



First Record of the Urban Bent-toed Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus urbanus* Purkayastha, Das, Bohra, Bauer, and Agarwal 2018 (Squamata: Gekkonidae), from Meghalaya, India

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Northeastern India is home to nine species of bent-toed geckos in the genus *Cyrtodactylus*, eight of which have been described since 2018 (Purkayastha et al. 2020). The Urban Bent-toed Gecko (*C. urbanus*) was described from the type locality in Guwahati, Assam, India (26.1063°N, 91.7872°E) and from the adjacent Rani-Garbhangha Reserve Forest in and around Deeporbeel. We herein report the first record from the state of Meghalaya.

On 14 April 2019, we encountered a female Urban Bent-toed Gecko (SVL 62.4 mm) (Fig. 1) in Nongpoh, Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya (25.9081°N, 91.8543°E; Fig. 2). To confirm the identity of the gecko, 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 within the *C. khasiensis* group. Using Mega 7 (Kumar et al. 2016), we calculated the uncorrected p-distance. The



Fig. 1. An adult female Urban Bent-toed Gecko (*Cyrtodactylus urbanus*) from from Nongpoh, Meghalaya, India. Photograph by Sanath Chandra Bohra.

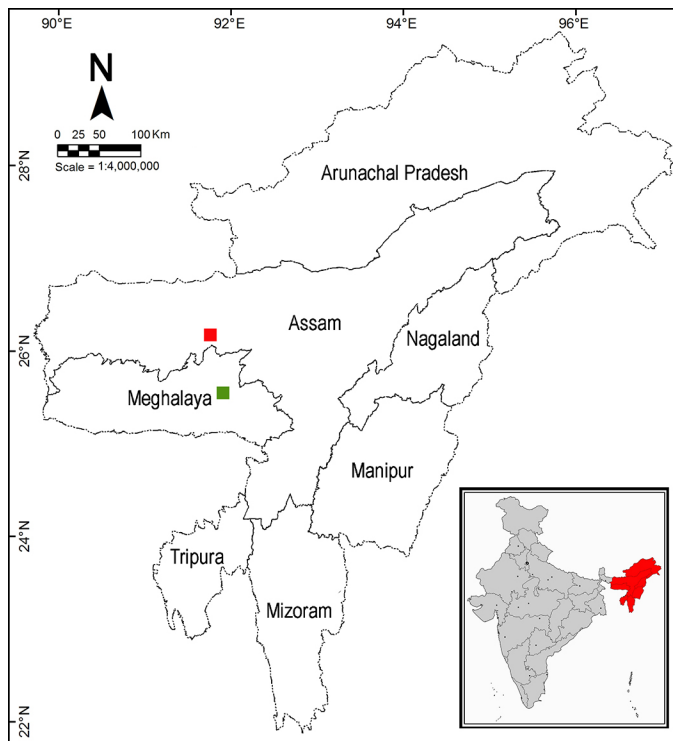


Fig. 2. Map showing the type locality (red square) of the Urban Bent-toed Gecko (*Cyrtodactylus urbanus*) in Guwahati, Assam, India, and new locality record (green square) from Nongpoh, Meghalaya, India.

result showed a 0.7–0.9% pair-wise distance between the specimens from Nongpoh, Meghalaya to that of the type series from Basistha, Assam (Table 1).

Until now, only two species of *Cyrtodactylus* (*C. jainti-ensis* and *C. khasiensis*) were known from Meghalaya. This report increases the number of bent-toed geckos known from the state to three species and extends the range of the species by 23.27 km airline distance south of the type locality.

Acknowledgements

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Literature Cited

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Table 1. Uncorrected p-distance among species in the *Cyrtodactylus khasiensis* group (to 1038 nucleotides, ND2). GenBank accession numbers are in parentheses. The asterisk (*) indicates the sequence generated in this study.

<i>Cyrtodactylus urbanus</i> (MT704301)*										
<i>Cyrtodactylus urbanus</i> (MN911174)	0.009									
<i>Cyrtodactylus urbanus</i> (MN911175)	0.009	0.004								
<i>Cyrtodactylus urbanus</i> (MN911176)	0.007	0.004	0.003							
<i>Cyrtodactylus tripuraensis</i> (KM255183)	0.136	0.115	0.115	0.115						
<i>Cyrtodactylus ayeayarwadyensis</i> (JX440526)	0.139	0.137	0.135	0.136	0.075					
<i>Cyrtodactylus guwahatiensis</i> (KM255194)	0.156	0.152	0.151	0.149	0.129	0.154				
<i>Cyrtodactylus septentrionalis</i> (MH971164)	0.137	0.134	0.132	0.130	0.115	0.146	0.113			
<i>Cyrtodactylus khasiensis</i> (KM255188)	0.153	0.142	0.140	0.140	0.125	0.156	0.169	0.157		
<i>Cyrtodactylus kazirangaensis</i> (KM255170)	0.179	0.173	0.171	0.170	0.145	0.167	0.197	0.186	0.184	
<i>Cyrtodactylus montanus</i> (KM255200)	0.219	0.218	0.216	0.217	0.182	0.200	0.219	0.196	0.217	0.232