

A NEW LIZARD OF THE GENUS PHRYNOSOMA, FROM
MEXICO.

By LEONHARD STEJNEGER,

Curator, Division of Reptiles and Batrachians.

A short time ago Mr. Raymond L. Ditmars, curator of reptiles in the New York Zoological Park, sent me, from his private collection, two small Phrynosomas, one of which he had kept alive for some time and which had attracted his attention by its peculiar habits. They were given to him in 1897, by a Mr. Eustace, according to whose statement they were taken "a short distance over the border of Arizona, in old Mexico, State of Sonora."

The most cursory examination of the specimens showed them to belong to an undescribed species of "horned toad," if indeed a Phrynosoma practically without horns can be so designated. Mr. Ditmars has kindly presented the specimens to the U. S. National Museum, and I take great pleasure in naming this very interesting species after him.

PHRYNOSOMA DITMARSII, new species.

Diagnosis.—Tympanum naked; nostril in the line of canthus rostralis; one series of marginal abdominal scales; a single series of enlarged gular scales; submandibulars larger than lower labials; no horns; a prominent ridge from tip of postorbital boss to outer enlarged temporals; ventrals strongly keeled; lower jaw enormously developed posteriorly, with 5 to 7 rows of keeled scales between the lower labials and the submandibulars.

Habitat.—Mexico.

Type.—Cat. No. 36022, U.S.N.M.; State of Sonora, Mexico, not far from boundary of Arizona; Ditmars collection.

Description of type.—Adult male. Head much broader than long; nostril in the line of canthus rostralis; tympanum entirely posterior, vertical to the axis of the body, concealed in the anterior neck fold, naked; no horns, the scales which in the other species form more or less

projecting spines being only low bosses or protuberances; the postocular boss, a broad triangular pyramid, its three edges being continuations of the superciliary, the supraocular, and the orbito-temporal ridges; an abruptly raised orbito-temporal ridge from tip of postorbital boss to the outer edge of the supratemporal expansion at the base of the scale corresponding to the outer temporal horn in other species, two scales corresponding to temporal horns slightly enlarged, depressed, the posterior, or inner, slightly pointed; below the scale row forming the upper posterior edge of the supratemporal expansion on each side a small conical spine; supratemporal expansion very wide, nearly straight behind, with a very deep and narrow occipital notch; no temporal ridge; on the edge of the fold in front of the ear a vertical series of 4 small spines; rostral very low; supralabials very small, scarcely differentiated from the scale row above, about 15 in number; about 15 small lower labials, the posterior ones gradually increasing in size, though not larger than the scutes forming the orbito-temporal ridge, and with a raised keel; a small spine behind the last lower labial, separated from it by a single scale; along the edge of the lower mandible a series of enlarged, strongly keeled submandibulars, increasing in size backward, the keels of the posterior ones slightly produced and pointed behind; mandible exceedingly deep, the distance between angle of mouth and base of submandibular shields being greater than the diameter of the orbit; the large flat space between the lower labials and the submandibulars covered with polygonal scales of varying sizes, similar to those covering the upper surfaces of the head, about 5 in a row; all head scales keeled and wrinkled; gular scales small, keeled; a series of spines on each side of the posterior half of the throat near the submandibulars and parallel with them; gular fold with a transverse series of spines and a few isolated clusters of spines; a very heavy angular fold on each side of the neck, both the vertical and horizontal portion armored with clusters of large spines; back and upper surface of hind legs and tail with scattered larger, bluntly keeled scales, the largest with their base surrounded by a "rosette" of smaller scales, which are larger than those forming the general dorsal lepidosis; a single series of marginal scales, which are enlarged and bluntly pyramidal, set between 2 basal rows of slightly enlarged scales; scales of fore legs and lower surfaces strongly keeled, the former pointed behind; a series of 13 (14) femoral pores on each side, separated on the middle of the belly by 4 scales, the pores piercing the scales near the posterior margin; base of tail strongly swollen, with 2 enlarged postanals; tail once and a third longer than head. Color (in life) "reddish—the color of dry building sand, with very obscure markings," according to Mr. Ditmars; in alcohol, pale yellowish gray, with 2 faint, narrow, brownish bands across the lower back; underside whitish with very obscure dusky spots.

Dimensions.

	mm.
Total length	104
Tip of snout to vent	76
Vent to tip of tail	28
Tip of snout to tip of postorbital boss	16
Tip of snout to tip of extreme temporal scale	25
Greatest width of head	28
Fore leg	40
Hind leg	53

The *female* (No. 36013; same locality and origin) is smaller (snout to vent 64 mm.), but agrees in all particulars with the male, except that the tail is shorter and not swollen at base and without postanal shields. The number of scales in a row between lower labials and submandibulars 6 or 7; about 9 poorly differentiated femoral pores on each side.

Remarks.—It is difficult to say to which of the formerly known *Phrynosomas* the present species is most nearly related. It has no special affinity to any of them. Of course, the absence of "horns" proper may not be a point of great moment, although the corresponding scutes do not have the appearance of retrograded horns such as in some forms of *Phrynosoma douglassii*. With the latter our new species has the greatly expanded supratemporal region in common, but otherwise they show no relationship. The position of the nostrils is nearly exactly the same as in *Phrynosoma orbiculare*, but there the similarity ends. The scutellation of the throat reminds one of *Phrynosoma cornutum*, and as this also is the only other species which has an orbito-temporal, or postorbital, ridge, though much less developed, it may be that it is to this highly spinous and many-horned species that our hornless and nearly spineless novelty has any real affinity.

The most unique feature of our species is the enormous vertical expansion of the lower jaw, to which there is not even a faint approximation in any of the hitherto known species.