

A Record of *Boiga ochracea walli* (Stoliczka, 1870) from Bangladesh

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Abstract. - Two specimens of *Boiga ochracea* specimens from Bangladesh are referred to *Boiga ochracea walli*. The locality data for these specimens are lost, but they are probably from the University of Chittagong campus. These are the first records of this subspecies for Bangladesh.

Key words. - *Boiga ochracea*, Bangladesh.

While identifying snake species preserved in the Departmental Museum of Zoology, Chittagong University (CU), two specimens of *Boiga ochracea walli* (Stoliczka, 1870) were found. One was collected in 1975, but the localities where they were found are unknown. Both specimens were probably collected from the University of Chittagong campus. The occurrence of *Boiga ochracea* in Bangladesh was first reported by Khan (1982) based on a specimen collected from Chittagong Hill Tracts. Khan (1982) did not identify the specimen to subspecies. Smith (1943) reported the subspecies range as Burma (now Myanmar) south of Lat. 25°; Tenasserim; the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Both localities of *Boiga ochracea walli* from Chittagong (this report) and *B. ochracea* from Chittagong Hill Tracts (Khan 1982) are close to Myanmar and south of the latitude mentioned by Smith (1943). This report extends the subspecies range up to Bangladesh and it may occur in other parts of the country like Greater Sylhet, Cox's Bazar, and the districts of Chittagong Hill Tracts (i.e., Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban) as they have similar habitats.

The CU specimens have the following characters (although the natural colour may have changed due to the effects of preservation): faded greyish above, vertebral series of scales paler than others, ventral side of

body whitish. Smith (1943) described the subspecies as "greyish, reddish or yellowish brown above (coral red in life), some of the scales finely edged with black and forming more or less distinct transverse lines or bars, best marked in the young; the vertebral series of scales sometimes lighter than the others; paler below; lips and chin whitish".

The CU specimens have eight supra labials, 4th, 5th and 6th below the eyes; one pre and two post-oculars present. Smith (1943) stated that there is normally one pre-ocular, not reaching the upper surface of the head; anterior genials about as long as the posterior, latter in contact with one another or separated by small scales; vertebrals strongly enlarged. The measurements of the CU specimens are compared below with those reported by Smith (1943).

Literature Cited

- Khan, M. A. R. 1982. Wildlife of Bangladesh - a checklist. Dhaka University Press, Dhaka. 173 pp.
- Smith, M. A. 1943. The fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Reptilia and Amphibia, Vol. 3 Serpentes. Taylor and Francis Ltd., London. 583 pp.

Table 1. - The table shows that the Smith's (1943) specimens and the present ones are similar.

Cat. No.	Date locality	Total length (cm)	Tail length (cm)	Dorsal scales	Ventral scales	Anal scale	Caudal scales	Temporal scale	Source
31CU	04.03.75	88	16	19:19:15	236	1	79	2+2	Present
37CU		50.3	9.3	17:19:15	229	1	97	2+2	work
		105-110	23.5-21.5	19:19:15	221-246	1	89-107	2+2 or 2+3	Smith (1943)