V REPTILES AND FROGS OF WILROY NATURE RESERVE

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Reptiles and frogs were collected on Wilroy Nature Reserve as part of the biological survey outlined in Dell (Introduction, this report). Specimens collected are catalogued R51130-36 (July), R57607-74 (May), and R57675-57715 (September) and are in the Western Australian Museum. Each specimen was dissected and, if undamaged, the condition of gonads noted. Stomach contents were also examined.

In the annotated list we cite vegetation loc. numbers and soils where appropriate. These are directly referable to Muir (this report). Snout-vent length (SVL) and other measurements are in millimetres.

ANNOTATED LIST

LEPTODACTYLIDAE

Neobatrachus pelobatoides

Two collected in July on edge of gravel-pit near loc. 3.50 on yellow silty loam over compact laterite.

Neobatrachus sutor

One collected in July on edge of gravel-pit near loc. 3.50 on yellow silty loam over compact laterite. One collected in September in loc. 3.53 on yellow fine sandy loam with laterite pebbles.

Neobatrachus wilsmorei

One collected after heavy rain in May in mallee mosaic in loc. 2.4 on strong brown fine sandy loam over hard laterite; some pools of water after heavy rain.

Pseudophryne guentheri

Eight collected from burrow in gravel-pit in May near loc. 3.50 in compact laterite below yellow silty loam; 3 collected in June in loc. 3.27 on brownish yellow sandy loam with laterite pebbles over laterite. Heard calling in roadside ditch in May in loc. 3.37 on yellow fine sandy loam over laterite.

GEKKONIDAE

Diplodactylus alboguttatus

Thirteen collected in May and 4 in September. May animals were in loc. 3.18 and 3.50 on brownish yellow silty loam and yellow silty loam; September animals were in loc. 2.1, 3.11 and 3.47 on sandy clay, brownish yellow silty loam and yellow silty

loam. May females (SVL 41-45) had much abdominal fat and small ovarian follicles <2 mm. A September female (SVL 48) had a large yolky follicle 4.5 mm and several small follicles <1.5 mm in each ovary. May males (SVL 43-47) had dull flaccid testes 3.5-5.5 mm compared to September males (43-43.5) with pearly rounded testes 5-6 mm.

Stomachs of 9 specimens collected in May contained spiders (Clubionidae including *Chiricanthium* sp.) and insects (Blattodea, Formicidae, Gryllidae, Isoptera and Lepidoptera); and a September specimen contained cockroaches (Blattodea). Crickets (Gryllidae) were in 5 of the 10 specimens examined.

Diplodactylus pulcher

Six collected in May and 7 in September. May animals were in loc. 2.4, 3.30 and 3.47 on fine sandy loam over hard laterite, clay loam with laterite pebbles, and silty loam with laterite pebbles; September animals were in loc. 2.4, 3.19, 3.47 and 4.3 on fine sandy loam, silty loam with laterite pebbles, and light sandy clay loam with laterite pebbles. Most collected while headtorching at night, 1 dug from termite mound. Two May males (SVL 43,47) had dull flaccid testes 4.5 mm, compared to 5 September males with pearly rounded testes 4.5-6.5 mm. A September female (SVL 45) had a large yolky follicle 8 mm long in right ovary and a yolky follicle 5 mm long in left ovary.

Stomachs of 2 specimens collected in May contained termites as did 4 specimens collected in September. One May specimen also contained isopods.

Diplodactylus squarrosus

One collected in May in loc. 2.4 on strong brown fine sandy loam over hard laterite, and 1 collected in September in loc. 3.19 on yellow fine sandy loam. The September female (SVL 53) had a yolky follicle 4 mm long in right ovary.

Diplodactylus granariensis

Ten collected in May and 6 in September. May animals were in loc. 1.3, 2.4, 3.10, 3.47 and 3.49 on yellowish red light sandy clay loam, strong brown fine sandy loam, brownish yellow silty loam, and yellow silty loam; all had surface pebbles. September animals were in loc. 3.47 (soil listed above) and 2.9 on red sandy clay. Most were caught while headtorching at night (those in May after light rain), one was dug from a termite mound. Three September males (SVL 50-52) had pearly rounded testes 7-7.5 mm. Two September females (SVL 57,60) had a yolky follicle 4-6 mm long in each ovary.

Stomachs of 3 specimens collected in May contained spiders (Clubionidae, Mygalomorphae) and insects (Blattodea, Isoptera, Formicidae, Gryllidae). Stomachs of 4 specimens collected in September contained insects (Blattodea, Curculionidae, Gryllidae), isopods, and a spider.

Gehyra variegata

Ten collected in May, 3 in July, and 3 in September. May animals were in loc. 2.4, 3.21 and 3.49; July animals in loc. 2.4 and 3.50; and September animals in loc. 1.3 and 2.4. Most were on vertical trunks of trees and shrubs. No females were gravid but 2 September males (SVL 39,42) had pearly rounded testes 5 mm long, compared to 4 May males (SVL 36-40) which had dull flaccid testes 3-4 mm long.

Stomachs of 6 specimens collected in May contained insects (Lepidoptera, Isoptera, Blattodea, Hemiptera, Coleoptera), isopods, and spiders.

Heteronotia binoei

A juvenile dug from roadside spoil in loc. 3.11 in May, Soil brownish yellow silty loam.

PYGOPODIDAE

Delma australis

One collected under *Plectrachne* in loc. 2.4 in May; 1 collected under timber at railway siding in September.

AGAMIDAE

Amphibolurus minor

A female collected in loc. 3.11 in September. It was gravid with 4 eggs in right oviduct and 3 in left. Eggs were approximately same size, 22 mm long.

Amphibolurus scutulatus

Seven collected in September in loc. 2.1, 2.4, 2.7, 3.18 and 3.53. All specimens were collected in vicinity of mallees, especially fallen logs. A male (SVL 100) had pearly rounded testes 8 mm long, a female (SVL 97) had 3 eggs 17 mm long in each oviduct.

Stomachs of 6 specimens collected in September contained insects (Formicidae, Apoidea, Curculionidae, Diptera, Lepidoptera, Scarabaeidae, Hemiptera, Neuroptera (larvae), Acrididae), centipedes, and spiders.

SCINCIDAE

Cryptoblepharus carnabyi

One collected on log in loc. 2.4 in September.

Cryptoblepharus plagiocephalus

Two collected on dead York Gum (*Eucalyptus loxophleba*) in loc. 1.1 in May.

Ctenotus p. pantherinus

One collected among *Plectrachne danthonioides* in loc. 2.4 in September.

Stomach of 1 collected in September contained termites.

Ctenotus schomburgkii

One collected under *Banksia benthamiana* in loc. 3.53 in September.

Stomach of 1 collected in September contained insects (Apoidea, Isoptera, Coleoptera).

Ctenotus u. uber

Two collected in September; 1 active among *Plectrachne danthonioides* in loc. 2.4 and 1 in Elliott trap in loc. 3.35.

Stomach of 1 collected in September contained termites (Isoptera); another contained a centipede (Chilopoda) and numerous lizard scales.

Egernia depressa

One collected while sunning itself on hollow log in loc. 2.4 in September. It was a female (SVL 85) with developing ovarian follicles, the largest was 6.5 mm and yolky.

Lerista muelleri

Five collected in May and 1 in September. Four were under dead mallee stumps and 2 under roadside spoil in loc. 3.49; soil strong brown fine sandy loam and yellow silty loam respectively.

Menetia greyii

One collected in May and 1 in September; in loc. 2.1 and 3.4 under litter on red sandy clay and brownish yellow silty loam respectively.

Tiliqua occipitalis

One collected in Elliott trap in loc. 3.19 in September.

Stomach contained insects (Scarabaeidae, Curculionidae, Orthoptera), centipedes, old rabbit bones, fungus and plant remains.

Tiliqua rugosa

Two collected in May, 1 in July, and 1 in September; in loc. 2.9, 3.49, and 3.52.

Stomach of 1 collected in September contained insects (Curculionidae, Acrididae), plant remains and old rabbit bones.

VARANIDAE

Varanus caudolineatus

Two collected in July from inside semi-abandoned termite mounds in loc. 3.49. Two others were released in same locality.

ELAPIDAE

Denisonia monachus

Two collected in May; 1 under termite mound in loc. 3.11, and 1 in roadside spoil in loc. 3.49.

Pseudonaja modesta

One collected in May while basking on yellowish red sandy clay in loc. 3.35.

Vermicella bertholdi

One collected in May, below soil at base of dead York Gum (*Eucalyptus loxophleba*) stump in loc. 1.1.

DISCUSSION

The survey of Wilroy Reserve recorded 4 species of frogs and 23 reptiles. *Diplodactylus alboguttatus* are the most easterly known specimens of what Kluge (1967) considered to be a coastal species; *Cryptoblepharus carnabyi* are at the southwestern edge of their known range; *Ctenotus u. uber* are the first from the wheatbelt.

September females of *Diplodactylus alboguttatus, D. pulcher, D. squarrosus, D. granariensis* and *Egernia depressa* had yolky follicles in ovaries, hence were commencing their breeding season. *Amphibolurus minor* and *A. scutulatus* had eggs in oviducts in September; this is the earliest that we have recorded gravid reptiles in the wheatbelt.

Amphiboluirus reticulatus has previously been collected from 'Wilroy' and *Pseudonaja nuchalis,* and *Acanthopsis antarcticus* have been collected at Tardun, *ca* 20 km south of Wilroy, hence it is likely that additonal species may occur at Wilroy Nature Reserve.

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