

recently transformed spotted salamanders on a dirt road which runs through Camp Boy Haven. They seemed to be leaving the adjacent woods and congregating along the center of the muddy road. Mr. Hardy collected 20 individuals at that time. Shortly after midnight, however, a search was made for other specimens, but none could be found. Likewise, none was located the following day.

Edgren (1949, *Herpetologica*, 5(6): 137-38) described a concentration of *Ambystoma jeffersonianum*. He suggested that recently transformed salamanders are "highly vulnerable to changes in environmental factors after having been adjusted to the relatively stable conditions extant in the parental pond."

Bishop (1943, *Handbook of salamanders*) stated that transformation of *Ambystoma maculatum* occurs from August to October. The Boy Haven salamanders, then, transformed rather early and may have been seeking terrestrial niches for the first time, or they may have been forced from such niches by sudden environmental changes; on the other hand, the heavy downpour may have provided a temporary environment ideal for a migrational spurt.

The migration of adult spotted salamanders is a commonly observed phenomenon in Maryland, but despite extensive collecting in the Camp Boy Haven area during each July and August from 1946 to 1950, no similar concentrations of recently transformed individuals have been noted. Young ones have been taken rarely in or beneath logs and debris in the forest surrounding the camp area and about 2 miles south, at Cove Point.

The 20 salamanders taken from the Boy Haven concentration average 50 mm. in length; all show traces of gill slits, and the dorsal spots are small and poorly developed. The specimens are deposited in the collections of the Natural History Society of Maryland.

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**THE CORRECT GENERIC NAMES FOR THE IGUANID LIZARDS OF MADAGASCAR AND THE FIJI ISLANDS.**—While engaged in studies preliminary to a projected revision of the lizard family Iguanidae, it was necessary to consider the proper generic names for the single South Pacific and two Madagascar genera of the family. The following brief notes are presented in the hope that they will correct certain fundamental errors generally accepted in recent herpetological literature on these genera.

The monotypic genus *Brachylophus* Cuvier, 1829 (monotype, *Iguana fasciata* Brongniart, 1780) is found on the Tonga and Fiji Islands of the South Pacific. This name is sometimes credited to Guérin-Méneville (1829, *Icono. Règne Animal*, (1), pl. 9, fig. 1) and often to Wagler (1830, *Syst. Amph.*: 151). Cuvier (1829, *Règne Animal*, 2(2): 40) in the text of his work uses the name strictly in a vernacular sense. However in the *Iconographie*, edited by Guérin-Méneville, the name is presented in Latinized form. These illustrations were published at intervals during the years 1829 to 1834 with no indication of the exact date of publication for individual plates. The figure bearing the generic appellation *Brachylophus* is on plate nine and was undoubtedly published in 1829. Cuvier was most certainly responsible for the Latin names appearing on the plates and consequently Cuvier's *Brachylophus* antedates Wagler's 1830 usage. Wagler (*loc. cit.*, p. 151) himself refers the genus to Cuvier and states that he knows this lizard only from its illustration and description, definitely establishing the precedence of Cuvier's *Brachylophus*. *Chloroscirtes* Günther, 1862 (monotype, *Iguana fasciata* Brongniart, 1780) is a strict synonym of *Brachylophus*. *B. fasciatus* (Brongniart) remains the only known member of the genus.

The Madagascar genus *Chalarodon* Peters, 1854 (monotype, *C. madagascariensis* Peters, 1854) is monotypic, is restricted to the island, and stands without question.

The other Malagasian genus is usually known as *Hoplurus* Fitzinger, 1843 (monotype, *Oplurus sebae* A. M. C. Duméril and Bibron, 1837 = *Tropidurus cuvieri* Gray, 1831, a substitute name for *Oplurus torquatus* Cuvier, 1829). However the name *Oplurus* Cuvier, 1829 (monotype, *O. torquatus* Cuvier, 1829 = *Tropidurus cuvieri* Gray, 1831) has priority. Fitzinger's name is merely an emendation of Cuvier's *Oplurus* and as such cannot be accepted. The type of the genus, *Oplurus torquatus* Cuvier, 1829, is a secondary homonym of *Tropidurus torquatus* Wied-Neuwied, 1821. The first available name for Cuvier's species is *Tropidurus cuvieri* Gray, 1831. *Oplurus sebae* A. M. C. Duméril and Bibron, 1837 was apparently based on the same specimen as Cuvier's *Oplurus torquatus* and must stand as a synonym of Gray's earlier name.

The genus *Oplurus* now contains six species, one of which has two subspecies. These are, *O. cuvieri* (Gray), 1831; *O. cuvieri comorensis* (Angel), 1942; *O. cyclurus* (Merrem), 1820; *O. grandidieri* (Mocquard), 1900; *O. saxicola* Grandidier, 1869; *O. quadrimaculatus* (A. H. A. Duméril), 1851; and *O. fierinensis* Grandidier, 1869. Only *O. c. comorensis*, which is found on Comoro and adjacent islands, is extralimital to Madagascar.—JAY M. SAVAGE, *Natural History Museum, Stanford University, California*.