AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of *Pristidactylus alvaroi*, *P. torquatus*, *P. valeriae* and *P. volcanensis* in Appendix II.

B. PROONENT

The Republic of Chile.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. **Taxonomy**

11. **Class:** Reptilia

12. **Order:** Squamata

13. **Family:** Polychridae

14. **Species:**

   - *Pristidactylus alvaroi*
   - *Pristidactylus torquatus*
   - *Pristidactylus valeriae*
   - *Pristidactylus volcanensis*

15. **Common Names:**

   - **English:**
     - *P. alvaroi* Gruñidor de Alvaro
     - *P. torquatus* Gruñidor del sur
     - *P. valeriae* Gruñidor de Valeria
     - *P. volcanensis* Gruñidor de El Volcan

16. **Code Numbers:**

2. **Biological Data**

21. **Distribution:**

   *P. alvaroi* occurs exclusively at the top of El Roble hill, Chile, being restricted to the forest of *Nothofagus* (Donoso-Barros, 1966).

   *P. torquatus*, has the largest range, from the Sierra de Bellavista (in the cordillera San Fernando), the most northern range area, to the island Grande de Chiloe (Formas, 1979), the most southern point of Chile, and has always existed in the forested areas of Fagáceas (Donoso-Barros, 1966).

   *P. valeriae*, lives only at the top and middle of the hill of Cantillana, Chile, restricted to the forest of *Nothofagus obliqua* (Donoso-Barros, 1966).

   *P. volcanensis*, is the species with the most atypical distribution, similar to that of some Argentine species (Cei, 1986). It has also the smallest range (six hectares) (Núñez et al.,...
1992) in the Cajón del Maipo zone, Metropolitan region (Lamborot y Díaz, 1987), a xeromorphic area situated 50 km east of Santiago. This is the only species on which biological studies have been made, which describe it as being insectivorous, saxicolous and of monomodal activity.

The genus (in Chile) is highly specialized and according to some authors (Núñez y Jaksic, 1992) it should be considered as a subgenus, which gives to the Chilean species an endemic value.

The species are morphologically characterized by their robustness, with a large throat fold, strong mandibles, flat and granulate scales, in addition to wide scales on the fingers.

22. **Population:** No population estimates exist for any of these species.

23. **Habitat:** All these species (with the exception of *P. volcanensis*) are strongly associated with the fagaceous forest and occur only above an altitude of 500 m.

*Pristidactylus volcanensis* occurs in dry areas of the locality of El Volcán at an altitude of 1,416 m, in the Metropolitan region of Chile, in an environment with bushes of medium size. It develops monomodal activities between 10.00 and 15.00 hours, generally using rocks under the shadow of bushes as a perch. In front of predators, it opens its mouth and produces a coarse and prolonged sound. This species, like all in the genus, has a body temperature during activity (28°C) significantly lower than that of most other Chilean reptiles (Antonieta Labra, pers. comm.).

The main food items are insects, beetles in particular.

3. **Trade Data**

31. **National Utilization:** There is no use of this genus at the national level. There are networks (although not operational) of people who capture these species to supply the international market. In the following table there are estimates of the international trade in reptiles from Chile to European countries and the United States for the period 1985-1992. Because of the difficulties in identifying the specimens exported from the various ports of exit, it is not possible to quantify the real number of specimens of *Pristidactylus* exported. Specimens of species of the genus *Pristidactylus* may have been exported in some of the following categories: "small lizard, lizard (caiman), iguana or matuastos"; all of them represent a total of 1,737,521 specimens exported from 1985 to March 1993. With the publication of a new regulation, on 9 March 1993, the export of all reptile and amphibian species from Chile was prohibited.

**NUMBER OF REPTILE SPECIMENS LEGALLY EXPORTED FROM CHILE DURING THE PERIOD 1985-1993**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>SMALL LIZARDS</th>
<th>LIZARDS</th>
<th>IGUANAS</th>
<th>TURTLES</th>
<th>SNAKES</th>
<th>MATUASTOS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>2,385</td>
<td>782</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,548</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>13,170</td>
<td>5,681</td>
<td>1,371</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>47,041</td>
<td>12,088</td>
<td>4,317</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>73,846</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>56,042</td>
<td>11,140</td>
<td>3,947</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>71,936</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>116,129</td>
<td>9,735</td>
<td>4,611</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>132,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>283,818</td>
<td>28,239</td>
<td>5,936</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>861</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>318,854</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Proposals - Reptilia - page 84
1991  319,326  28,921  7,746  0  452  0  356,445
1992  512,778  79,916  18,112  0  35  589  611,430
1993  135,439  9,500  3,837  0  4  0  148,780

TOTAL  1,486,128  186,002  50,253  10,900  3,444  794  1,737,521

32. **Legal International Trade:** At present, the capture or keeping is not allowed.

33. **Illegal Trade:** There is no information on this issue. There might exist a network of illegal exporters from Chile. This is because controls are closer on entry into than on departure from the country.

34. **Potential Trade Threats**

341. **Live Specimens:** The trade in live animals is currently non-existent. In the past there was a heavy pressure on all representatives of the genus and the populations decreased almost to extinction, as was the case for the species *P. valeriae* (Juan Sufán, pers. comm.).

342. **Parts and Derivatives:** There is no information on this issue.

4. **Protection Status**

41. **National:** The regulation of the Hunting Law (no. 4.601) in Article II states that all vertebrate species from Chile are protected by a conservation hunting law for 20 years.

5. **Information on Similar Species**

In Argentina there is a group of associated lizards (Cei, 1986).

6. **Comments from Countries of Origin**

These are species which (as a subgenus) range in Chile only.

7. **Additional Remarks**

8. **References**


