



First Record of the Jampui Bent-toed Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus montanus* Agarwal, Mahony, Giri, Chaitanya, and Bauer 2018 (Squamata: Gekkonidae), from Mizoram, India

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Cyrtodactylus Gray is the world's most speciose gekkonid genus and is currently represented by 291 species (Uetz et al. 2020). The Indo-Burmese Region is represented by about 27 species, of which nine are known from northeastern Indian states: *C. guwahatiensis* (Assam), *C. jaintiaensis* (Meghalaya), *C. kazirangaensis* (Assam), *C. khasiensis* (presumed to be distributed throughout northeastern India), *C. montanus* (Tripura), *C. nagalandensis* (Nagaland), *C. septentrionalis* (Assam), *C. tripuraensis* (Tripura), and *C. urbanus* (Assam) (Purkayastha et al. 2020). Of those nine spe-

cies, eight have been described since 2018. Previously, the only species of *Cyrtodactylus* recognized from northeastern



Fig. 1. A female Jampui Bent-toed Gecko (*Cyrtodactylus montanus*) from Pathlawi Lunglen Tlang, Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram, India. Photograph by H.T. Lalremsanga.

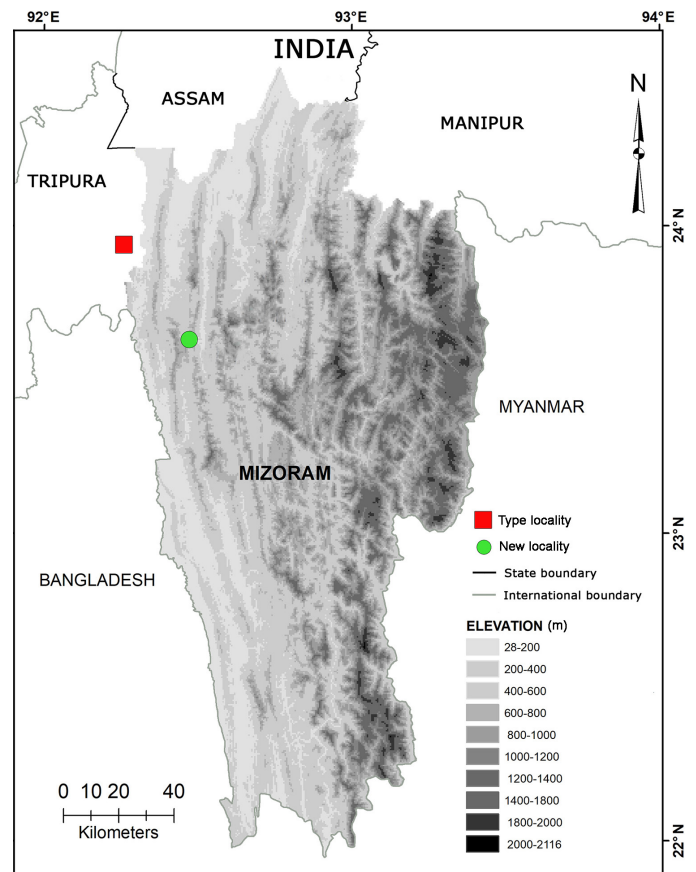


Fig. 2. Map showing the type locality of the Jampui Bent-toed Gecko (*Cyrtodactylus montanus*) in the Jampui Hills, Tripura, India (red square) and the new locality record at Pathlawi Lunglen Tlang, Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram, India (green dot).

Table 1. Uncorrected p-distances between species of Bent-toed Geckos (*Cyrtodactylus*) known to occur in northeastern India (851 nucleotides, ND2). GenBank accession numbers are listed in parentheses after the name of the species.

<i>Cyrtodactylus montanus</i> (MT250544)										
<i>Cyrtodactylus montanus</i> (KM255200)	0.00									
<i>Cyrtodactylus tripuraensis</i> (KM255202)	0.23	0.23								
<i>Cyrtodactylus guwahatiensis</i> (KM255194)	0.18	0.18	0.11							
<i>Cyrtodactylus septentrionalis</i> (MH971164)	0.19	0.19	0.14	0.12						
<i>Cyrtodactylus urbanus</i> (MN911174)	0.24	0.24	0.12	0.14	0.12					
<i>Cyrtodactylus khasiensis</i> (KM255188)	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.19	0.18	0.17				
<i>Cyrtodactylus kazirangaensis</i> (KM255170)	0.27	0.27	0.19	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.21			
<i>Cyrtodactylus</i> sp. Mizoram (KM255197)	0.09	0.09	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.21	0.25		
<i>Cyrtodactylus jaintiaensis</i> (KM255195)	0.18	0.18	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.29	0.20	
<i>Cyrtodactylus nagalandensis</i> (KM255199)	0.19	0.19	0.266	0.23	0.25	0.22	0.21	0.25	0.16	0.18

India was *C. khasiensis*, and until now that is the only species recorded from the state of Mizoram. Herein we report the first record of the Jampui Bent-toed Gecko (*C. montanus*) from Mizoram, which also is the first record of the species other than from its type locality in the Jampui Hills, Tripura (23.8225°N, 92.2603°E; elev. 850 m asl), 20.1 km airline distance northwest of the new locality.

On 13 February 2020, during a survey in the Dampa Tiger Reserve, we collected a female *Cyrtodactylus* (Fig. 1) from alongside a trail up a hill called Pathlawi Lunglen Tlang (23.7051°N, 92.4075°E; elev. 553 m asl) (Fig. 2). We preserved the gecko in 70% ethanol, extracted the liver for genetic analysis, and accessioned the specimen in the Departmental Museum of Zoology, Mizoram University (MZMU 1630). Snout-to-vent length was 54.4 mm and meristics were 10/10 supralabials, 9/9 infralabials, 39 longitudinal rows of rounded dorsal tubercles, 23 paravertebral tubercles, 23 ventral scales between ventrolateral folds, and 16 subdigital lamellae beneath toe IV of the pes. Dorsal coloration consisted of thick dark reticulations enclosing lighter blotches; the tail had alternating dark and lighter bands.

We generated partial ND2 sequences and used the primers MetF1 and H5934 (Macey et al. 1997) for amplification in order to compare all of the species currently known to occur in northeastern India. Using Mega 7 (Kumar et al. 2016), we calculated uncorrected p-distances (Table 1). The results showed zero pair-wise distance between the gecko

from Mizoram (GenBank No. MT250544) and a female of the type series of *C. montanus* (GenBank No. KM255200).

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