

## ON THE EUTÆNIÆ OF SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA.

BY E. D. COPE.

In a collection of snakes sent me by my friend, Mr. A. W. Butler, of Brookville, Ind., specimens of the genus *Eutænia* B. & G. considerably predominate. These include, as is to be supposed, the two usual species, *E. sirtalis* L. and *E. saurita* L. The former is represented by four strongly marked subspecies. Besides these, there are two other distinct species which have not been hitherto observed in Indiana, to one of which it is necessary to give a new specific name. This is unexpected, but shows what can be done by thorough collecting, such as has been undertaken by the members of the Indiana Academy of Sciences. I append a list of the species and subspecies, with descriptions of the novelties:

1. *Eutænia sirtalis sirtalis* Linn. Nos. 318, 359, and 360, typical. No. 275 (two specimens) in their obsolete lateral stripes are intermediate between this and the next subspecies.
2. *Eutænia sirtalis ordinata* L. 292, 314.
3. *Eutænia sirtalis graminea* Cope. Subsp., nov.

This form is a uniform light green above, below yellow clouded with green. Lips, chin, and throat uniform yellow. No stripes or spots on the body, nor markings of any kind on the head. Scales 19 rows: superior labials, 7; temporals, 1-3, first large; gastrosteges, 150; anal, 1; urosteges, 66 pair, four of the latter undivided; lowest row of scales smooth; length, 495<sup>mm</sup>; tail, 107.

This form is the extreme in the direction taken by the *E. s. ordinata*, where the bands are entirely wanting, but the quadrate lateral spots remain. In the entire absence of black marks on the labial and abdominal plates, this form differs also from its immediate allies. The coloration in that of *Cyclophis astivus*. One specimen, No. 295.

4. *Eutænia sirtalis obscura* Cope. This form resembles at first sight the *E. saurita*. Nos. 319, 321.
5. *Eutænia butleri*, sp. nov.

Scales in nineteen longitudinal rows, the inferior much the widest and keeled. Superior labials seven. Temporals, 1-1; the second large, extending from parietal to labials. Oculars, 1-3. Parietals with the external border abruptly contracted. Gastrosteges, 144; anal, 1; urosteges, 62. Head very little distinct, muzzle conical, a little protuberant; eye not large. Ground color, above olive brown, which is marked by the usual three longitudinal yellowish bands. The median covers one and two half rows of scales, and the lateral covers the second, third, and fourth rows. Both are black bordered on both edges, the

border of the latter band interrupted. The segments of the superior border of the lateral band represent the inferior spots of the lateral series; the superior row is wanting from the scales. Gastrosteges and urosteges olive, yellowish in front, dark behind, with a vertical black spot at the anterior border of each end of each of the gastrosteges. Labial scuta without black borders; head olive above without markings, except two small, yellow, black-edged parietal spots in the usual position.

There is but one specimen of the species (No. 264), which is labeled as coming from Richmond, Ind. It is remarkably distinct from everything which occurs in the United States, and has only superficial resemblances to the *E. flavilabris* Cope, of Mexico. Its peculiar characters are the great width of the lateral color band, which covers three rows of scales, one more than in any other species; the black borders of the bands; the absence of well-defined dorsal lateral spots, and the absence of markings on the head and labial scuta. Besides these color marks, the presence of a large second temporal plate extending to the labials is peculiar to this species if found constant; and the narrow conical head is characteristic. In the *E. flavilabris* the general appearance is somewhat similar, but the labial plates are broadly black edged, and the lateral band covers but two rows of scales; there is a large postoral yellow dark edged crescent, and the second temporal plate is smaller and does not reach the labials.

It gives me much pleasure to dedicate this handsome species to Mr. Butler, whose interest and labor in the natural sciences have resulted in many interesting discoveries.

6. *Eutænia radix melanotænia* Cope, subsp. nov.

Scales in twenty-one longitudinal rows, the inferior largest and keeled. Superior labials, 7 (8); frontal wide; oculars, 1-3. Parietals long, borders regular. Temporals, 1-2, the second above, moderate. Gastrosteges, 153; anal, 1; urosteges, 68. Head distinct; muzzle short, not protuberant. Lateral stripe on third and fourth rows of scales, not black bordered above or below. Dorsal band on one and two half rows of scales nearly completely black bordered. Between these the dorsal ground color is dark olive-brown, but the space is nearly occupied with the two rows of quadrate black spots. Below the lateral stripe two rows of alternating black spots, one on each row of scales, which sometimes coincide, on an olive-brown ground. Gastrosteges with a black longitudinal spot near the end of each, which is frequently confluent with the adjacent ones, from two to five running together to form an interrupted lateral ventral black stripe. Between these, the gastrosteges are black-edged, except on the anterior fourth of the length. Length, 285<sup>mm</sup>; tail, 65<sup>mm</sup>. Anterior dorsal region and top of head nearly black; two parietal spots. Labial plates and chin yellow, the former with broad black posterior edges on the upper lip.

In this species the scuta present no exceptional features, except that

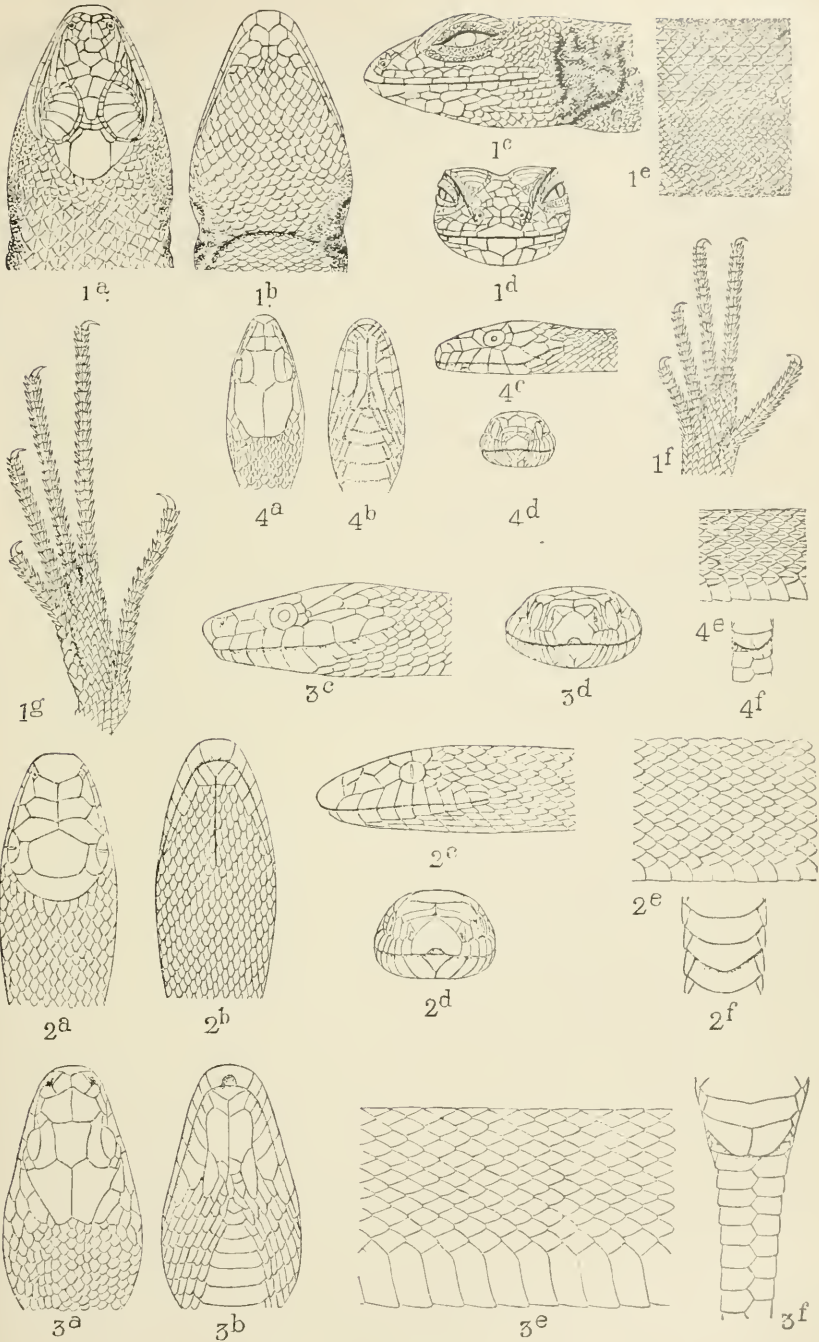


FIG. 1. *Lysoptichus lateralis*, gen. et sp. nov. (Page 367.)  
 FIG. 2. *Charina brachyops*, sp. nov. (Page 88.)  
 FIG. 3. *Coluber rosaceus*, sp. nov. (Page 3-8.)  
 FIG. 4. *Natrix compressicauda birittata*, sub sp. nov. (Page 392.)  
 (Explanation of plate on page 401.)



the frontal and prefrontal plates are more than usually wide, as compared with their length. In one specimen there are eight superior labials on one side, but this is probably an abnormality. Its twenty one rows of scales separate it from the typical *Eutania radix*, the species to which it has closest affinity, to say nothing of various peculiarities of coloration. It is nearest the subspecies *haydeni* of the *E. radix*, but differs from it in the interrupted lateral ventral black band and the black labial borders. It also approximates the *E. flavilabris*, but differs in a way opposite from the *E. butleri*. The dark colors predominate in the present species, and the lateral stripe of the gastrosteges is also peculiar to it. In the *E. flavilabris* there is also a large postoral yellow black-edged crescent, as in *E. marciana*, of which no trace appears in *E. r. melanotenia*. Two specimens, Nos. 90 and 312.

7. *Eutania saurita* L. Two specimens, No. 315.

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EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXXVI.

Fig. 1. *Lysoptychus lateralis* Cope, type; from San Diego, Tex., x, 2. Fig. *e*, scutellation from dorsal to ventral regions; Figs. *f* and *g*, anterior and posterior feet, from below. Page 397.

Fig. 2. *Charina bracltyops* Cope, type; from Point Reyes, Cal., x, 2. Page 88.

Fig. 3. *Coluber rosaceus*, Cope, type; from Key West, Fla.; †. Page 388.

Fig. 4. *Natrix compressicanda birittata* Cope, type; Georgiana, Fla.; †. Page 392.

Proc. N. M. 88—26

July 5, 1889.