

2. PHILOCHORTUS PHILLIPSII.

Latastia phillipsii, Bouleng. Ann. & Mag. N. H. (7) ii, 1898, p. 131.

Philochortus phillipsii, Bouleng. Proc. Zool. Soc. 1917, p. 148, pl. i, figs. 3, 4.

Head and body rather depressed. Head about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as broad, its depth equal to the distance between the centre of the eye and the tympanum, its length a little more than 4 times in length to vent; snout obtusely pointed, as long as postocular part of head, with obtuse canthus. Pileus twice as long as broad. Neck a little narrower than the head. Hind limb reaching the ear-opening; foot $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$.

times as long as head; toes slender, compressed. Tail $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ times as long as head and body.

Nostril pierced between 3 shields; nasals forming a suture behind the rostral, the suture $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the frontonasal, which is much broader than long and broader than the internarial space; prefrontals forming a short median suture; frontal as long as its distance from the end of the snout, nearly twice as long as broad, angular in front, much narrower behind, feebly grooved; parietals $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as broad, meeting on the median line between the narrow or very small interparietal and the small, triangular occipital. 4 supraoculars, first small, divided into two and in contact with the frontal, second and third large and subequal, fourth small and sometimes divided into two; 5 or 6 superciliaries, separated from the supraoculars by a series of granules. Lower eyelid transparent in the middle, with feebly enlarged scales, some of which are deeper than the others. Rostral not entering the nostril; a single postnasal; anterior loreal shorter than second; 4 upper labials anterior to the subocular, which is a little narrower beneath than above. A long, narrow upper temporal, in contact with the fourth supraocular, followed by two small shields; upper temporal scales small and granular, lower large; a distinct tympanic shield.

4 pairs of chin-shields, first three in contact in the middle; 21 gular scales in a straight median line, granular in front, gradually enlarged and imbricate towards the collar, which is formed of 9 plates.

Scales flat, granular on the nape, subimbricate and smooth or faintly keeled on the body, with the two series on the spine much enlarged and plate-like, hexagonal and twice as broad as long; 28 or 30 plates and scales across the middle of the body. Ventral plates in 6 longitudinal and 26 transverse series, the border of the transverse series notched between the plates, the median pair of which is narrower than the others. Two enlarged preanal plates, one in front of the other, with smaller plates anteriorly and laterally.

13 femoral pores on each side. 27 to 30 lamellar scales under the fourth toe.

Caudal scales forming alternately somewhat longer and shorter whorls, upper oblique, rather strongly keeled, obtusely pointed behind; 20 scales in the fourth or fifth whorl.

Young dark brown above, with 5 yellowish longitudinal streaks, the median bifurcating on the nape, each branch extending to the middle of the posterior border of the parietal shield; the lateral streaks occupying the same position as in *P. spinalis*. Adult grey above, with 3 lemon-yellow longitudinal streaks, the median forked on the nape,

and with crowded black dots forming a band from the temple to above the hind limb; limbs speckled with black. Lower parts white. Tail red in the young.

Measurements (in millimetres):

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From end of snout to vent .	42
" " " fore limb	16
Length of head	10
Width of head	6
Depth of head	5
Fore limb	16
Hind limb	29
Foot	16
Tail	114

This species is known from two specimens obtained at Berbera, Somaliland, by Mr. E. Lort Phillips. Distinguished from the preceding by the longer foot and by the light streaks being in odd number on the body.