

Peninsular Rock Gecko *Cnemaspis peninsularis* on Pulau Bintan, Riau Islands, Indonesia

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Observer: Nick Baker.
Photograph by: Nick Baker.
Subject identified by: Nick Baker, L. Lee Grismer.

Location: Gunung Bintan, Pulau Bintan, Riau Islands, Indonesia.
Elevation: 50 metres
Habitat: Rocky gully in lowland, primary forest.
Date and time: 04 November 2007, 10:00 hrs.

Identity of subject: Peninsular Rock Gecko, *Cnemaspis peninsularis* (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae).

Description of record: A single *Cnemaspis peninsularis*, with an estimated snout-vent length of 5 cm and bearing its original tail, was observed in a rocky stream gully incised into the granite formation which forms Gunung (= Mount) Bintan. It was clinging to an area of damp, moss and lichen-covered rock, and was in a downward facing posture.

Only two photographs were acquired by flash photography, both from the same dorso-ventral perspective.

Remarks: *Cnemaspis peninsularis* was first described in 2014 (Grismer *et al*, 2014), prior to which it was assigned as *Cnemaspis kendalli* (in part). This gecko is identified as *Cnemaspis peninsularis* based on its colour and patterning which compares well with the in-situ image of specimen LSUDPC 6703 from Gunung Ledang, Johor, Peninsular Malaysia (Grismer *et al*, 2014, Figure 61, upper right): it also compares well with the description of the holotype as follows:



Fig. 1.

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"Dorsal ground color yellowish; head and body overlain with irregularly shaped pattern of interconnected brownish markings highlighting white to yellowish irregularly shaped blotches; small, black, elongate medial marking on nape followed by similarly colored, paired, elongate, paravertebral markings extending to midway down body; similar vertebral markings extend from midbody to base of tail transforming into poorly defined, diffuse, dark caudal bands ...".

Cnemaspis peninsularis is known from Peninsular Malaysia, ranging from Bukit Hangus, Pahang in the north to Panti, Johor in the south; it is also known from the islands of the Seribu Archipelago, and from Singapore (Grismer *et al*, 2014). This record from Pulau Bintan, which lies 40 km southeast of Singapore, appears to be the first for the Riau Islands, and for Indonesia as a whole.

References:

L. Lee Grismer, Perry Jr L. Wood, Shahrul Anuar, Awal Riyanto, Norhayati Ahmad, Mohd A. Muin, Montri Sumontha, Jesse L. Grismer, Chan Kin Onn, Evan S. H. Quah & Olivier S. A. Pauwels (2014). Systematics and natural history of Southeast Asian Rock Geckos (genus *Cnemaspis* Strauch, 1887) with descriptions of eight new species from Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia. *Zootaxa*, 3880(1), 1-147.