Zoology. — *A new subspecies of Natrix mairii (Gray) from Dutch New Guinea.* By L. D. BRONGERSMA. (Communicated by Prof. C. J. VAN DER KLAAUW.)

(Communicated at the meeting of February 28, 1948.)

The study of a series of *Natrix mairii* (Gray) from Dutch New Guinea convinced me that these specimens represent a distinct subspecies, which apparently is as yet unnamed. For comparison I examined a number of specimens from Australia, and from the eastern half of New Guinea and adjacent islands. I am indebted to Prof. L. F. DE BEAUFORT (Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam), Mr. H. W. PARKER (British Museum (Natural History), London), and Dr. A. DIAKONOFF (Zoölogisch Museum, Buitenzorg) for the loan of specimens. Mr. H. W. PARKER and Mr. A. LOVERIDGE (Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge (Mass.)) kindly supplied me with data relating to specimens in their care. Thus data concerning 115 specimens were available; of these 61 specimens served as types of the new subspecies that may be known as:

Natrix mairii multiscutellata nov. subsp.

Tropidonotus mairii, VAN LIDTH DE JEUDE, Nova Guinea, **9**, Zool., 269, 285 (1911); BOULENGER, Trans. Zool. Soc. London, **20**, 263 (1914) (= Repts. Coll. B.O.U. Exp. & Wollaston Exp., **1**, 213 (1916)); WERNER, SB. Ak. Wiss. Wien, Math. Naturw. Kl., Abt. I, **134**, 48 (1925) (part.).

Tropidonotus mayri, VAN LIDTH DE JEUDE, Nova Guinea, **9**, Zool., 523 (1911).

Tropidonotus mairi, DE ROOIJ, Rept. Indo-Austr. Arch., **2**, 74, 79, 313 (part.) (1917); DE ROOIJ, Bijdr. Dierk., pt. 21, pp. 82, 92 (1919); DE JONG, Nova Guinea, **15**, Zool., 301 (1927) (part.), and 407 (1930).

HOLOTYPE:

1 ♂, Alkmaar, Lorentz River, 1909, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, reg. no. 8669.

PARATYPES in Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden:

1 ♀, Alkmaar, Lorentz River, 24. VII. 1907, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 8669.
2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Andai, leg. C. B. H. VON ROSENBERG, 1870, reg. no. 4809.
1 ♀, Andai, leg. C. B. H. VON ROSENBERG, 1870, reg. no. 4797.
1 ♂, Upper Jamur River, 3. VIII. 1903, leg. Dr. L. F. DE BEAUFORT, reg. no. 8668.
1 ♀, 1 juv., Babo, leg. Dr. DE HARTOGH, don. Dr. A. H. COLIJN, reg. no. 6746.
1 ♂, Pokembo, 3. VI. 1913, leg. Dr. L. F. DE BEAUFORT, reg. no. 8662.
1 ♀, Surroundings of Humboldt Bay, 21. IV. 1903, leg. Dr. L. F. DE BEAUFORT, reg. no. 8666.
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Etna Bay, 1904, leg. Dr. KOCH, reg. no. 8665.
5 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, Bivak Id., Lorentz River, 1907, 1909, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 8672.
1 ♂, Noord River, 5—12. IX. 1909, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 8671.

2 ♀♀, Van Weels Kamp, 1. VI. and 23. VI. 1907, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 4703.
1 ♀, Van Weels Kamp, 10. VI. 1907, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 8664.
1 ♀, Regen Id., Lorentz River, 14. II. 1910, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 8667.
1 ♀, Bivak I, Lorentz River, 200 m, 9. X. 1907, leg. Dr. H. A. LORENTZ, reg. no. 8670.
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Batanta Id., leg. H. A. BERNSTEIN, 1866, reg. no. 6751.
1 juv., Salawatti Id., leg. H. A. BERNSTEIN, 1866, reg. no. 4811.

PARATYPES in Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam:

1 ♂, 1 ♀, Prauwenbivak, Idenburg River, 14. IX. and 3. IX. 1920, leg. Jhr. W. C. VAN HEURN (specimens *a*, *b* of table II).
1 ♀, Prauwenbivak, Idenburg River, X. 1920, leg. Lt. DROST (specimen *c*).
1 ♀, Pionierbivak, Mamberamo River, 17. VIII. 1920, leg. Jhr. W. C. VAN HEURN (specimen *d*).
1 ♂, Betèwe River, 20. VI. 1910, leg. Dr. P. N. VAN KAMPEN (specimen *e*).
1 ♀, Bégowre River below Zoutbron, 3. VII. 1910, leg. Dr. P. N. VAN KAMPEN (specimen *f*).
1 ♀, Zoutbron, VII. 1910, leg. Dr. P. N. VAN KAMPEN (specimen *g*).
1 ♀, Between Modderlust on the Tami River and Kasawari on the coast, 18. V. 1910, leg. Dr. P. N. VAN KAMPEN (specimen *h*).
1 ♂, Hollandia, 1910, leg. Dr. P. N. VAN KAMPEN (specimen *i*).
1 ♀, Hollandia, 1910, leg. SAÏN (specimen *j*).

PARATYPES in Zoölogisch Museum, Buitenzorg, Java:

1 ♀, Manokwari (specimen *k* of table II).
1 ♀, Albatros-bivak, Mamberamo River, XII. 1926, leg. Prof. W. DOCTERS VAN LEEUWEN (specimen *l*).
1 ♂, Batavia Rapids, Mamberamo River, 20 m, 1939, leg. J. P. K. VAN EECHOUD (specimen *m*).
1 ♂, Prauwenbivak, Idenburg River, 18. IX. 1920, leg. Jhr. W. C. VAN HEURN (specimen *n*).
1 ♀, Digul River, IX. 1909 (specimen *o*).

PARATYPES in British Museum (Natural History), London:

1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 ♀ juv., Camp. III, Utakwa River, Wollaston Expedition, reg. no. 1913. 11. 1. 100—102.
2 ♀♀, Camp VI, Utakwa River, Wollaston Expedition, reg. no. 1913. 11. 1. 103—104.
1 ♂, 3 ♀♀, 1 juv., Mimika River, Brit. Ornith. Union Expedition, reg. no. 1913. 10. 31. 189—193.
2 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, Iffar, Lake Sentani, reg. no. 1938. 6. 9. 37—40.

PARATYPES in Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge (Mass.):

1 ♀, 1 juv., Fak Fak, reg. no. 7308.

PARATYPE in Naturhistorisches Staatsmuseum, Vienna:

1 specimen, Wendeki, N.C. Dutch New Guinea (WERNER, 1925, p. 48).

A specimen from Lake Sentani (Mus. Leiden, reg. no. 8663) belongs to this subspecies too; it is too much damaged to be included among the paratypes.

Natrix mairii multiscutellata nov. subsp. differs from *Natrix mairii mairii* (Gray) mainly in having a higher number of subcaudals. In table I the frequency of the variations in the number of subcaudals (pairs + 1) has

been indicated. From this table it is clear that the specimens form two main groups, containing the specimens from Dutch New Guinea and those from Australia respectively. These two groups are connected by the

TABLE I. *Natrix mairii* (GRAY), subcaudal shields (pairs + 1).

Subcaudals	Dutch New Guinea			British New Guinea			Australia		
	♂♂	♀♀	sex?	♂♂	♀♀	sex?	♂♂	♀♀	sex?
56–63									11 juvs.
66						0	♂	♀	
67									
68							♂	♀♀	
69						0	♂♂♂	♀	
70			0				♂	♀	
71							♂		
72					♀		♂?		2 juvs.
73	Merauke			♂			♂♂		
74							♂		
75		♀			♀	0			
76				♂					
77									
78					♀				
79									
80		♀							
81				♂					
82				♂					
83	♂								
84				♂					
85						0			
86		♀							
87				♂♂					
88	♂	♀	juv.						
89	♂	♀♀							
90	♂	♀♀	2 juvs.		♀	0			
91	♂♂♂	♀♀♀							
92		♀♀							
93		♀♀							
94	♂		0						
95	♂	♀							
96	♂♂	♀							
97	♂	♀							
98	♂♂♂	♀							
99		♀							
100	♂								
101	♂	♀							
102	♂♂								

specimens from Papua, the Territory of New Guinea and adjacent islands. Two specimens from Merauke, S.E. Dutch New Guinea (Mus. Leiden, reg. no. 8661, and WERNER, 1925, p. 49), have very low subcaudal counts (75 and 70); in this respect, and in having a single preocular they agree

with *N. m. mairii*, and therefore, they have not been included in the new subspecies. Leaving these two specimens out of consideration, the range of variation of *Natrix mairii multiscutellata* nov. subsp. is 80—102, average for 42 specimens 93.07 ± 0.77. In Australian specimens the number of subcaudals varies from 56—74. It is impossible to calculate the average number of subcaudals for the Australian specimens as I have the individual counts only of the specimens in the British Museum (Natural History) and of one specimen in the Leiden Museum. These 18 specimens show an average of 69.83 ± 0.55; the true average, however, may be considerably lower, as Mr. A. LOVERIDGE (in litt.) gives the range of variation of 11 hatchlings from Winnellie, Australia, as 56—63. However this may be, there is a considerable difference between the Australian specimens and the type series of *N. m. multiscutellata*, and this certainly warrants the distinct subspecific status of the latter.

The number of ventrals in *Natrix mairii multiscutellata* nov. subsp. varies from 140—154 (Australia 136—156). The actual counts of ventrals and subcaudals are given in tables II—IV. In literature some specimens have been referred to *Natrix mairii*, which have a much higher ventral count than that indicated above. E.g., DE JONG (1927, p. 302) mentions four specimens having 160—168 ventrals. In this respect they come within the range of variation of *Natrix montana* (Lidth de Jeude), to which they are tentatively referred. Similar specimens are found in eastern New Guinea (Moroka, 167; Mt. Misim, 159, 163). In a forthcoming paper that deals extensively with the variability of *Natrix montana* these specimens will be discussed more at length (BRONGERSMA, 1948).

The number of scale rows at mid-body is 15 as in *N. m. mairii*; this number remains constant toward the vent. Only one specimen (♂ Bivak Id.) forms an exception to this. By fusion of the 5th and 6th scale rows at the level of the 89th and 97th ventral respectively, the number of scale rows is reduced to 13; in front of the vent the 4th scale row on the right side (at the 142nd ventral), and the 5th row on the left (at the 141st ventral) split up into two rows, thus restoring the number to 15.

In ten specimens of *N. m. multiscutellata* nov. subsp., the number of maxillary teeth varies from 32—37; three Australian specimens have 28—30 maxillary teeth. It will be necessary to examine a much larger series to show whether this difference can be used to separate these two subspecies. Four specimens from eastern New Guinea have 32—36 maxillary teeth.

A further character that may prove useful to distinguish between *N. m. mairii* and *N. m. multiscutellata* nov. subsp. is the number of preoculars. Of four specimens of *N. m. mairii* examined in this respect, two have one preocular on either side [1]), while the other two have one preocular on one side and two preoculars on the other side. As stated above the two

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[1]) The type of the species (GRAY, in GREY, Journ. Exp. Australia, 2, 442 (1841)) has a single preocular too.

TABLE II.

Natrix mairii multiscutellata nov. subsp.

Specimen (reg. no.)	Sex	Ventrals	Subcaudals	Upper labials	Lower labials	Pre-oculars	Post-oculars
Mus. Leiden							
8669	♂	149	101/101+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4/3
	♀	147	96/96+1	8(r. 3, 4, 5; l. 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
4809	♂	151	67/67+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	♂	148+1/0	96/96+1	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 8(5); l. 9(5)	2	3
	♀	150	50/50+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
4797	♀	150	93/93+2+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	3	4
8668	♂	152	99/99+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
6746	♀	149+1/0	87/87+1	r. 8(4, 5); l. 8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	juv.	151	89/89+1	r. 8(3, 4, 5); l. 8(4, 5)	9(5)	2/3	3
8662	♂	149	101/101+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4/3
8666	♀	154	90/90+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4/3
8665	♂	151	90/90+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	♀	147+1/0	91/91+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
8672	♂	146+1/1	34/34+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4
	♂	148	97/97+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4
	♂	146	95/95+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	♂	147	93/93+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	♂	146	87/87+1	r. 9(4, 5, 6); l. 8(3, 4, 5)	—	2	4
	♀	143	57/57+...	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 9(5); l. 8(4)	2	4/3
	♀	21+1/0+32+ +1/0+86	89/89+1	r. 9(4, 5, 6); l. 8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
8671	♂	144	94/94+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
4703	♀	142	92/92+...	10(5, 6, 7)	9(5)	2/3	4/3
	♀	146	98/98+1	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 8(4); l. 9(5)	2	4
8664	♀	144	93/93+...	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 8(4); l. 9(5)	2	3
8667	♀	150	74/74+...	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 8(5); l. 9(5)	2	4/3
8670	♀	139	68/68+...	1.8(4, 5, 6); r.?	9(5)	2	3
6751	♂	148+1/0	1/1+2+86/86+1	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 9(5); l. 8(4)	2	3
	♀	147	17/17+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4/3
4811	juv.	145	87/87+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4
Mus. Amst.							
a	♂	148	97/97+1	r. 9(4, 5, 6); l. 8(3, 4, 5)	r. ?(5); l. 9(5)	2	3
b	♀	142	92/92+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
c	♀	152	100/100+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
d	♀	150	91/91+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
e	♂	147	35/35+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
f	♀	147	1/1+2+76/76+ +3+6/6+1	r. 8(3, 4, 5); l. 7(4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
g	♀	148	72/72+...	r.8, l.7(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
h	♀	147	92/92+1	8(r. 4,5; l. 3, 4, 5)	r. 8(5); l. 9(5)	2	3

TABLE II. (*Continued.*)

Specimen (reg. no.)	Sex	Ventrals	Subcaudals	Upper labials	Lower labials	Pre-oculars	Post-oculars
i	♂	149	95/95+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
j	♀	149	90/90+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
Mus. Buitenz.							
k	♀	153	89/89+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
l	♀	151	76/76+...	r. 9(4, 5, 6); l. 8(3, 4, 5)	10(5)	2	4/3
m	♂	150	82/82+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
n	♂	151	97/97+1	8(3, 4, 5)	10(5)	2	3
o	♀	146	94/94+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.)							
1913. 11. 1. 100—102	♂	141	90/90+1	9(4, 5, 6)			
	♀	144	71/71+...	9(4, 5, 6)			
	♀	145	79/79+1	9(4, 5, 6)			
1913. 11. 1. 103—104	♀	141	85/85+1	9(4, 5, 6)			
	♀	145	91/91+...	9(4, 5, 6)			
1913. 10. 31. 189—193	♂	150	100/100+1	8(3, 4, 5)			
	♀	146	97/97+1	8(3, 4, 5)			
	♀	142	90/90+1	8/9(3, 4, 5; 4, 5, 6)			
	♀	148	62/62+...	9(4, 5, 6)			
	juv.	145	?	8(3, 4, 5)			
1938. 6. 9. 37—40	♂	150	90/90+1				
	♂	149	88/88+1				
	♀	152	?				
	♀	151	88/88+1				
Mus. Comp. Zoöl. 7308	♀	152	96	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 10(6); l. 9(5)	2	3
	juv.	153	90	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
Mus. Vienna	?	150	93/93+1	8(3, 4, 5)	?	2	3

specimens from Merauke agree with the Australian subspecies in having a single preocular. From Dutch New Guinea 47 specimens were examined in this respect; of these, 43 have two preoculars on either side, one specimen has three preoculars, and two specimens have two preoculars on one side and three on the other side.

The coloration of *N. m. multiscutellata* nov. subsp. is rather variable. In the majority of specimens a well marked dark collar is present; only in some very dark specimens this collar becomes indistinct. The back may be marked with distinct dark transverse bands (especially in juvenile and half-grown specimens), or the bands may be reduced to small spots. Sometimes these spots are arranged in transverse rows. In other specimens the back is almost uniformly brownish or greyish with only very small dark dots. The ventrals are whitish, their lateral parts greyish or blackish; the posterior borders may be powdered with blackish, or they show a narrow blackish band, which is most distinct laterally.

Distribution. *Natrix mairii multiscutellata* nov. subsp. occurs almost throughout Dutch New Guinea in the lowlands and in the lower mountains up to about 1000 m; above this level it is replaced by *Natrix montana* (Lidth). It is posible that the subspecies is replaced in S.E. Dutch New Guinea (Merauke) either by *N. m. mairii* (Gray) or by an intermediate subspecies. As a number of specimens from the Territory of New Guinea come within the range of variation of the new subspecies (e.g., the specimens from Madang and Sepik mentioned by HEDIGER, 1934, p. 478), future researches may show that *N. m. multiscutellata* occurs in that region too.

Natrix mairii subsp.

Specimens included:

Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam:

1 ♂, Hoofdbivak, Kaiserin Augusta River, 8. X. 1910, leg. Dr. K. GJELLERUP,

British Museum (Natural History), London:

1 ♂, Mancun Volcano, N. E. New Guinea, reg. no. 1936. 7. 7. 29.
2 ♂♂, Kokoda, 1200 feet, Papua, reg. no. 1935. 5. 10. 157—158.
1 ♂, South of Huon Gulf, reg. no. 76. 7. 6. 6.
1 ♂, Dinawa, Owen Stanley Mts., 4000 feet, reg. no. 1903. 3. 10. 16.
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Moroka, Brit. New Guinea, reg. no. 97. 12 10. 114—115.
2 ♀♀, Ramu River Delta, N.E.New Guinea, reg. no. 1926. 5. 31. 13—14.
2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀, Fly River, Brit. New Guinea, reg. no. 85. 6. 30. 25—29.
1 ♀, St. Aignan Id., Louisiade Archipelago, reg. no. 89. 7. 1. 9.
1 ♀, Fergusson Id., reg. no. 95. 4. 26. 46.
2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, Trobriand Ids., reg. no. 95. 10. 17. 37—39.

Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge (Mass.):

1 specimen, Aitape, reg. no. 48615
3 specimens, Mt. Misim, 7° 10′ S., 146° 40′ E., reg. no. 44171—44173.
1 specimen, Wau, 7° 20′ S., 146° 45′ E., reg. no. 44174.

Naturhistorisches Museum, Basle (HEDIGER, 1934, p. 478):

1 specimen, Madang.
2 specimens, Sepik.

Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden:

1 ♀, Merauke, 1904, leg. Dr. KOCH, reg. no. 8661.

Naturhistorisches Staatsmuseum, Vienna (WERNER, 1925, p. 49):

1 specimen, Merauke.

A specimen from Madew, St. Joseph River, 2000—3000 feet (Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.), reg. no. 1908.10.14.8) has 145 ventrals, 53 subcaudals and 27 maxillary teeth. In these respects it comes close to the type of *Natrix novae-guineae* (Lidth de Jeude, Mus. Leiden, reg. no. 4702), and to *Natrix mairii mairii* (Gray). It is at present impossible to conclude with certainty whether these specimens represent a distinct species (*N. novae-guineae*) or are only aberrant specimens of *N. mairii*.

TABLE III. *Natrix mairii* subsp.

Specimen (reg. no.)	Sex	Ventrals	Sub-caudals	Upper labials	Lower labials	Pre-oculars	Post-oculars
Mus. Amst.	♂	147	87/87+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.)							
1936. 7. 7. 29	♂	149	86/86+1				
1935. 5. 10. 157—158	♂	150	83/83+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	♂	147	81/81+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4/3
76. 7. 6. 6	♂	144	?				
1903. 3. 10. 16	♂	154	73/73+...	8(r. 3, 4, 5; l. 4, 5)	9(5)	3	3
97. 12. 10. 114—115	♂	167	86/86+1	8(4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
	♀	146	56/56+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	1	3
1926. 5. 31. 13—14	♀	149	89/89+1				
	♀	146	86/86+...				
85. 6. 30. 25—29	♂	151	?				
	♂	154	80/80+1				
	♀	150	?				
	♀	150	74/74+1				
	♀	151	77/77+1				
89. 7. 1. 9	♀	143	71/71+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
95. 4. 26. 46	♀	144	68/68+...				
95. 10. 17. 37—39	♂	153	72/72+1	9(4, 5, 6)	9(5)	2	3
	♂	153	75/75+1	9(4, 5, 6)	9(5)	2	4/3
	♀	154	73/73+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	4
Mus. Comp. Zoöl.							
48615	—	149	?	7/8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
44171	—	153	69	7(4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
44172	—	159	66	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	2/3
44173	—	163	75	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 8(4); l. 9(5)	2	3
44174	—	147	88+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	2	3
HEDIGER (1934, p. 478)							
Madang	—	145	90	(5, 6; 4, 5)		2	3
Sepik	—	140	42+...	(4, 5)		2	3
	—	144	85	(3, 4, 5)		2	3
Merauke, Mus. Leiden	♀	142	74/74+1	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 9(5); l. 10(6)	1	3
Merauke, WERNER (1925, p. 49)	—	144	69/69+1			1	

Natrix mairii mairii (Gray)

Specimens included:

Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden:

1 ♀, Queensland, reg. no. 4231.

British Museum (Natural History), London:

1 ♀, N.W. Australia, reg. no. 44. 6. 13. 61.
1 ♀, N.W. Australia, reg. no. 44. 6. 13. 58.
1 ♀, N. Australia, reg. no. 57. 10. 24. 53.
1 ♀, Cape York, reg. no. 67. 5. 6. 70.
1 ♂, Daly River, N. Australia, reg. no. 95. 11. 14. 15.
2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ juv., Groote Eylandt, Gulf of Carpentaria, reg. no. 1926. 2. 25. 91—93.

1 ♂, Port Essington, cotype of *Tropidonotus australis* Gray, reg. no. 1946. 1. 13. 52.
3 ♂♂, Port Essington, cotypes of *Tropidonotus australis* Gray, reg. no. 1946. 1. 12. 88—90.
1 ♀, Westwood (500 feet) near Rockhampton, Queensland, reg. no. 1924. 10. 25. 29.
1 ♂, Cooroomon near Rockhampton, reg. no. 1926. 2. 25. 90.
1 ♂, Rockhampton, reg. no. 67. 5. 6. 69.
1 juv. (♂ ?), Herbert River, N. Queensland, reg. no. 93. 3. 14. 7.
1 ♂, 1 juv., near Cooktown, Queensland, reg. no. 1903. 10. 19. 28—29.
1 ♂, 1 ♀, Burdekin River District, N. Queensland, reg. no. 1924. 1. 24. 18—19.
1 ♀, 1 juv., Kyogle, New South Wales, reg. no. 1934. 10. 27. 11—12.

Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge (Mass.):

11 hatchlings, from a clutch of eggs found at Winnellie near Darwin, Northern Territory of Australia.

I have already mentioned that the eleven hatchlings from Winnellie have a lower subcaudal count (56—63) than the other specimens from Australia (66—74) of which data were available to me. Remarkably enough the number of ventrals is lower too, i.e., 136—146 in the hatchlings, and 142—156 in the other specimens. To my regret I have not succeeded in

TABLE IV. *Natrix mairii mairii* (Gray)

Specimen (reg. no.)	Sex	Ventrals	Sub-caudals	Upper labials	Lower labials	Pre-oculars	Post-oculars
Mus. Leiden							
4231	♀	152	67/67+1	8(3, 4, 5)	r. 8(4); l. 9(5)	1/2	3
Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.)							
44. 6. 13. 61	♀	147	65/65+...				
44. 6. 13. 58	♀	146	?				
57. 10. 24. 53	♀	153	69/69+1				
67. 5. 6. 70	♀	142	59/59+...				
95. 11. 14. 15	♂	148	65/65+1				
1926. 2. 25. 91—93	♂	150	73/73+1				
	♂	151	70/70+1				
	♀	150	67/67+1				
1946. 1. 13. 52	♂	149	68/68+1				
1946. 1. 12. 88—90	♂	151	72/72+1				
	♂	150	?				
	♂	153	67/67+1				
1924. 10. 25 .29	♀	151	65/65+1				
1926. 2. 25. 90	♂	152	68/68+1				
67. 5. 6. 69	♂	154	72/72+1				
93. 3. 14. 7.	♂ ?	150	71/71+1				
1903. 10. 19. 28—29	♂	148	68/68+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	1	3
	juv.	149	71/71+1	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	1/2	3
1924. 1. 24. 18—19	♂	156	69/69+1				
	♀	149	68/68+1				
1934. 10. 27. 11—12	♀	150	52/52+...	8(3, 4, 5)	9(5)	1	3
	juv.	152	71/71+1				
Mus. Comp. Zoöl.	11jvs.	136—146	56—63				

obtaining data from the Australian museums to check whether this difference is of any taxonomic importance.

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