# A new subspecies of *Lerista planiventralis* (Lacertilia: Scincidae) from Western Australia

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#### Abstract

The new skink comes from the Onslow region.

# Lerista planiventralis maryanı subsp. nov.

### Holotype

104406 in Western Australian Museum, collected by B. Maryan and R. Browne-Cooper on 10 March 1990 at 11km NW Barradale Roadhouse, Western Australia, in 22948/S, 114953/E.

# Paratypes (all in WA Mus.)

North-west Division (WA): Onslow (104331); 11km NW Barradale (100881, 104482).

# Diagnosis

A *Lerista* with ventrolateral flange, 2 fingers, 3 toes and movable eyelid, similar to *L. p. planiventralis* but differing from it and *L. p. decora* in its fewer midbody scale rows (17-18, v. 20-24) and more temporals (usually 3, v. normally 2).

# Description

Snout-vent length (mm): 42-61 (N 4). Length of appendages etc. (%SVL): foreleg 7-9, hindleg 23-30, tail 89-92 (N 2), snout to foreleg 24-30.

Nasals widely separated. Prefrontals widely separated. Frontoparietals in short contact (N 2), just touching (1) or very narrowly separated; much shorter than interparietal. Nuchals 0-3 (mean 1.2). Supraoculars 3, first two in contact with frontal. Supraciliaries 5, second and fifth smallest. Upper labials 6. Temporals 1 + 2 (N 3), upper secondary usually largest, lower secondary usually smallest (in one specimen fused to upper secondary). Midbody scale rows 17 (N 3) or 18 (1). Lamellae under longest toe 13-14.

Coloration on red sandridge near Barradale. Dorsal and upper lateral surfaces of head pale brown marked with blackish grey: smudges on top of head and streak from nostril to temple. Back brownish red (becoming paler on flanks and upper surface of hindlegs and pale brown on tail), marked with greyish brown: 4 rows of faint spots on back

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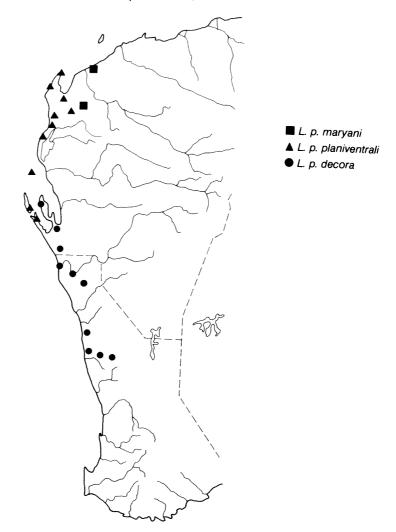


Figure 1 Map of western Western Australia showing location of specimens of subspecies of *Lerista* planiventralis.

(central pair continuing on to tail, where slightly more conspicuous) and narrow diffuse upper lateral stripe extending back on to tail and anteriorly continuing with loreotemporal streak. Lower surfaces and upper surface of forelegs white.

Coloration on pink sands near coast at Onslow. All upper surfaces pale brown to brownish white.



Figure 2 Holotype of Lerista planiventralis maryani photographed in life by B. Maryan.

## Distribution

Arid north-west coast and hinterland of Western Australia from Onslow south to Barradale. See map, Figure 1.

# Remarks

For description of L. p. planiventralis and L. p. decora see Storr (1978: 312-316).

# Derivation of name

After Perth naturalist B. Maryan.

#### Reference

Storr, G.M. (1978). Taxonomic notes on the the reptiles of the Shark Bay region, Western Australia. Rec. West. Aust. Mus. 6: 303-318.

# Guide to Authors

# Subject Matter

Reviews, observations and results of research into all branches of natural science and human studies will be considered for publication. However, emphasis is placed on studies pertaining to Western Australia. Full length papers should not normally exceed 30 typed pages. Short communications should not normally exceed three typed pages and this category of paper is intended to accommodate observations, results or new records of significance, that otherwise might not get into the literature, or for which there is a particular urgency for publication. All material must be original and not have been published elsewhere.

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The original and two copies of manuscripts and figures should be submitted to the Editorial Committee, c/- Publications Department, Western Australian Museum, Francis Street, Perth, Western Australia 6000. They must be in double-spaced typescript on A4 sheets. All margins should be at least 30 mm wide. Tables plus headings and legends to illustrations should be typed on separate pages. The desired positions for insertion of tables and illustrations in the text should be indicated in pencil. Tables should be numbered consecutively, have headings which make them understandable without reference to the text, and be referred to in the text.

High quality illustrations are required to size (13.5 cm x 18 cm) or no larger than 32 cm x 40 cm with sans serif lettering suitable for reduction to size. Photographs must be good quality black and white prints, 13 cm x 18 cm (5 inches x 7 inches). If scale line and lettering are required on photographs do not place directly on to print. They should be positioned on a clear paper or film overlay. Scale must be indicated on illustrations. All maps, line drawings, photographs and graphs, should be numbered in sequence and referred to as Figure/s in the text and captions. Each must have a brief, fully explanatory caption.

In papers dealing with historical subjects references may be cited as footnotes. In all other papers references must be cited in the text by author and date and all must be listed alphabetically at the end of the paper. The names of journals are abbreviated according to World List of Scientific Periodicals. The use of 'unpublished data' or 'personal communication' is dis-

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# Processing

Papers and short communications are reviewed by at least two referees and acceptance or rejection is then decided by an editorial committee.

The senior author is sent two sets of galley proofs (one to be retained) and one set of page

proofs which must be returned promptly.

The senior author will receive fifty free offprints of the paper. Additional offprints can be ordered at page proof stage.

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