



# A New Record for Suriname: *Atractus dapsilis* Melo-Sampaio, Passos, Fouquet, Costa-Prudente, and Torres-Carvajal 2019 (Reptilia: Dipsadidae)

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The genus *Atractus* contains 150 currently recognized species, seven (*A. badius*, *A. favae*, *A. flammigerus*, *A. latifrons*, *A. schach*, *A. snethlageae*, and *A. torquatus*) of which have been recorded in Suriname (Hoogmoed 1980; Abuys 2003; Uetz et al. 2023). A rapid biological assessment of the herpetofauna of the Grensebergte and Kasikasima regions in southern Suriname in 2012 by Nielsen et al. (2013) mentioned *Atractus* cf. *flammigerus* and *A.* cf. *torquatus*. A review of the two specimens previously identified as *A.* cf. *flammigerus* (a male, National Zoological Collection of Suriname [NZCS] R707, field number BPN [Brice P. Noonan] 2852, and a female, NZCS R708, field number BPN 2842) collected in lowland forest of Kasikasima (Site 4, Kasikasima camp: 2.97731, -55.38500; elev. 201 m asl) (Nielsen et al. 2013), revealed that the two specimens identified as *Atractus* cf. *flammigerus* correspond to *A. dapsilis*. The identity of the specimens (Fig. 1) was confirmed by Luis F. Esqueda (Departamento de Zoología, Universidad de Concepción, Chile). This is a new species record for Suriname and extends the range of *A. dapsilis* ca. 532 km (airline) NNE of the type locality (-1.71433, -56.40944) in northern Brazil (Fig. 2).

*Atractus dapsilis* was described on the basis of 25 males and 15 females from Amazonas and Pará, Brazil, and can be distinguished from *A. flammigerus* by having smooth dorsal scales (keeled in *A. flammigerus*; Passos et al. 2017). Furthermore, the two specimens possess the diagnostic features cited by Passos et al. (2017) in having 17/17/17 smooth dorsal scales rows, seven supralabials with the 3rd and 4th contacting the eye, and eight infralabials with the first four in contact with the chin shields. The female (NZCS R708) has a total length of 353.3 mm (SVL 324 mm, tail length 29.3 mm), 157 ventrals, and 24 subcaudals. The male (NZCS R707) has a total length of 303.4 mm (SVL 270 mm, tail length 33.4 mm), 149 ventrals, 30 sub-

caudals, and everted hemipenes. From the other seven species of *Atractus* known to occur in Suriname, *A. dapsilis* can be distinguished as follows: *Atractus latifrons* has dorsal scale counts (15/15/15); *A. snethlageae* and *A. schach* are smaller (maximum female size/male size 500/360 mm, vs. 400/310 mm in *A. snethlageae*, and 260/275 mm in *A. schach* vs. 500/360 in *A. dapsilis*) and have fewer ventrals (137–163 in *A. snethlageae*, and 142–151 in *A. schach*, vs. 152–182 in *A. dapsilis*); both *A. badius* and *A. favae* have fewer infralabials (7 vs. 8 in *A. dapsilis*), *A. badius* has fewer ventrals (142–165), and both have fewer subcaudals (21–37 in *A. badius* and 23–56 in *A. favae* vs. 57–67 in *A. dapsilis*); *A. torquatus* has 8 supralabials with the 4th and 5th contacting the eye, a greater number of subcaudals (36–77 vs. 21–37 in *A. dapsilis*), and in preservative the body is red/brown with irregular black lateral spots (pale brown with dark brown bands or dark brown with tan bands in *A. dapsilis*) (Abuys 2003; Melo-Sampaio et al. 2019, 2021).

In preservative, the dorsal body coloration of the two previously misidentified specimens is dark brown with 29 tan bands in the male and 22 tan bands in the female. The tan bands are 1–1 1/2 scales wide and some are in contact mid-dorsally; brown areas between the tan bands are 3–6 scales wide with irregular tan flecks laterally; the venter in both specimens is pale tan with brown dots forming an interrupted midventral line that is inconspicuous on the posterior half of the body (including the tail) because of a greater number of scattered brown dots; the top of the head is dark brown anteriorly and mottled with tan; an orange-brown band covers the parietals and temporals and extends laterally to the posterior supralabials (sixth or sixth and seventh); the first supralabials are tan with scattered dark brown flecks that are larger posteriorly; and ventral regions are pale tan with small brown spots on the mental and infralabials 1–3 or 1–6.



**Figure 1.** Dorsum (top), venter (center), and lateral view of the head (bottom) of a male (NZCS R707, total length 303.4 mm; left) and female (NZCS R708, total length 353.3 mm; right) *Atractus dapsilis* from Suriname. Photographs by E. Lehr.



**Figure 2.** Google Earth® map showing the type locality of *Atractus dapsilis* in northern Brazil (red star) and the new country record in Suriname (blue polygon).

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