

## Four examples of a Bent-toed Gecko *Cyrtodactylus* sp. at Petanu River, Bali, Indonesia

Nick BAKER  
[nbaker@ecologyasia.com](mailto:nbaker@ecologyasia.com)

**Observer:** Nick Baker.

**Photographs by:** Nick Baker.

**Subjects identified by:** Nick Baker.

**Location:** Petanu River, adjacent to Maya Ubud Resort, Bali, Indonesia. (Lat 8° 30.910'S Long 115° 16.753'E)

**Habitats:** Inside a dry man-made tunnel, and on rock outcrops adjacent to a fast-flowing, rocky river.

**Elevation:** Around 180 metres

**Date and time:** 4 November 2012. 1) 15:32 hrs. 2) 18:49 hrs. 3) 18:51 hrs. 4) 18:57 hrs.

**Identity of subjects:** Bent-toed Gecko, *Cyrtodactylus* sp. (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae).

**Description of observation:** Four specimens were found, with estimated snout-vent lengths of 6-8 cm, and tail lengths of approximately 10 cm. Specimen 1 (Fig. 3.) was found in mid afternoon at the entrance to a dry, man-made tunnel (Fig. 1.), elevated approximately 10-15 metres above the river. Three specimens (Figs. 4, 5 and 6) were found after dark on or near to moss-covered, moist rock faces immediately adjacent to the river (Fig. 2.).



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

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**Remarks:** These four geckos are clearly of the genus *Cyrtodactylus*, based on their inflected digits, large eyes with vertical pupils, and general body shape. Despite some variation in their dorsal ground colour, which varies from reddish-brown to buff to dark brown, all four specimens appear to be of the same species. Extensive tubercles cover the dorsum, limbs and anterior part of the tail of all four geckos (although only Specimen 2 has a complete, original tail). Specimens 1, 2 and 4 have paired, dark blotches, of varying size and darkness, along the vertebral line (the viewing angle of Specimen 3 did not allow a view of the dorsum to ascertain the presence of paired blotches). Based on these criteria some similarity to *Cyrtodactylus petani*, as recently described from East Java (Riyanto et al, 2015), may be interpreted, however these specimens appear to lack the pair of dark blotches which form a V-shape on the occiput of that species.

In recent years a high degree of speciation and diversity has been revealed in the genus *Cyrtodactylus*, and this may occur in insular populations. Speculatively, it is possible that the records detailed here are of an undescribed species, however other work, including DNA sequencing, would be required to determine if this is really the case.





Fig. 3 : Specimen 1.

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Fig. 4 : Specimen 2.

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Fig. 5 : Specimen 3.

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Fig. 6 : Specimen 4.

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**References:** Riyanto, A., Grismer, L.L. & Wood, P.L. Jr. (2015). The fourth Bent-toed Gecko of the genus *Cyrtodactylus* (Squamata: Gekkonidae) from Java, Indonesia. *Zootaxa*, 4059(2), 351-363.