit on either side; two internasals; two pairs of prefrontals, the anterior pair is longer than the posterior one; frontal a little larger than the supraocular, divided longitudinally; parietal, loreal and temporal regions covered with irregular scales; supralabials 13, the first two deeply pitted, 6th and 7th separated from the eye by suboculars. Scales smooth, in 50 rows on neck, 75 rows on midbody and 38 rows before the vent; anal entire. Tail rather short. Ventrals and subcaudals were not counted. Light yellowish above, with a dorsal series of large, more or less subquadrangular dark gray, black-edged spots; flanks with smaller, rounded or irregularly-shaped spots of the same color. A lance-shaped mark on the top of the head and the neck; yellowish below, with a border of dark spots on the outermost row of the scales; tail below marbled with yellow and black.

Distribution.—Asia, Indo-Australian Region; China: Yunnan, Jiangxi (Dajishan in Quannan County, Longnan County), Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan, Guangxi.

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