

**A long overdue taxonomic rearrangement of the Uromastycinae (Squamata: Sauria: Agamidae), ... correcting a repeated inadvertent typographical error and ensuring the nomenclatural availability of the new name *Euanedwardssaurus* as well as the correct names or spellings for a tribe of Blindsnakes, a Python and a Kukri snake.**

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**ABSTRACT**

Hoser (2014b) provided a revised taxonomy Uromastycinae Theobold, 1868.

One of the newly proposed generic names *Euanedwardssaurus* (correctly with this spelling in the abstract) was mistyped in later parts of the paper as *Edwardssaurus*, leading to potential confusion by readers and a potential view of homonymy with the earlier name *Edwardssaurus* Hoser, 2013, (Hoser, 2013) which identifies a different genus (type species *Platysaurus torquatus* Peters, 1879) and clearly has priority.

So that there can be no confusion as to the availability of the name *Euanedwardssaurus* for the relevant taxa, this paper redescribes the relevant genus as new herein with the correct spelling throughout in accordance with the rules of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (Ride *et al.* 1999).

This paper does however treat the Hoser (2014b) description of *Euanedwardssaurus* Hoser, 2014 as correct for that name and asks others to do so.

If one were not to accept that name as validly published in the earlier paper, the relevant genus described herein as new would be relegated to subgenus status within *Dallysaurus* Hoser, 2014 (being elevated to full genus status), as opposed to being the other way around as originally intended.

However, to do this act (treat the original use of the name *Euanedwardssaurus* as incorrect) would be a clear breach of both the original author's stated intentions (herein) and the rules of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* as cited by Hoser (2014b).

The relevant literature is cited by Hoser (2014b) and Hoser (2013).

Hoser (2012b) inadvertently misspelt the genus name *Argyrophis* Gray, 1845, as *Argyrophis* and this error transposed to the naming of the tribe it was within. To correct the error the tribe for the genus is described herein as "new" as *Argyrophini* *tribe nov.*

The name *Brogammerus reticulatus mandella* Hoser, 2014 from Halmahera, should not have its spelling changed.

The subgenus *Geddykukrius* Hoser, 2012, within the genus *Smythkukri* Hoser, 2012 should not have its spelling altered even though the person whom the snake was named after had his name spelt differently.

**Keywords:** Taxonomy; Lizards; Blindsnakes; Middle-east; Asia; Africa; Uromastycinae; *Uromastyx*; *Uromastysiini*; *Newmansaurus*; *Dallysaurus*; *Edwardssaurus*; *Argyrophis*; new genus; *Euanedwardssaurus*; new subgenus; *Euanedwardssaurus*.

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**INTRODUCTION**

Hoser (2014b) provided a revised taxonomy for the Uromastycinae Theobold, 1868.

One of the newly proposed generic names *Euanedwardssaurus* (correctly identified thus in the abstract) was mistyped in later parts of the paper as *Edwardssaurus*, leading to potential confusion by readers and a potential view of homonymy with the earlier name *Edwardssaurus* Hoser, 2013, (Hoser, 2013) (p. 22) which identifies a different genus (type species *Platysaurus*

*torquatus* Peters, 1879) and clearly has priority.

So that there can be no confusion as to the availability of the name *Euanedwardssaurus* for the relevant Uromastycinae taxa as identified in the 2014 paper published on 30 August 2014 and to ensure stability of nomenclature in accordance with the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (Ride *et al.* 1999), this paper redescribes the relevant genus as new herein with the correct spelling throughout in accordance with the rules of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* so that the name is available and from 2014.

This paper does however treat the Hoser (2014b) description of *Euanedwardssaurus* Hoser, 2014 as correct for that name and asks others to do so.

If one were not to accept that name as validly published in the earlier paper, the relevant genus described herein as new would be relegated to subgenus status within *Dallysaurus* Hoser, 2014, as opposed to being the other way around as originally intended. However, to do this act (treat the original use of the name *Euanedwardssaurus* as incorrect) would be a clear breach of both the original author's stated intentions (herein) and the rules of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* as cited by Hoser (2014b).

It should be noted that I also assert all rights as "first reviser" in accordance with the rules of the Code to establish *Euanedwardssaurus* as the correct generic name for the type species *Uromastyx dispar* Heyden, 1827.

The relevant literature is cited by Hoser (2014b) and Hoser (2013).

Hoser (2012b) in a major monograph on the world's Blindsnakes inadvertently misspelt the genus name *Argyrophis* Gray, 1845, as *Argyophis* and this error transposed to the naming of the tribe it was within. To correct the error the tribe for the genus is described herein as "new" as *Argyrophiiini* *tribe nov.*

Hoser (2014a) described the taxon *Broghammerus reticulatus mandella* Hoser, 2014 from Halmahera, the trinomial patronym being based on Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela who was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, politician, and philanthropist, who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999, but by misspelling his name, this carried over to the trinomial name. Notwithstanding this error of spelling, as both original author and first reviser, I have decided that the spelling should remain as is, this being "*mandella*".

In the paper Hoser (2012a), a subgenus was formally proposed, namely *Geddykukrius* Hoser, 2012, within the genus *Smythkukri* Hoser, 2012, being named in honour of an Andrew Gedye, myself misspelling his name in the paper and therefore also the subgenus name.

Notwithstanding this, as both original author and first reviser, I hereby declare that the subgenus *Geddykukrius* Hoser, 2012, within the genus *Smythkukri* Hoser, 2012 should not have its spelling altered even though the person whom the snake was named after had his name spelt differently.

#### GENUS EUANEDWARDSSAURUS GEN. NOV.

**Type species:** *Uromastyx dispar* Heyden, 1827.

**Diagnosis:** The genus *Euanedwardssaurus* *gen. nov.* is best defined by separation of each of the described subgenera.

Therefore each diagnosis given herein separates not just the subgenus from others within the genus, but also from all other *Uromastyxiini* *tribe nov.* species.

*Euanedwardssaurus* *gen. nov.* are defined by one of the following three suites of characters:

1/ Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-75% of SVL, from above the tail has an elongated appearance; the last 2-5 tail whorls are formed of continuous scales rows; 138-227 scales at midbody; 68-112 ventrals between gular and inguinal fold; tail with 16-21 whorls (subgenus *Euanedwardssaurus* *subgen. nov.*), or:

2/ Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-103% of SVL, viewed from above it appears to be elongated; the last 12-21 tail whorls formed of continuous scale rows; anterior margin of ear opening without enlarged scales (subgenus *Newmansaurus* *subgen. nov.*), or:

3/ Lacks preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 71-94% of SVL; 22-27 tail whorls; body scales larger, approx. 143-227 scales at midbody; 66-100 scales between gular and inguinal fold (subgenus *Dallysaurus* *subgen. nov.*).

The lizard subfamily *Uromastycinae* Theobald, 1868 is most easily defined as follows:

Acrodont dentition, with the premaxillary bone forming in adult specimens a sharp, tooth-like structure replacing the incisive teeth. Tail scalation is arranged in distinct whorls.

For the tribe *Uromastyxiini* Hoser, 2014 these whorls are not separated by intercalary scales dorsally.

For the tribe *Borgsauriini* Hoser, 2014 these whorls are separated by 1-6 rows of intercalary scales dorsally.

In further detail the subfamily *Uromastycinae* is defined as follows:

Tympanum large, vertically elliptic and distinct. Incisors large, uniting in the adult into one or two cutting-teeth, separated from the molars by a toothless interspace. Body depressed, without a crest. No gular pouch; a transverse gular fold. Tail short, depressed, covered with whorls of large spinose scales. Praeanal and femoral pores present.

The head is small, feebly depressed, with a short snout and obtuse canthus rostralis; nostril large, directed backwards, nearer the end of the snout than the eye; upper head-scales smooth, much larger than those on the body, smallest on supraorbital region; occipital not enlarged; labials small and numerous. Neck strongly plicate. Limbs short and thick; hind limb with spinose conical tubercles; digits short and armed with strong claws. Scales on the upper surface of the body very small, on belly larger, fiat, smooth, juxtaposed or subimbricate.

**Distribution:** Northern Africa, including those countries that abut and include the Sahara Desert as well as the immediately nearby Middle East and lower Arabian Peninsula.

**Etymology:** Named in honour of Euan Edwards, currently of the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia, for his immense contributions to herpetology world-wide, including considerable behind the scenes logistical support for herpetologists and scientists in several countries (including myself), including extensive fieldwork in Australia, the United States of America, Madagascar and Africa and gaining access to various institutions, collections, diagnostic facilities and the like, spanning some decades. Also of note is that it was in August 1993, when in Florida, USA that I was with Euan Edwards when he first showed me live specimens of "*Uromastyx*" from the genus now named in his honour that were on view at the 1993 Orlando Reptile Expo.

**Content:** *Euanedwardssaurus dispar* (Heyden, 1827) (type species); *E. acanthinura* (Bell, 1825); *E. benti* (Anderson, 1894); *E. flavifasciata* (Mertens, 1962); *E. hodhensis* (Trape *et al.*, 2012); *E. maliensis* (Joger and Lambert, 1996); *E. nigriventris* (Rothschild and Hartert, 1912); *E. ocellata* (Lichenstein, 1823); *E. shobraki* (Wilms and Schmitz, 2007); *E. yemenensis* (Wilms and Schmitz, 2007).

#### SUBGENUS EUANEDWARDSSAURUS SUBGEN. NOV.

**Type species:** *Uromastyx dispar* Heyden, 1827.

**Diagnosis:** The subgenus *Euanedwardssaurus* *subgen. nov.* is defined by the following suite of characters:

Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-75% of SVL, from above the tail has an elongated appearance; the last 2-5 tail whorls are formed of continuous scales rows; 138-227 scales at midbody; 68-112 ventrals between gular and inguinal fold; tail with 16-21 whorls (subgenus *Euanedwardssaurus* *subgen. nov.*).

The other two subgenera within *Euanedwardssaurus* *gen. nov.* are defined as follows: one or other of:

1/ Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-103% of SVL, viewed from above it appears to be elongated; the last 12-21 tail whorls formed of continuous scale rows; anterior margin of ear opening without enlarged scales (subgenus *Newmansaurus* *subgen. nov.*), or:

2/ Lacks preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 71-94% of SVL; 22-27 tail whorls; body scales larger, approx. 143-227 scales at midbody; 66-100 scales between gular and inguinal fold (subgenus *Dallysaurus* *subgen. nov.*).

**Distribution:** North Africa.

**Etymology:** See for genus *Euanedwardssaurus* gen. nov.

**Content:** *Euanedwardssaurus* (*Euanedwardssaurus*) *dispar* (Heyden, 1827) (type species); *E. (Euanedwardssaurus) acanthinura* (Bell, 1825); *E. (Euanedwardssaurus) flavifasciata* (Mertens, 1962); *E. (Euanedwardssaurus) hodhensis* (Trape *et al.*, 2012); *E. (Euanedwardssaurus) maliensis* (Joger and Lambert, 1996); *E. (Euanedwardssaurus) nigriventris* (Rothschild and Hartert, 1912).

**SUBGENUS DALLYSAURUS SUBGEN. NOV.**

**Type species:** *Aporoscelis bentii* Anderson, 1894.

**Diagnosis:** The subgenus *Dallysaurus* subgen. nov. is defined by the following suite of characters:

Lacks preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 71-94% of SVL; 22-27 tail whorls; body scales larger, approx. 143-227 scales at midbody; 66-100 scales between gular and inguinal fold (subgenus *Dallysaurus* subgen. nov.).

The other two subgenera within *Euanedwardssaurus* gen. nov. are defined as follows: one or other of:

1/ Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-75% of SVL, from above the tail has an elongated appearance; the last 2-5 tail whorls are formed of continuous scales rows; 138-227 scales at midbody; 68-112 ventrals between gular and inguinal fold; tail with 16-21 whorls (subgenus *Euanedwardssaurus* subgen. nov.).

2/ Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-103% of SVL, viewed from above it appears to be elongated; the last 12-21 tail whorls formed of continuous scale rows; anterior margin of ear opening without enlarged scales (subgenus *Newmansaurus* subgen. nov.).

**Distribution:** The southern Arabian Peninsula.

**Etymology:** Named in honour of Gavin Dally, in 2014 the long-serving collection manager at the Natural Sciences Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, NT, for his many services to zoology.

**Content:** *Euanedwardssaurus (Dallysaurus) bentii* (Anderson, 1894) (type species); *E. (Dallysaurus) shobraki* (Wilms and Schmitz, 2007); *E. (Dallysaurus) yemenensis* (Wilms and Schmitz, 2007).

**SUBGENUS NEWMANSAURUS SUBGEN. NOV.**

**Type species:** *Uromastix ocellata* Lichtenstein, 1823.

**Diagnosis:** The subgenus *Newmansaurus* subgen. nov. is defined by the following suite of characters:

Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-103% of SVL, viewed from above it appears to be elongated; the last 12-21 tail whorls formed of continuous scale rows; anterior margin of ear opening without enlarged scales (subgenus *Newmansaurus* subgen. nov.).

The other two subgenera within *Euanedwardssaurus* gen. nov. are defined as follows: one or other of:

1/ Has preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 48-75% of SVL, from above the tail has an elongated appearance; the last 2-5 tail whorls are formed of continuous scales rows; 138-227 scales at midbody; 68-112 ventrals between gular and inguinal fold; tail with 16-21 whorls (subgenus *Euanedwardssaurus* subgen. nov.).

2/ Lacks preanofemoral pores; the tail is long being 71-94% of SVL; 22-27 tail whorls; body scales larger, approx. 143-227 scales at midbody; 66-100 scales between gular and inguinal fold (subgenus *Dallysaurus* subgen. nov.).

**Distribution:** North-east Africa, including North-west Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Northern Sudan, South East Egypt, Ethiopia (near the Somalian border).

**Etymology:** Named in honour of Chris Newman of the UK, Chairman of the Federation of British Herpetologists in recognition of his lobbying for rights of private reptile keepers.

**Content:** *Euanedwardssaurus (Newmansaurus) ocellata*

(Lichtenstein, 1823) (monotypic).

**TRIBE ARGYROPHIINI TRIBE NOV.**

(Terminal taxon: *Typhlops diardii* Schlegel, 1839)

**Diagnosis:** This tribe is monotypic for the genus *Argyrophis* Gray, 1845. The diagnosis for the tribe is therefore the same as for the genus. It is separated from all other Blindsnakes by the following characteristics: Snout rounded and strongly projecting. Nostrils lateral. Rostral is narrow, its upper portion about one third the width of the head, extending to between the eyes; nasal nearly completely divided, the cleft proceeding from the second labial; a praecocular nearly as large as the ocular in contact with the second and third labials; eyes distinct; praefrontal and frontal usually scarcely larger the scales on the body; supraoculars and parietals broader; four upper labials. Diameter of the body is 29-34 times in the total length; tail is as long as broad, or broader than long, terminating in a spine. These are the only Typhlopids outside of Africa known to retain a left lung.

**Distribution:** India, across south-east Asia east to island New Guinea. Most specimens are reported in the literature as the species *diardii*, but based on obvious and published morphological differences, several species are involved and some have been formally described, including those listed within Hoser (2012b).

**Content:** *Argyrophis* Gray, 1845.

**SUMMARY**

1/ The generic name *Euanedwardssaurus* has now been properly published for a genus of Lizards, by one or other of: A/ via correction of a typographical error in the original paper by the same author,

B/ via a correction made by a first reviser or;

C/ By republication in this paper as "new", with the intended name published correctly throughout and in the one date year.

2/ The correct tribe name *Argyrophini* tribe nov. has been formally published herein making the name nomenclaturally available.

3/ The trinomial in the name *Broghammerus reticulatus mandella* Hoser, 2014 should not be altered in any way by later authors, even though the person whom the taxon is named after had his name spelt "Mandela".

4/ The subgenus *Geddykukrius* Hoser, 2012, within the genus *Smythkukri* Hoser, 2012 should not have its spelling altered even though the person whom the snake was named after had his name spelt differently, the correct spelling for his name being "Gedye".

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

This author reports no relevant conflict of interest.

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