

Report of *Cyrtodactylus Rishivalleyensis* (Geckoella) and *Hemidactylus Triedrus* At Coimbatore district, Tamilnadu

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Abstract

In a field study conducted in the month of October and November 2018, at the foot hills of Western Ghats around 21 km from Coimbatore, Tami Nadu, two specimens of reptiles, belong to the Order Squamata and Gekkonidae family were collected. Of these two specimens, one belongs to the genus *Cyrtodactylus* and was identified as *Cyrtodactylus rishivalleyensis*. *C. rishivalleyensis* is an endemic species distributed in the nearby areas of eastern hills of Andhra Pradesh, India. Different species surveyed in this region is identified as *Hemidactylus triedrus*, which is known as termite hill gecko. The distribution pattern and conservation status of these two species are discussed by this report.

Keywords: Reptile diversity, *Cyrtodactylus rishivalleyensis*, *Hemidactylus triedrus*

Introduction

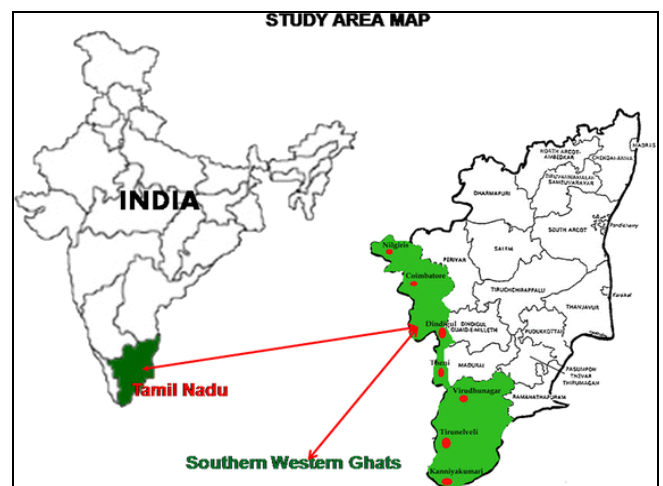
Gecko - a little medium types of reptiles, tracked down in the more calm and tropical districts of the world. They are all the more ordinarily tracked down around the Equator and in the Southern Half of the globe. A couple of types of gecko are accounted for from north of the Equator in hotter districts. There are 2,000 unique types of gecko found all over the planet and more types of gecko that are yet to be found. Today, numerous types of gecko are viewed as compromised with elimination because of natural surroundings misfortune and contamination.

Study Area

In a field study conducted in the month of October and November 2018, at the foot hills of Westernghats around 21 km from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu where the two specimens of reptiles were collected and the collected specimens were identified with standard key. The spot is notable for its regular grand excellence of mountain ranges since it is situated along the foot slopes of the Western Ghats. This region is one of the quickly developing south-western rural areas.



Fig 1: Foot hills of Western ghats. (south-western suburbs)



Description

Hemidactylus triedrus (Tail autotomized) Sample specimens of reptiles belong to the Order Squamata and Gekkonidae family. One of the specimens belongs to the genus *Cyrtodactylus* and the species was identified as *rishivalleyensis*. *C. rishivalleyensis* is an endemic species and reported species from the nearby areas of eastern hills of Andhra Pradesh, India. Other species surveyed in this region is identified as *Hemidactylus triedrus*, which is known as termite hill gecko.

Cyrtodactylus collegalensis is an animal category gathering or species complex of gecko tracked down in peninsular India. *C. collegalensis* (Beddome) is the most generally conveyed species complex inside Geckoella, disseminated across a vast region in southern and western peninsular India, as well as northern Sri Lanka (Somaweera and Somaweera 2009; Mirza *et al.* 2010 [10]; Agarwal and Karanth 2015) [2]. Seven types of Geckoella are known from India, with an as of late portrayed *Cyrtodactylus varadgirii* tracked down external backwoods (Agarwal *et al.*, 2016) [1]. *Cyrtodactylus* (Geckoella) species appropriated in south India (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu). Geckoella *Cyrtodactylus rishivalleyensis* (Geckoella) has been viewed as an uncommon type of uncertain status

because of its limited reach. Agarwal (2016)^[1] portrayed the species and named it, after the spot where the equivalent was gathered, the Rishi Valley School, and this is at present known from hills of the Eastern Ghats, in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.

Hemidactylus maculatus Duméril and Bibron, 1836 is an enormous estimated gecko which was believed to be far reaching across the Western Ghats and different pieces of peninsular India (Smith, 1935). Ongoing examinations show that *H. maculatus* is a complex of different animal groups (Agarwal *et al.*, 2011^[3]; Javed *et al.*, 2009, 2011)^[8]. *H. maculatus* is currently known with assurance just from Northern Western Ghats of Gujarat and Maharashtra. *Hemidactylus triedrus lankae* was portrayed by Deraniyagala (1953)^[5] ascribing the Sri Lankan populace to this subspecies and confining the name structure to India. Deraniyagala (1953)^[5] Jerdon (1853)^[7] portrayed a unified, sketchy species or assortment, *H. subtriedrus* from the then, Nellore locale of Andhra Pradesh which is viewed as an unmistakable type of *H. triedrus* particular (Jerdon, 1853)^[7], in any case, the characters introduced in the portrayal were excessively obscure to recognize them. Günther (1864)^[6] was quick to scrutinize the legitimacy of *H. subtriedrus*, who, in his record of *H. triedrus*, states that *H. subtriedrus* is so deficiently portrayed that its peculiarity is questioned. Stoliczka (1871, 1872)^[13, 14] reported the occurrence of *H. subtriedrus* from Erode district of Tamil Nadu. This observation is based on the specimens collected by Blanford in 1871 (Blanford, 1879)^[4]. Specimens of *H. triedrus* were collected from Pondicherry and the outskirts of Chennai.



Fig 2: *Cyrtodactylus rishivalleyensis*



Fig 3: *Hemidactylus triedrus* (Termite hill gecko)

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