

## 2. NUCRAS DELALANDII.

*Lacerta lalandii*, M.-Edw. Ann. Sc. Nat. xvi, 1829, pp. 70, 84, pl. v, fig. 6.

*Eremias (Nucras) lalandii*, Gray, Ann. N. H. i, 1838, p. 280.

*Lacerta delalandii*, vars. *a*, *c*, Dum. & Bibr. Erp. Gén. v, p. 241, pl. xlviii (1839).

*Nucras lalandii*, Gray, Cat. Liz. p. 33 (1845).

*Bettaia delalandii*, Bedriaga, Abh. Senck. Ges. xiv, 1886, p. 435, pl. —, figs. 1, 5, 35.

*Nucras delalandii*, Bouleng. Cat. Liz. iii, p. 53 (1887); Werner, Jahrb. Nat. Ver. Magdeb. 1896-98, p. 141; Bouleng. Ann. S. Afr. Mus. v, 1910, p. 475, and xiii, 1917, p. 201, pl. vi, figs. 1-5.

*Nucras delalandii*, var. *bedriagai*, Werner, l.c.

Head small, not or but slightly broader than deep,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{2}{3}$  times as long as broad, its length  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  times in length to vent in males, 5 to  $5\frac{2}{3}$  times in females; snout very obtuse. Pileus  $1\frac{3}{4}$  to  $2\frac{1}{4}$  times as long as broad. Body much elongate, cylindrical. Limbs short, just meeting (males) or more or less widely separated when adpressed in the adult, overlapping in the young; foot  $\frac{3}{4}$  to once length of head; digits short, not or but scarcely compressed. Tail thick, swollen for some distance behind the base in males,  $1\frac{2}{3}$  to  $2\frac{1}{4}$  times as long as head and body.

Nasals in contact behind the rostral; frontonasal broader than long, as broad as or broader than the internarial space; præfrontals forming a median suture, which may be very short; frontal as long as its distance from the rostral or the end of the snout,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{2}{3}$  times as long as broad, usually narrower, behind, than the supraoculars; frontoparietals much shorter than the frontal, usually shorter than their distance from the posterior extremity of the pileus; parietals  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as broad, outer border sometimes feebly emarginate for the accommodation of the upper temporal; interparietal narrow, 2 to 4 times as long as broad, sometimes divided into two; occipital very small, sometimes pushed back behind the pileus, or separated from the interparietal by the parietals forming a short median suture. Four supraoculars, first and fourth small, first

usually\* in contact with the frontal; 5 to 7 superciliaries, rarely 4 or 8, in contact with the supraoculars, or 1, 2 or 3 granular scales intervening between them. Two superposed postnasals, rarely one †; anterior loreal  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of second; 4 upper labials ‡ anterior to the subocular, which is usually a little narrower beneath than above; an elongate upper temporal, sometimes very broad, sometimes narrow, often divided into two or three, nearly always in contact with the fourth supraocular §; temple covered with small hexagonal or granular scales, which are not or but little larger than the dorsals; a round or oval tympanic shield, rarely absent. 5 or 6 vertically enlarged scales in the middle of the lower eyelid.

Parietal foramen usually absent. Pterygoid teeth present.

Gular scales small, juxtaposed, increasing in size and imbricate towards the collar, 23 to 30 in a straight longitudinal series; no gular fold. Collar feebly serrated, composed of 7 to 14 plates (usually 8 to 10).

Scales on body round or oval, juxtaposed, smooth, 34 to 42 across the middle of the body, 2 or 3 on the side corresponding to a ventral plate. Ventral plates in 8 longitudinal series, those of the second series from the median line the broadest, the outer small, and 32 to 37 transverse series. Præanal region covered with irregular small plates or with a large plate, which may be longer than broad or broader than long, bordered by one or two semicircles of smaller plates; sometimes with two subequal broad plates, one in front of the other.

No transversely enlarged plates on the lower surface of the forearm or a series of a few feebly enlarged plates. Scales on upper surface of tibia smaller than dorsals. 10 to 15 femoral pores on each side. 16 to 22 lamellar scales under the fourth toe.

Caudal scales forming whorls of nearly equal length, upper moderately broad, the median pair broader, strongly keeled, obtusely pointed behind, with distinct sensory pits.

Young pale brown above, with 8 or 10 longitudinal series of white black-edged ocellar spots, with traces of a white vertebral streak on the nape and anterior part of the back (Ann. S. Afr. Mus., Pl. VI, fig. 1); sides of head and sometimes of neck with black and white vertical bars; hind limbs and tail orange or reddish. The ocelli usually persist in the adult (l.c., fig. 2), which are greyish or reddish-brown above,

\* In 20 specimens out of 31.

† On both sides in a male from Van Reenen, on the right side in a male from Damaraland.

‡ 5 on both sides in a male from Peri Bush, on the right side in a female from Lessouto.

§ Exceptions in a male from Peri Bush and in another from Barberton.

and the black rings may expand into large spots with a tendency to run together into cross-bars (l.c., fig. 3), in which case the white eyes may become much reduced or disappear, leaving nothing but more or less regular black cross-bars (l.c., figs. 4, 5); head with black spots above, with black spots or vertical bars on the sides, the latter sometimes extending to the throat; these black bars may be accompanied by four very conspicuous white bars between them, the first behind the eye, the fourth behind the tympanum; tail with black spots, or with ocelli as on the body. Lower parts white, uniform, or with more or less numerous round black spots.

Measurements (in millimetres):

	♂			♀		
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
From end of snout to vent.	96	94	81	112	89	88
"    "    " fore limb	30	27	24	35	26	24
Length of head	19	19	17	20	16	16
Width of head	12	12	11	14	10	11
Depth of head	11	11	11	13	10	11
Fore limb	25	24	21	27	23	22
Hind limb	35	35	31	39	29	29
Foot	18	17	15	19	15	15
Tail	215	195	155	225	145	155

1. Port Elizabeth. 2. Damaraland. 3, 5. Krugersdorp. 4. S. Africa. 6. Peri Bush.

*Particulars of Specimens Examined.*

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
♂ Cape Colony (type), P.M.	83	38	33	8	30	15-14	17
♀ " " " "	100	35	36	12	31	13	22
♂ Port Elizabeth (Leslie).	96	37	36	13	31	14	18
" " (Moorhouse).	75	41	34	10	27	12-13	19
♀ " (Drage).	86	36	35	9	25	11-12	19
" " " "	71	40	35	11	29	15	20
" " (FitzSimmons)	100	41	37	12	28	14	22
Hgr. " " "	69	42	35	10	29	14-13	22
Hgr. " " "	68	39	33	12	26	13-14	19
♀ Peri Bush, near King Williams- town (Trevelyan)	88	35	35	9	24	12-10	17
♂ " (Stenning)	102	36	37	10	24	12	18
♀ East London	106	35	37	8	23	12	16
♂ E. Cape Colony	93	39	36	8	26	12-13	20
" Van Reenen, Natal	83	37	34	10	23	12	19
" Natal	102	34	32	8	26	12-13	18

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
♀ Sibudeni, Zululand . . . . .	74	40	35	9	23	10-11	17
„ Lessouto, Basutoland . . . . .	90	35	36	10	25	13-14	17
♂ Krugersdorp, Transvaal . . . . .	81	38	35	7	29	14-15	19
♀ „ „ „ . . . . .	89	35	35	9	30	13	19
♂ Barberton, „ „ . . . . .	93	37	37	9	29	11	20
♀ Great Namaqualand, P.M. . . . .	90	40	37	12	30	13-12	22
♂ Damaraland . . . . .	94	37	34	10	28	14	19
„ S. Africa (A. Smith) . . . . .	90	36	36	9	29	15	17
„ „ „ . . . . .	86	38	34	12	29	?	?
„ „ „ . . . . .	60	38	32	9	25	13	17
♀ „ „ . . . . .	120	40	37	9	30	13-14	19
♂ „ „ . . . . .	89	37	34	9	30	14-13	18
♀ „ „ . . . . .	112	39	35	14	27	13-11	20

Columns as in the preceding table, p. 12.

*Habitat.*—Eastern parts of Cape Colony, Natal, Basutoland, Transvaal, Great Namaqualand,\* Damaraland.

The specimens in the South African Museum are from the following localities: Knysna, Kentani, Uitenhage, Port Elizabeth, Burghersdorp, East London, Encobo, and West Pondoland, in Cape Colony; Umvoti in Natal; Morija in Basutoland; and Johannesburg in the Transvaal.