

V.—DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF  
LIZARD OF THE GENUS *SALEA*  
FROM ASSAM

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The range of the genus *Salea* was thought until recently to be confined (with a possible extension into Ceylon) to Southern India, where two species (*S. horsfieldii* and *S. anamallayana*) occur. In my "Notes on the Oriental Lizards in the Indian Museum" (*loc. post. cit.*, p. 81), however, I recorded two specimens from North-Eastern India, one collected by the late Dr. Stoliczka at Moulmein in Lower Burma and one by Col. Godwin Austen in North Assam. The former specimen, a female, agrees in every respect with examples of *S. horsfieldii* from the Nilgiris, but the latter must, I now think, be recognized as the type of a new species, which is here described.

*Salea austeniana*, sp. nov.

*S. horsfieldii*, Gray, Annandale (partim), *Journ. Asiat. Soc. Bengal*, 1905, p. 86.

Habit rather stout, the adpressed hind limb reaching the anterior border of the orbit; tail compressed. Tympanum about half as large as the orbit, its distance from which is distinctly less than the length of the snout; width of the orbit a little less than the length of the snout; canthus rostralis and superciliary ridge angular; snout slightly concave above, sloping. A curved fold covered with granular scales in front of the shoulder; scales on the back and sides of diverse sizes, bluntly pointed, occasionally split at the tip, rather feebly keeled, relatively broad; ventrals triangular, without a terminal spine, feebly keeled, strongly imbricate; gulars smooth, no larger than some of the ventrals; scales on the upper surface of the limbs and the lower surface of the tail strongly keeled. Dorsal and nuchal crests continuous, consisting of a single row of scales (in the female) which are lanceolate on the neck and triangular on the body, continued on the tail as a slightly serrated ridge. Colour dull green mottled on the sides with brown and diversified on the head with the following markings: a narrow longitudinal line between the eyes that bifurcates in front and behind, the anterior bifurcation forming the two posterior sides of a lozenge in outline on the snout, and the posterior one the two equal sides of an isosceles triangle on the back of the vertex; two slanting-shaped lines on the supraocular regions, one on each side; a dark streak extending from the lower posterior limit of the

orbit nearly to the nape; a series of fine lines radiating from the eye.

*Locality*—Hills near Harmatti, Assam.

The type (apparently a female) was collected during the Dafla Expedition of 1874-75, and is numbered 3976 in the Indian Museum register of reptiles. Its dimensions are as follows:—

Length of head and body	90 mm.
Width of head	14 „
Length of snout	10 „
Width of orbit	8 „
Length of tail	230 „
Length of fore limb	52 „
Length of hind limb	76 „

Boulenger's "key" to the genus in *Faun. Brit. Ind., Reptiles*, p. 131, will have to be emended as follows to include the new species:—

- A. No fold in front of the shoulder.
- (a) Snout not more than once and a half as long as the diameter of the orbit *S. horsfieldii*.
- B. A fold in front of the shoulder.
- (a) Snout nearly twice as long as the diameter of the orbit *S. anamallayana*.
- (b) Snout only slightly longer than the diameter of the orbit *S. austeniana*.

Mr. L. L. Fermor, of the Geological Survey of India, has recently sent to the Museum a specimen of *S. horsfieldii* captured at the height of 8,000 feet in the Nilgiris.

