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Check list lizards of Iraq

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Abstract:

In this study the Check list lizards of Iraq were investigated. by reviewing the old and new data as well as carrying out field work and study of material in the Natural history Museum of Iraq as well as many departments and colleges in various universities, are discussed. Further, various relevant websites in the Internet specialized lizards. I found in this study 7 families, 27 genera and 50 species distribution in the different parts of Iraq. During this study I found *Asaccussaffinae* (Afrasiab&Mohamad, 2009) the first time in SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Erbil, Kurdistan and the first record new species in Iraq and found *Ptyodactyluspuiseuxi* (Boutan, 1893) the first time in same area . Also found *Carinatogeckoheteropholis* (Minton, S. Anderson, and J. A. Anderson, 1970) Which is one of the endemic species in western Iran in the Erbilwestern Zagros foothills in Erbil. *Trapelusrunderatus* (Olivier, 1804) found in the central of Iraq. *Cyrtopodionscaber* (Heyden, 1827) Previously found in southern Iraq But recently also recorded in the center and northern Iraq. *Varanusnesterovi* (Bohme, Ehrlich, Milto, Orlov&Scholz, 2015) new species in the northern of Iraq. *Lacerta media* (Lantz &Cyren, 1758) found newly in central and northern of Iraq and *Timonkurdistanicus*, *Apathyacappadocica* (Werner, 1902) (Suchow, 1936) northern of Iraq. I note the two families were finding Previously in Iraq and they did not record any new genus and species in Iraq.

Keywords: lizards, Check list, biosystematic, ecology Iraq.

Introduction:

Over the past years, the number of researchers in Iraq such as Barazengy, *et al* [12], Afrasiab&Mohamad [13], Mohammad *et al.* [17], Lahony, *et al.* [20], Schmidt [10], Zubaidi, *et al.* [14], Boulenger [7] Mohammad [23], Mohammed, *et al* [18], Mohammad [28]. May surveys of Iraqi lizards in several areas of Iraq, As we know that Iraq's geographic diversity Iraq, Iraq is made up of ten different terrestrial eco-regions: Eastern Anatolian montane steppe, Tigris-Euphrates alluvial salt marsh, Arabian Desert and East Sahero-Arabian Xeric Shrublands, Mesopotamian Shrub Desert, Middle East Steppe, Zagros Mountains Forest Steppe, Eastern Mediterranean conifer-sclerophyllous-broadleaf forest, Red Sea Nubo-Sindian Tropical Desert and Semi-Desert, South Iran Nubo-Sindian desert and semi-desert and Persian Gulf desert and semi-desert [5].

Material and Methods

The data I collected through field visits to the Natural History Museum of Iraq, I also collected data and information from previous and recent studies and books, as well as the internet and some websites that are interested in Lizards.

Results and Discussion

Family: Gekkonidae

Genus: *Asaccus* (Dixon & S. Anderson, 1973)

1-*Asaccus elisae* (F. Werner, 1895)

Distribution: near Mosul [6], [4], [8], [9], [1]. Mosul, Baghdad [10]. Mosul, Erbil, Kirkuk [11], [12].

2-*Asaccus saffinae* (Afrasiab&Mohamad, 2009)

Distribution: SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Irbil, Kurdistan of Iraq (44°45'N, 36°37'E) [13], [12]. Safeen Mountain is located about 350 kilometers north east Baghdad city and 30 kilometers northeast Erbil city [14]

Genus: *Bunopus* (Blanford, 1874)

3-*Bunopustuberculatus* (Blanford, 1874)

Distribution: Jebel Hamrin, N. E. of Baghdad, [12][1], [9]. elevations < 200 m to 426 m in the vicinity of the Iran-Iraq border [15]. Bahr Al-Najaf [17], [12].

Genus: *Carinatogekko* (Golubev&Szczerbak, 1981)

4-*Carinatogekko heteropholis* (Minton, S. Anderson, and J.A. Anderson, 1970)

Distribution: Erbil (western Zagros foothills) [9], [16], [15], [8], [1].

Genus: *Cyrtopodion* (Fitzinger, 1843)

5-*Cyrtopodion scaber* (Heyden, 1827)

Distribution: Amara, Basra [7]. Aqra, Baghdad, Diyala, Halfaya, Nasiriya [10], [4], (Haas, 1952). SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Irbil, Kurdistan of Iraq (44°45'N, 36°37'E) [13]. Halabja, Sulaimaniya province, Bisan valley and Daray Mar, Hawraman lowest zone [20], Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya [28], [12]. Safeen Mountain is located about 350 kilometers north east Baghdad city and 30 kilometers northeast Erbil city [14]

6- *Cyrtopodion heterocercus* (Mertens, 1924)

Distribution: southern Iraq [8], [1]. SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Irbil, Kurdistan of Iraq (44°45'N, 36°37'E) [13], [12]. Safeen Mountain is located about 350 kilometers north east Baghdad city and 30 kilometers northeast Erbil city [14].

7-*Cyrtopodion kotschy* (Stepanek, 1937)

Distribution: northern Iraq [8], [1].

Genus: *Eublepharis* (Gray, 1827)

8-*Eublepharis angramainyu* (S. Anderson & Leviton, 1966)

Distribution: western foothills of the Zagros Mountains and the upper Mesopotamian plain in Iran and Iraq, 300-1000m [7], [1], [4]. SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Irbil, Kurdistan of Iraq (44°45'N, 36°37'E) [13], [12].

Genus: *Hemidactylus* (Oken, 1817)

9-*Hemidactylus persicus* (J. Anderson, 1872)

Distribution: Baghdad [1], [4], [9]. Baghdad, Diyala, Samarra, Ramadi, Maysan, Kirkuk [11]. The AL-Najaf Province [18], [12].

10-*Hemidactylus flaviviridis* (Ruppell, 1840)

Distribution: Basra [7]. Baghdad, Tell Asmar [1], [4], [10]. Baghdad, Diyala, Samarra, Ramadi, Maysan, Basrah, Kirkuk, Erbil, Dohuk [11], [12]. The AL-Najaf Province [18]. Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya [28].

11-*Hemidactylus turcicus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Distribution: Baghdad [1], [4], [10]. The AL-Najaf Province [18], [12].

Genus: *Pristurus* (Puppell, 1835)

12-*Pristurus rupestris* (Blanford, 1874)

Distribution: not gave locality information [1], [4], [8].

Genus: *Ptyodactylus* (Goldfuss, 1820)

13-*Ptyodactylus hasselquistii* (Donndorff, 1798)

Distribution: Haditha [4], [10], [12].

14-*Ptyodactylus puisieuxi* (Boutan, 1893)

Distribution: SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Irbil, Kurdistan of Iraq (44°45'N, 36°37'E) [13].

Genus: *Stenodactylus* (Fitzinger, 1826)

15-*Stenodactylus affinis* (Murray, 1884)

Distribution: southeastern and central Iraq [27], [1]. Bahr Al-Najaf [17].

16-*Stenodactylus doriae* (Blanford, 1874)

Distribution: Iraq [4], [1], Bahr Al-Najaf [17], [12].

17-*Stenodactylus grandiceps* (Haas, 1952)

Distribution: 40 km west of Mosul [4], [8], [1], [12]. Rutba [10], [19].

18-*Stenodactylus levini* (Haas, 1957)

Distribution: southern of Iraq [1].

Family: Agamidae

Genus: *Laudakia* (Gray, 1845)

19-*Laudakianupta* (De Filippi, 1843)

Distribution: Mesopotamia [7], [4], [1]. Halabja, Sulaimaniya province, Bisan valley and Daray Mar, Hawraman lowest zone [20],[21].

20-*Laudakiacaucasica* (Eichwald, 1831)

Distribution: Sharqat, Diana [10], [4], [1].

21-*Laudakiastelliostellio* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Distribution: Aqra [10]. Northern of Iraq [4], [1].

Genus: *phrynocephalus* (Kaup, 1825)

22-*Phrynocephalus maculatus longicaudatus* (Haas, 1957)

Distribution: Basra (Zober) [7], [4], [1]. Sawa Lake is an enclosed lake located Northern of Al-Muthanna province and Al-Wuhashih hill a desert area located to the East of Al-Muthanna province (30 Km south of AL-Khader city) [12].

23-*Laudakia melanuralirata* (Blanford 1874) foothills of the Zagros Mountains in eastern Iraq [22].

Phrynocephalus maculatus maculatus The AL-Najaf Province [18].

Genus: *Trapelus* (Cuvier, 1816)

24-*Trapelus agilis* (Olivier, 1804)

Distribution: Baghdad [10], [4], [1].

25-*Trapelus ruderatus* (Olivier, 1804)

Distribution: Balad Sinjar, Tall Afar [10], [4], [1]. The AL-Najaf Province [18].

26-*Trapelus persicus* (Blanford, 1881)

Distribution: the Mesopotamian plain in lowland Iraq [1]. Amara, Baghdad, [10]. Amara, Baghdad, Euphrates Barrage, Faleya [7] Amara [6]. Dalmaj marsh, Al-Diwaniya Province [23].

Genus: *Uromastix* (Merrem, 1820)

27-*Uromastix microlepis* (Blanford, 1874)

Distribution: the gulf coast of the Arabian Peninsula and the area at the head extreme southeastern Iraq, Mesopotamia, Basra [7], [10], [4], [1]. Bahr Al-Najaf [17]. Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya and Wasit provinces (Mohammad, 2016).

28-*Uromastix loricatus* (Blanford, 1874)

Distribution: Baghdad [6], [10], [4], [1].

29-*Uromastix aegyptius* (Forsk., 1775)

Distribution: Baghdad, Rutba [10], [4], [1].

Family: Varanidae

Genus: *Varanus* (Merrem, 1820)

30-*Varanus nesterovi* (Bohme, Ehrlich, Milto, Orlov & Scholz, 2015)

Distribution: "Biare," currently Byara Village, Sulaymaniyah, Iraq (35°13'50" N 46°07'15" E), 1086 m elevation (Iraq - Iran border area) [24].

31-*Varanus griseus*(Duadin, 1803)

Distribution: Baiji [10]. Nasariyeh, Mesopotamia [6], [4], [1]. Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya (Mohammad, 2016).

Varanus griseus caspius, (Eichwald, 1831) Halabja, Sulaimaniya province, Bisan valley and Daray Mar, Hawraman lowest zone [20].

Varanus griseus griseus (Daudin, 1803) The AL-Najaf Province [18].

Family: Amphisbaenidae

Genus: *Blanus* (Wagler, 1830)

32-*Blanus bedraigai* (Werner, 1898)

Distribution: Salahussinshakauva near Irbil [25] whoever AL- Jumaily, 1971 found it in Shuaib, Karballa Liwa [1].

Family: Trogonophidae

Genus: *Diplometopon* (Nikolsky, 1907)

33- *Diplometopon zarudnyi* (Nikolsky, 1907)

Distribution: Shaiba [7], [1].

Family: Scincidae

Genus: *Ablepharus* (Fitzinger, 1823)

34-*Ablepharus kitaibelii* (Bibron & Bory, 1833)

Distribution: the species may occur in Iraq [4], [1].

35-*Ablepharus pannonicus* (Fitzinger, 1823)

Distribution: Baghdad [10]. Amara, Basra and Suks-esh-Shuyek, Euphrates [7]. Amara, and Kizil Robat, N. E. of Baghdad [6], [1].

Genus: *Eumeces* (Wiegmann, 1834)

36-*Eumeces schneideri* (Eichwald, 1839)

Distribution: Mesopotamia [7]. Halabja, Sulaimaniya province, Bisan valley and Daray Mar, Hawraman lowest zone [20].

Eumeces schneideri princeps (Eichwald, 1839). Kirkuk Liwa, Chemchemal, Jarmo [2]. Balad Sinjar, Rutba, Tall Afar [10].

Genus: *Mabuya* (Fitzinger, 1826)

41-*Mabuya aurata* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Distribution: Dalmaj wetland is located 40 km east of Diwaniya city and 40 km southwest of Kut city [23]. Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya [28].

Mabuya aurata aurata (Linnaeus, 1758) Kirkuk Liwa, Chemchemal, Jarmo, Erbil Liwa, Ruwanduz, near Diyana [2]. Tall Afar [10].

Mabuyaaurataseptemtaeniata (Reuss, 1834) : Amara [10],[6].Baghdad, DiyalaLiwa, Halfaya[10]. Amara, Basra, Ramadieh, Euphrates [7]. The AL-Najaf Province[18].

42-Mabuyavittata (Olivier, 1804)

Distribution: Amara, Mesopotamia [7] ,[6], [4], [1]. The AL-Najaf Province[18].

Genus: *Scincus* (Laurenti, 1768)

43-*Scincusconirostris* (Blanford, 1881)

Distribution: Baghdad [10], [4], [1].

Family: Lacertidae

Genus: *Acanthodactylus* (Fitzinger, 1834)

45-*Acanthodactylusboskianus* (Daudin, 1802)

Distribution: Basra [7]. Kirkuk Liwa, Chemchemical, Jarmo [2]. Dalmaj marsh, Al-Diwaniya Province [23]. Ramadieh, west Baghdad (central Iraq) [3].

Acanthodactylusboskianusasper (Audouin,1802) Haditha, Rutba[10].

Acanthodactylusboskianuseuphraticus (Boulenger, 1919) Tall Afar.

46-*Acanthodactylusfraseri* (Boulenger, 1918)

Distribution: Basra [7], [4], [1].

47-*Acanthodactylustrisrami* (Angel, 1936)

Distribution:*Acanthodactylustrisramiorientalis* (Angel,1936) Papworth's Area (south of Rutba),

Acanthodactylustrisramiiracensis[10]Haditha [10], [4], [1].

48-*Acanthodactylus robustus* (F. Werner, 1929)

Distribution: Jebel Enaze [10], [4], [1].

49-*Acanthoiadylus scutellatus* (Haas, 1957)

Distribution: Jebel Hamrin[6], Basra [7], [4], [1].

Genus :*Mesalina*([Gray](#), 1838)

50-*Mesalinaguttulataguttulata* (Lichtenstein, 1823)

Distribution:Haditha[10].

51-*Mesalina brevirostris* (Blanford, 1874)

Distribution:Papworth's Area, Rutba[10]. Bahr Al-Najaf[17].

Mesalinaveloxpersicus (Blanford, 1875)

Distribution: Mesopotamia [6], [4], [1].

Genus: *Lacerta* (Linnaeus, 1758)

52-*Lacerta media* (Lantz &Cyren, 1758)

Distribution: Safeen Mountain is located about 350 kilometers north east Baghdad city and 30 kilometers northeast Erbil city [14]. Halabja, Sulaimaniya province, Bisan valley and Daray Mar,Hawraman lowest zone [20].

Lacerta media media(Lantz &cyrén, 1920) Shaklawa north of Erbil,HageOmaran, north of the Province of Erbil, Zaweta, Duhok Province [26].

Genus:*Timon* ([Tschudi](#), 1836)

53-*Timon kurdistanicus* (Suchow, 1936)

Distribution: Mountain regions north of sulaymaniyah city, Khapoor (Khabur) river and Kanimase, zakhaw district, western Kurdistan [26].

Genus :*Ophisops* (Menetries, 1832)

54-Ophisopselegans (Menetries, 1832)

Distribution: Kirkuk Liwa, Chemchemal, Jarmo, Erbil Liwa, Ruwanduz, near Diyana [2]. Halabja, Sulaimaniya province, Bisan valley and Daray Mar, Hawraman lowest zone [20]. Bahr Al-Najaf [17]. Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya [28].

Ophisopseleganselegans (Menetries, 1832) BaladSinjar, Diana, Sulaimaniya, Tall Afar [10]. The AL-Najaf Province [18].

Ophisopselegansehrenbergii (Wiegmann, 1835) Ramadieh, Euphrates [7].

Ophisopseleganspersicus (Boulenger, 1918) Sharoban N -E. of Bagdad [7].

Ophisopselegansmeizolepis (Stoliczka, 1872) E uphrates at SukeshShuyak and on road from Felujah to Ramadieh, Amara, Basra [7].

Ophisopselegansblanfordi [10], alfaya, 20 miles east of Amara, [10].

Genus: *Apathya*

55-Apathya cappadocica (Werner, 1902)

Distribution: *Apathyacappadocicamuhtari* (Eiselt, 1979) the Duhok Province [26]. *Apathyacappadocicaurmiana* (Lantz & Suchow, 1934) Shanedur cave, north of the Province of Erbil [26].

Dissection:

In this study, I reviewed all Iraqi and foreign sources, It has counted the total families and genera and species of lizards in Iraq, 7 families, 27 genera and 50 species distribution in the different parts of Iraq. To have full information on lizards in this region and find what is alien to our environment and what is dominant. In this discussion includes only species reported for the first time in Iraq. According Afrasiab & Mohamad [12] they found new species *Asaccussaffinae* (Afrasiab & Mohamad, 2009) from family Gekkonidae in SheraSwar Cave in the Saffine Mountain near Erbil, Kurdistan and found the first time species *Ptyodactyluspuiseuxi* (Boutan, 1893) from same family in this area. *Cyrtopodionscaber* (Heyden, 1827) Boulenger [7] found it just in the southern of Iraq but Afrasiab & Mohamad [13], Lahony *et al* [20], Zubaidiet *al* [14] Barazengyet *al*. [12] Mohammad [28] found it from central and northern of Iraq recently Safeen Mountain is located about 350 kilometers north east Baghdad city and 30 kilometers northeast Erbil city Baghdad, Babel, Kerbala, Najaf, Diwaniya, this confirms that it has started adapts to medium and cold temperature environments as well as with the mountains and plains environments. Mohammed *et al*. [18] found the first time *Trapelusruderatus* (Olivier, 1804) in The AL-Najaf Province while Schmidt [10] found it in north of Iraq. *Varanusnesterovi* (Bohme, Ehrlich, Milto, Orlov & Scholz, 2015) the the new species discover by Bohmeet *al*. [24] found in Iraq it the new species while prefer the western and southwestern margin of the Zagros Mountain range. *Lacerta media* (Lantz & Cyren, 1758) new record in Erbil, Sulaimaniya province and distribution of this species extends westward to Jordan depended Lahonyet *al* [20], Zubaidiet *al* [14]. According Afrasiab *et al* [26]. *Timonkurdistanicus*, *Apathyacappadocica* (Werner, 1902) (Suchow, 1936)

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