

GUNUNG SANTUBONG

Where Nature Meets Culture





1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

Fig. 1. *Dogania subplana*.
Fig. 2. *Crocodylus porosus*.
Fig. 3. *Boiga drapiezii*. Fig.
4. *Chrysopelea paradisi*. Fig.
5. *Coelognathus flavolineatus*.
Fig. 6. *Gonyosoma
oxycephalum*. Fig. 7. *Bungarus
flaviceps*. Photo: Chien Lee
Fig. 8. *Calliophis intestinalis*.

Reptiles

Indraneil Das, Yong Min Pui, Taha bin Wahab and Adi Shabrani

Gunung Santubong, with its relatively intact lowland forest, harbours an interesting herpetofauna. Herpetological researches, nonetheless, have been few. The celebrated English naturalist, Alfred Russel Wallace (1823–1913), spent time here in 1855, writing the important paper outlining the mechanisms of evolution, now referred to as the “Sarawak Law”, but apparently made no reptile collections that survive.

One of Sarawak’s newest National Parks (gazetted on 28 February 2007), Santubong is a relatively low (810 m asl) sandstone mountain, and is characterised by mixed dipterocarp forests in the lowlands, with some areas of swamp forest, and areas of kerangas (Bornean heath forest) growing on the nutrient-poor soil at higher elevations.

A checklist of the reptiles known from Gunung Santubong and adjacent lowlands (including coastal waters) of the Santubong region, is presented. Records include those obtained during field trips made since 1999, in addition to museum specimens and literature records. Most sampling efforts were along the summit trail, starting from the main road that leads from the city of Kuching to the beach of Damai Puri, although road-kills were also noted at the western edge of the Park, and sampling also took place at the northern base of the mountain, within the grounds of Camp Permai, a private resort, and off the west and east coasts of Santubong, using fishing boats and nets. The cut-off date for the checklist was 25 June 2017.



Fig. 9. (top) *Hydrophis schistosa*.

Fig. 10. (bottom) *Naja sumatrana* (juvenile).



Fig. 11. *Indotyphlops braminus*. **Fig. 12.** *Tropidolaemus subannulatus* (female).
Fig. 13. *Tropidolaemus subannulatus* (male).

REPTILES

A total of 72 species are now known, including one turtle, one crocodile, 29 lizards and 41 snakes. The fauna is, as expected of a relatively low mountain with pristine forest, rich in species typically associated with lowland forests and of dipterocarp trees. More species of snakes and lizards may be expected when intensive sampling is conducted, especially explorations of the canopy as well as sampling of adjacent estuarine regions of Santubong.



Fig. 14. *Phoxophrys nigrilabris*. **Fig. 15.** *Cnemaspis kendallii*. **Fig. 16.** *Eutropis rudis*. **Fig. 17.** *Varanus rudicollis*.

REPTILES

Checklist of Reptiles

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Trionychidae	<i>Dogania subplana</i> (Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1809)	Malayan Softshell Turtle
Crocodylidae	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i> Schneider, 1801	Saltwater Crocodile
Colubridae	<i>Ahaetulla prasina</i> (Boie, 1827)	Oriental Vine Snake
	<i>Boiga cynodon</i> (Boie, 1827)	Dog-toothed Cat Snake
	<i>Boiga dendrophila</i> (Boie, 1827)	Mangrove Cat Snake
	<i>Boiga drapiezii</i> (Boie, 1827)	White-spotted Cat Snake
	<i>Calamaria borneensis</i> Bleeker, 1860	Bornean Reed Snake
	<i>Calamaria leucogaster</i> Bleeker, 1860	White-bellied Reed Snake
	<i>Calamaria lumbricoidea</i> Boie, 1827	Variable Reed Snake
	<i>Chrysopelea paradisi</i> Boie, 1827	Paradise Flying Snake
	<i>Coelognathus flavolineatus</i> (Schlegel, 1837)	Yellow-striped Trinket Snake
	<i>Dendrelaphis caudolineatus</i> (Gray, 1834)	Stripe-tailed Bronzeback Tree Snake
	<i>Dendrelaphis formosus</i> (Boie, 1827)	Beautiful Bronzeback Tree Snake
	<i>Dendrelaphis pictus</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	Painted Bronzeback Tree Snake
	<i>Dryophiops rubescens</i> (Gray, 1835)	Keel-bellied Whip Snake
<i>Gonyosoma oxycephalum</i> (Boie, 1827)	Red-tailed Racer	

REPTILES

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i> (Schlegel, 1837)	Tricoloured Ringneck
	<i>Oligodon octolineatus</i> (Schneider, 1801)	Eight-lined Kukri Snake
	<i>Oligodon purpurascens</i> (Schlegel, 1837)	Purple Kukri Snake
	<i>Oligodon signata</i> (Günther, 1864)	Signet Kukri Snake
	<i>Pseudorabdion longiceps</i> (Cantor, 1847)	Dwarf Reed Snake
	<i>Pseudorabdion sarawacense</i> (Shelford, 1901)	Sarawak Reed Snake
	<i>Ptyas fusca</i> (Günther, 1858)	White-bellied Rat Snake
	<i>Sibynophis cf. melanocephalus</i> (Gray, 1834)	White-lipped Black-headed Snake
Elapidae	<i>Bungarus flaviceps</i> Reinhardt, 1843	Red-headed Krait
	<i>Calliophis intestinalis</i> (Laurenti, 1768)	Malayan Striped Coral Snake
	<i>Hydrophis curtus</i> (Shaw, 1802)	Short Sea Snake
	<i>Hydrophis schistosus</i> Daudin, 1803	Hook-nosed Sea Snake
	<i>Naja sumatrana</i> Müller, 1887	Sumatran Cobra
	<i>Ophiophagus hannah</i> (Cantor, 1836)	King Cobra
Homalopsidae	<i>Cerberus rynchops</i> (Schneider, 1799)	Dog-faced Water Snake
	<i>Fordonia leucobalia</i> (Schlegel, 1837)	Crab-eating Mangrove Snake
	<i>Homalopsis buccata</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	Puff-faced Water Snake
Natricidae	<i>Hebius sarawacense</i> (Günther, 1872)	Sarawakian Keelback
	<i>Rhabdophis conspicillatus</i> (Günther, 1872)	Red-bellied Keelback

REPTILES

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
	<i>Xenochrophis maculatus</i> (Edeling, 1865)	Malayan Spotted Keelback Water Snake
	<i>Xenochrophis trianguligerus</i> (Boie, 1827)	Red-sided Keelback Water Snake
Pareidae	<i>Asthenodipsas laevis</i> (Boie, 1827)	Smooth Slug-eating Snake
Acrochordidae	<i>Acrochordus granulatus</i> (Schneider, 1799)	Wart Snake
Pythonidae	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i> (Schneider, 1801)	Reticulated Python
Typhlopidae	<i>Indotyphlops braminus</i> (Daudin, 1803)	Brahminy Blind Snake
Viperidae	<i>Tropidolaemus subannulatus</i> (Gray, 1842)	Bornean Keeled Pit Viper
Xenopeltidae	<i>Xenopeltis unicolor</i> Reinwardt, 1827	Sunbeam Snake
Agamidae	<i>Aphaniotis fusca</i> (Peters, 1864)	Earless Shrub Lizard
	<i>Bronchocela cristatella</i> (Kuhl, 1820)	Crested Green Lizard
	<i>Draco cornutus</i> Günther, 1864	Horned Flying Lizard
	<i>Draco cristatellus</i> Günther, 1872	Crested Flying Lizard
	<i>Draco melanopogon</i> Boulenger, 1887	Black-bearded Flying Lizard
	<i>Draco quinquefasciatus</i> Hardwicke & Gray, 1827	Six-banded Flying Lizard
	<i>Gonocephalus bornensis</i> (Schlegel, 1848)	Bornean Angle-headed Lizard
	<i>Gonocephalus grandis</i> (Gray, 1845)	Giant Angle-headed Lizard
	<i>Gonocephalus liogaster</i> (Günther, 1872)	Blue-eyed Angle-headed Lizard
	<i>Phoxophrys nigrilabris</i> (Peters, 1864)	Black-lipped Shrub Lizard

REPTILES

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis kendallii</i> (Gray, 1845)	Kendall's Day Gecko
	<i>Cyrtodactylus consobrinus</i> (Peters, 1871)	Peters' Bent-toed Gecko
	<i>Cyrtodactylus pubisulcus</i> Inger, 1957	Grooved Bent-toed Gecko
	<i>Gekko monarchus</i> (Schlegel in: Duméril & Bibron, 1836)	Warty House Gecko
	<i>Gekko smithii</i> Gray, 1842	Smith's Giant Gecko
	<i>Hemidactylus craspedotus</i> (Mocquard, 1890)	Frippy Forest Gecko
	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i> Duméril & Bibron, 1836	Asian House Gecko
	<i>Hemidactylus platyurus</i> (Schneider, 1792)	Flat-tailed Gecko
Scincidae	<i>Dasia grisea</i> (Gray, 1845)	Grey Tree Skink
	<i>Dasia vittata</i> (Edeling, 1864)	Bornean Striped Tree Skink
	<i>Emoia atrocostata</i> (Lesson, 1830)	Mangrove Skink
	<i>Eutropis multifasciata</i> (Kuhl, 1820)	Common Sun Skink
	<i>Eutropis rudis</i> (Boulenger, 1887)	Black-banded Ground Skink
	<i>Lygosoma</i> sp.	Slender Skink
	<i>Sphenomorphus cyanolaemus</i> Inger & Hosmer, 1965	Blue-throated Litter Skink
	<i>Tropidophorus beccarii</i> Peters, 1871	Beccari's Water Skink
	<i>Tropidophorus brookei</i> (Gray, 1845)	Brooke's Water Skink
Varanidae	<i>Varanus rudicollis</i> Gray, 1845	Rough-necked Monitor Lizard
	<i>Varanus salvator</i> (Laurenti, 1768)	Water Monitor Lizard