



Giri's Geckoella, *Cyrtodactylus varadgirii* Agarwal, Mirza, Pal, Maddock, Mishra, and Bauer 2016 (Squamata: Gekkonidae), from the Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh, India

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The Kollegal Ground Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus collegalensis* (Beddome 1870), was originally described as *Gymnodactylus collegalensis* from Balarangans (in the former Kolegal State), Yelandur, Karnataka. Sekar (1994) recorded the northernmost extent of the species' range in the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Maharashtra. Vyas (1998) reported the species from the Gir National Park, and additional records exist from Dhule, Chandrapur (Mirza et al. 2010), and Little Rann of Kutch (Walmiki 2013). Agarwal et al.

(2016) subsequently recognized north and south Indian forms and the populations from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra are now assigned to Giri's Geckoella (*Cyrtodactylus varadgirii*).

The Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary was established in July 1976 in Bari Tehsil, Raizen District, Madhya Pradesh. The sanctuary spans over 288 km² (22°45'–22°55'N, 77°15'–78°00'E). The topography is hilly and most of the streams in the sanctuary are seasonal (Patil 2013). According to Dwivedi



Fig. 1. Dorsal and ventral views of a Giri's Geckoella, *Cyrtodactylus varadgirii* (CZRC-ZSI, V-6353), collected in the Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary, Raizen District, Madhya Pradesh. Scale bar = 10 mm. Photograph by Khan Ashaharraza.

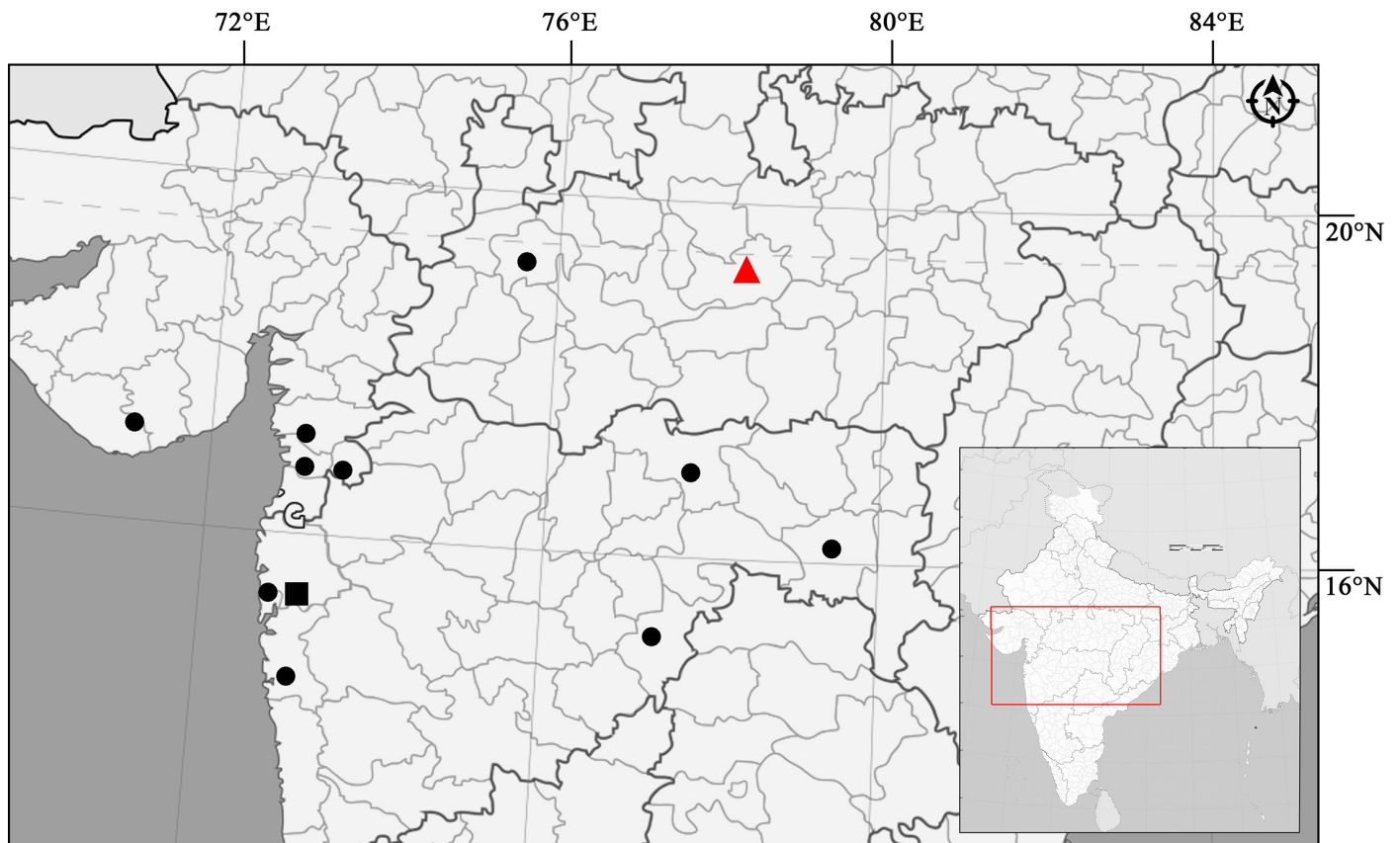


Fig. 2. Map of India showing the type locality (black square), other documented localities (solid circles), and the new locality record in the Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh (red triangle) for Giri's Geckoella (*Cyrtodactylus varadgirii*).

(2003), the sanctuary contains two principal forest types, Teak forests and mixed deciduous forests with Teak as the main tree crop. In either case, Teak (*Tectona grandis*) is the dominant species; other floral elements include *Anogeis suslatifolia*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Boswellia serrata*, *Terminalia alata*, and *Dendrocalamus strictus* (Chandra and Kushwaha 2013).

While examining museum specimens at the Central Zone Regional Center of the Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur; I discovered a male gekkonid (CZRC-ZSI V-6353; Fig. 1) that had been collected by J. Tilak on 20 February 2010 in the Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary (23.268658°N, 78.250514°E), Raisen District, Madhya Pradesh (Fig. 2). Measurements, taken with a Mitutoyo digital caliper to the nearest 0.01 mm and following Bauer (2003), were: SVL (snout-to-vent length) = 36.60 mm; TRL (trunk length) = 15.03 mm; TL (regenerated tail length; in poor condition) = 23.34 mm; HL (head length) = 11 mm; HW (head width) = 8.23 mm; FL (forearm length) = 6.45 mm; ED (eye diameter) = 2.61 mm; NE (nostril-to-eye distance) = 2.89 mm; SE (snout-to-eye distance) = 4.31 mm; and EE (eye-to-ear distance) = 2.98 mm. All measurements and appearance corresponded with those of the recently described *Cyrtodactylus varadgirii* (Agarwal et

al. 2016). Further comparative data were based on materials (BNHS 1427, BNHS 1848, and BNHS 1849) in the collection of the Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai, and (CES09/1536 and CES09/1537) in the Centre for Ecological Sciences, Bangalore.

This new central Indian locality for *Cyrtodactylus varadgirii* represents the northeasternmost locality for the species. It is 293 km east of Ujjain, the only previously documented locality in Madhya Pradesh, and 387 km north of Amravati, where I collected paratypes (CES09/1536 and CES09/1537) for the original description of the species.

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