



# First Record of a Yellow-green Catsnake, *Boiga flaviviridis* Vogel and Ganesh 2013 (Colubridae), from the Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, India

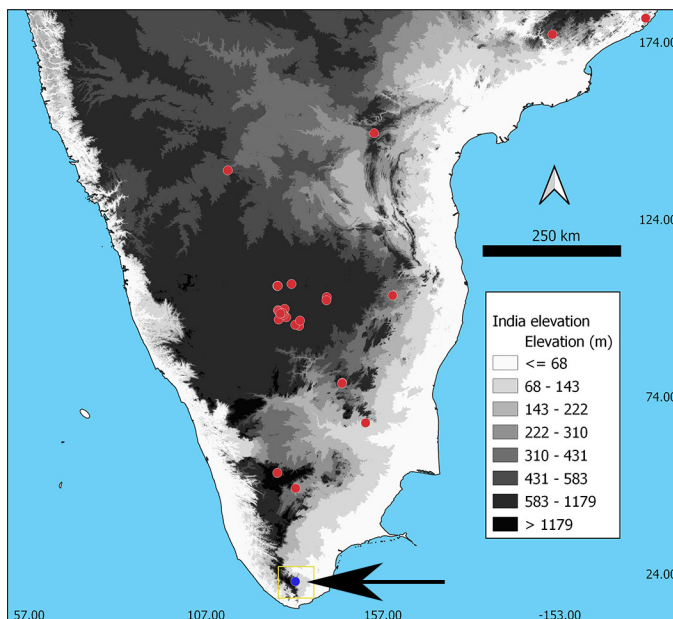
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The colubrid genus *Boiga* Fitzinger 1826 comprises 37 nominal species of which 17 occur in India (Uetz et al. 2023). Seven of the Indian species (*B. beddomei*, *B. dightoni*, *B. flaviviridis*, *B. forsteni*, *B. nuchalis*, *B. thackerayi*, *B. trigonata*) are known from the Western Ghats (Narayanan et al. 2023), but only two (*B. flaviviridis* and *B. forsteni*) have been recorded in forested areas of both the Eastern and Western Ghats (Ganesh et al. 2020a). The Yellow-green Catsnake (*Boiga flaviviridis*) was originally described from Berhampur, Odisha, India, and has subsequently been recorded from forested regions across much of peninsular India (Vogel and



**Figure 2.** A Yellow-green Catsnake (*Boiga flaviviridis*) at the Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, India. Photograph by Thalavaipandi Subbaiah.



**Figure 1.** Map of India showing the distribution of the Yellow-green Catsnake (*Boiga flaviviridis*). Previously documented records are marked by red dots and the new record by the blue dot and the arrow.

Ganesh 2013; Dharmendra et al. 2016; Sharma et al. 2016; Choure et al. 2021; Kalki et al. 2021; Fig. 1). In the Western Ghats, the species is known from only a handful of records in the southern parts of the range (Vogel and Ganesh 2013; Ganesh et al. 2020a, 2020b).

On 7 October 2017 at 2244 h, we encountered a live *Boiga flaviviridis* (Fig. 2) in an area surrounded by dry deciduous forest near the Kalakad Thalayanai guest house in the Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR), Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, India (8.52638 N, 77.50301 E; elev. 202 m asl; Fig. 1). The snake was photographed, its identity confirmed by Surya Narayanan from the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), and a photographic voucher was deposited in the Kansas University Digital Archive (KUDA 14501).

Ganesh et al. (2020a), in their checklist of specimens housed at the Sálím Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), reported a single specimen of *B. flaviviridis* from Tirunelveli that lacked precise locality data. Thus the present record is the first from the KMTR and the southernmost record of the species with precise locality data.

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