

1883) of the colubrid snake *Lygophis boursieri* was obtained by Kjell von Sneidern at Ricuarte (about 78 km due west of Pasto), elevation 1300 m, in Departamento Nariño, southwestern Colombia. The type locality of the species is supposedly Quito, Ecuador, but the only recent records are based on a few specimens from the lower Amazonian slopes of Ecuador (see Peters, 1963; see synonymy for this and other references). The present specimen extends the known range northward into Colombia and establishes the presence of *boursieri* on the Pacific drainage of the Andes.

*Coronella whymperi* Boulenger and *Liophis atahuallpae* Steindachner, both from the western slopes of the Andes of central Ecuador, probably are conspecific with *Lygophis boursieri*, as indicated by Parker (1935) and Shreve (1934). The occurrence of *boursieri* in the Pacific drainage of Colombia adds weight to that probability, as do only slight or nonexistent scutellational differences and similar patterns. Peters (1960) placed *atahuallpae* in the synonymy of *whymperi*, which he retained as a distinct species of *Lygophis*. Because I have not seen comparative material, I tentatively adopt Peters' arrangement. The association of any of the aforementioned epithets with the name *Lygophis* is provisional, for the generic situation is complicated.

A specimen of *Lygophis boursieri* (Mus. Comp. Zool. 9598) has been mentioned in the literature (see synonymy) under the names *Dromicus dumerilii* and *Urotheca dumerilii*. This specimen and the holotype of *U. dumerilii* (Mus. Nat. d'Hist. Natur. Paris 733) are purportedly from Cuba, but that datum is in error; I have examined both specimens. The type of *U. dumerilii* is allied to the genus *Rhadinaea* and will be reported on in another place; the MCZ specimen closely resembles the Colombian *Lygophis* here reported, and was in fact reidentified as *L. boursieri* by Benjamin Shreve, after an inquiry by the late E. R. Dunn (Ernest E. Williams, pers. comm., 1963).

The synonymy of *Lygophis boursieri*, *sensu* Peters, is given below. The two specimens of *boursieri* examined by me are described thereafter, as a contribution to our scant knowledge of this snake.

*Lygophis boursieri* (Jan)

*Dromicus boursieri* Jan, 1867, Icon. Gen.

Ophidiens, livr. 25, pl. II, fig. 2 [Type locality: "Quito," Ecuador. Holotype in Mus. Nat. d'Hist. Natur. Paris.]

*Rhadinaea undulata* (Wiedl). [*pro parte*]. Boulenger, 1894, Cat. Snakes British Mus. vol. 2:174

*Liophis boursieri* (Jan). [*pro parte*]. Parker, 1935, Proc. Zool. Soc. London 1935:506.

*Lygophis boursieri* (Jan). Peters, 1960, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 122(9):528; Peters, 1963, Beitrage zur Neotropischen Fauna 3(1):61; [*pro parte*], Shreve, 1934, Occ. Pap. Boston Nat. Hist. Soc. 8:125.

[*non*] *Dromicus dumerilii* (Bibron). Garman, 1887, Proc. Am. Philos. Soc. 24:280.

*Urotheca dumerilii* (Bibron). Boulenger, 1894, Cat. Snakes British Mus. vol. 2:181; Barbour, 1914, Mem. Mus. Comp. Zool. 44(2):340; Barbour and Ramsden, 1919, Mem. Mus. Comp. Zool. 47(2):76. [Preceding based on Garman's misidentification of MCZ 9598.]

ANSP 25183.—Female; rather slender, head little wider than neck; total length 530 mm, tail 115 mm, tail length/total length 0.217; dorsal scales smooth, lacking apical pits and anal ridges, in 17-15 rows, reducing by loss of 4th scale rows at ventrals 89/87; caudal scales reducing from six to four rows at subcaudals 18; 150 ventrals (Dowling system), 1 pre-ventral, 1/2 half-ventrals at level of ventral 117, anal divided, 51 pairs subcaudals. Nasal essentially single (a short division reaches from base only half-way to naris); loreal partly fused with preocular; 1 large preocular; 2 postoculars; temporals 1 + 2; 8 supralabials, 3rd-5th bordering eye and 7th highest; infralabials 8/7 (last 2 on right fused), 1st pair in contact behind mental, 1st-4th touching anterior genial, 4th-5th posterior genial; posterior genials distinctly longer than anterior. Diameter of eye equal to distance from its anterior edge to center of naris, going one and one-half times into distance from anterior edge to tip of snout. Head brown, becoming light grayish brown on supraoculars and snout, which are spotted with blackish brown; supralabials white, heavily variegated with blackish brown; narrow whitish stripe, broadly bordered by blackish brown, from lower edge of eye to angle of mouth. Dorsal scales light brown, broadly edged by gray; a series of blackish brown vertebral spots from neck to midbody, there fusing into dark vertebral line that continues to tip of tail; sides of tail blackish; centers of scales white

in rows 1-3 and 5; very narrow, slightly zig-zag, blackish brown line along scale borders between rows 3-4 on posterior one-half of body; underside of head white, heavily variegated with blackish brown; ventrals white, with median row of blackish brown spots on first 34, punctated with brown, and with narrow, blackish brown streaks along bases terminating in spots at anterior corners of ventrals; subcaudals broadly tipped with blackish brown and having medial extensions of this color on first dozen plates. Maxillary teeth 19/20 + 2; prediastemal teeth subequal; last two teeth about twice as long as preceding, not grooved, and isolated by distinct diastema; ultimate prediastemal socket and one-half of penultimate are posterior to anterior edge of ectopterygoid process. Anal sacs large, extending to level of 9th subcaudals.

MCZ 9598.—Female, of unknown locality, differing from Colombian specimen (above) in minor aspects only: Total length 540 mm +, tail 81 mm + (broken); posterior scale row reduction at level of ventrals 93/90; caudal reduction at subcaudals 16/17; 153 ventrals, 3 preentrals. Division of nasal reaches nearly to posterior corner of naris; deep groove from base of nasal to lower anterior edge of naris; loreal fused with preocular on left side only; lower postocular on right tiny; infralabials 8/9 (division on right occurs in last few plates). Vertebral line more interrupted and less conspicuous; lateral dark line less conspicuous; white centers of scales in row 5 fused, forming a white stripe extending length of body; dark streaks across bases of ventrals and anterior subcaudals wider and more conspicuous, fused with anterior, median row of spots on ventrals. Maxillary teeth 22/21 + 2. Anal sacs extend to level of 7th caudals.

Remarks.—The stratum corneum is almost entirely lacking in both specimens, and where present (in patches) is light brown; both have a decided grayish cast, but in life were probably brown. Both specimens agree well with Jan's (1867) plate, which comprises the original "description." The posterior genials are relatively longer in the specimens at hand, and the coloration of the anterior part of the body is not so uniform as depicted in the plate, probably because of the lack of the stratum corneum. There is no fusion of loreal and preocular in the illustration of the holotype. Both individuals are readily distinguished from *L. whympersi* in the key

provided by Peters (1960); nevertheless, the place of scale row reduction on the tail (reducing to 4 anterior to 24th subcaudal), and the presence of a narrow zig-zag lateral dark line (rather than a wider, straight line) are characteristics of *whympersi* according to Peters (1963:61-62).

I am grateful to James E. Böhlke and Edmond V. Malnate (ANSP), Ernest I. Williams (MCZ), and Jean Guibé (MNHN) for the loan of specimens.

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