

COMMENTED DISTRIBUTIONAL LIST OF THE REPTILES OF MAURITANIA (WEST AFRICA)

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ABSTRACT

This is the first comprehensive review of the reptiles of Mauritania. It includes distributional information and comments. Mauritania harbors 86 species of reptiles belonging to 21 families. Among these families, Colubridae and Lacertidae are the most diverse, with 14 and 13 species respectively. Other families, such as Agamidae, Gekkonidae, Scincidae or Viperidae are also well represented. Among the 80 continental species, 47.5% are Saharan, 33.8% Afrotropical, 16.2% Sahelian and 2.5% Mediterranean. The marine turtles form another important group, with six species. Eight species are excluded from the country list because of old identification errors, there is not enough evidence of their presence or due to changes in political borders. Among the species expected to occur in Mauritania, at least nine may occur in Saharan environments, 13 in the Sahel savannah and two may have been introduced.

Key words: Distribution, checklist, Mauritania, Africa, Reptilia, Sahara, Sahel.

RESUMEN

Lista comentada de los reptiles de Mauritania (oeste de África)

Esta es la primera lista de reptiles comentada con datos de distribución para la República Islámica de Mauritania. La fauna de reptiles de Mauritania se compone de 86 especies pertenecientes a 21 familias. Entre ellas, Colubridae y Lacertidae son las más diversas, con 14 y 13 especies respectivamente. Otras familias como Agamidae, Gekkonidae, Scincidae y Viperidae también son representativas. Entre las 80 especies continentales el 47.5% son de distribución sahariana, el 33.8% afrotropical, el 16.2% sahelianas y el 2.5% mediterráneas. Las tortugas marinas, con seis especies, es otro grupo importante. Ocho especies no han sido incluidas en la lista debido a que se trataba de viejos errores de identificación, por carecer de suficiente evidencia o debido a la redistribución de las viejas fronteras políticas. Entre las especies potencialmente presentes, al menos nueve de ellas se esperan para las zonas saharianas, trece para las sabanas del Sahel, y dos podrían haber sido introducidas.

Palabras clave: Distribución, lista comentada, Mauritania, África, Reptilia, Sáhara, Sahel.

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Introduction

Mauritania is one of the herpetologically least known countries of Africa. During the last twenty years, Morocco, West Sahara and even Mali have received considerable attention from herpetologists (Bons & Geniez, 1996; Schleich *et al.*, 1996; Geniez *et al.*, 2004). Mauritania was almost forgotten by naturalists after the French colonization and establishment of the current political borders. Most natural history information was produced before the sixties by French naturalists who collected from mainly coastal areas and populated places. Some expeditions took place during the beginning of the last century in what we know today as the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. Naturalists such as M. Chudeau, M. Audan, G. Bouet, T. Monod, and M. Murat collected most of the specimens that were subsequently studied by Pellegrin, Chabanaud, Angel, Villiers, etc. The first author that reported some collections from Mauritania was Moquard (1895), who wrote about the reptiles of Cap Blanc, in the former French West Africa. Subsequently, Pellegrin (1910) studied the specimens collected during an expedition directed by M. Gruve in 1908 between Saint Louis and Cap Blanc, and reported eight species. Chabanaud (1916, 1917) studied Audan's specimens collected during 1909, 1912 and 1913. Also Boulenger (1919) contributed some information for the region, based on material deposited in the British Museum. However, he referred to "Mauritania" in a broad sense, probably including parts of West Sahara. He also studied some specimens collected by Audan in the Sahelian Trarza region. Böttger (1921) commented that the distribution of some reptiles found by him in the former Spanish colony of "Río de Oro", reached the Mauritanian Cap Blanc and further corrected one observation of Pellegrin about the coastal *Stenodactylus* species. Angel (1938, 1939) studied the material collected by M. Murat during the expedition "D'études de la biologie des Acridiens", directed by M. Zolotarevsky in 1936 and 1937 along the central and northwestern part of the country. He described the subspecies *Eryx muelleri subniger* and reported information for another twelve species.

After these early contributions, Mauritania received more attention, mainly through the works of Villiers (1950, 1951, 1954, 1956, 1975), who commented and described the distribution and/or some aspects of the natural history of at least 23 snakes from Mauritania. His snake checklist for

Mauritania (Villiers, 1950) was the obligatory reference for subsequent revisions of the Mauritanian herpetofauna. Moreover, Dekeyser & Villiers (1956) completed the most thorough ecological and faunistical study performed to date in Mauritania. They analyzed the distribution by habitats and microhabitats of plant and animal species in the central area of Adrar, and reported the presence of many reptiles, some of which are very difficult to detect even today. After this relatively intense activity before Mauritania's independence in 1960, no other herpetological survey took place in the country, except those of Maigret (1975) and Le Toquin *et al.*, (1980) on marine turtles. Nevertheless, more general taxonomic works included specimens from Mauritania (i.e. Grandison, 1956, 1961). Already in the late seventies and eighties, the interest in African herpetology increased. Taxonomic revisions (Arnold & Levinton, 1977; Joger, 1980, 1981, 1984; Salvador, 1982; Schätti, 1986; Hahn & Wallach, 1998) and biogeographical or distributional analyses (i.e. Maigret, 1983; Lambert, 1984; Hughes, 1983), included information on Mauritania and, furthermore, included specimens collected during earlier expeditions. These efforts led to the description of new species and contributed to the unravelling and/or identification of several taxonomic problems. Welch's (1982) list and Leberre's (1989) popular book were the more comprehensive lists published on Mauritanian herpetofauna at this time. But other studies in adjacent areas, for example Senegal (Böhme, 1978; Cissé & Karns, 1979) or Morocco (Bons & Geniez, 1996), served to illustrate how incomplete the herpetological knowledge of Mauritania was. In more recent times we have seen a steady increase in herpetological research in Mauritania. This was probably favoured by the rapid increase of knowledge of other West African countries (i.e. Bons & Geniez, 1996; Joger & Lambert, 1996; Schleich *et al.*, 1996), and political stability. Thus, during the nineties and early 21st Century, many naturalists contributed to the knowledge of the Mauritanian herpetofauna. Bons & Geniez (1996) provided some information for northern Mauritania; while Ineich (1997) compiled the most complete reptile list to date (33 species), as a result of his research along the coastal area; Arvy *et al.*, (1996), Arvy & Dia (1997) and Arvy *et al.*, (1997) increased our knowledge of turtles; many papers contributed with new discoveries and additional distributional information (Hasi *et al.*, 1997; Lambert & Mullie, 1998; Donaire *et al.*, 2000; Böhme, 2000; Böhme

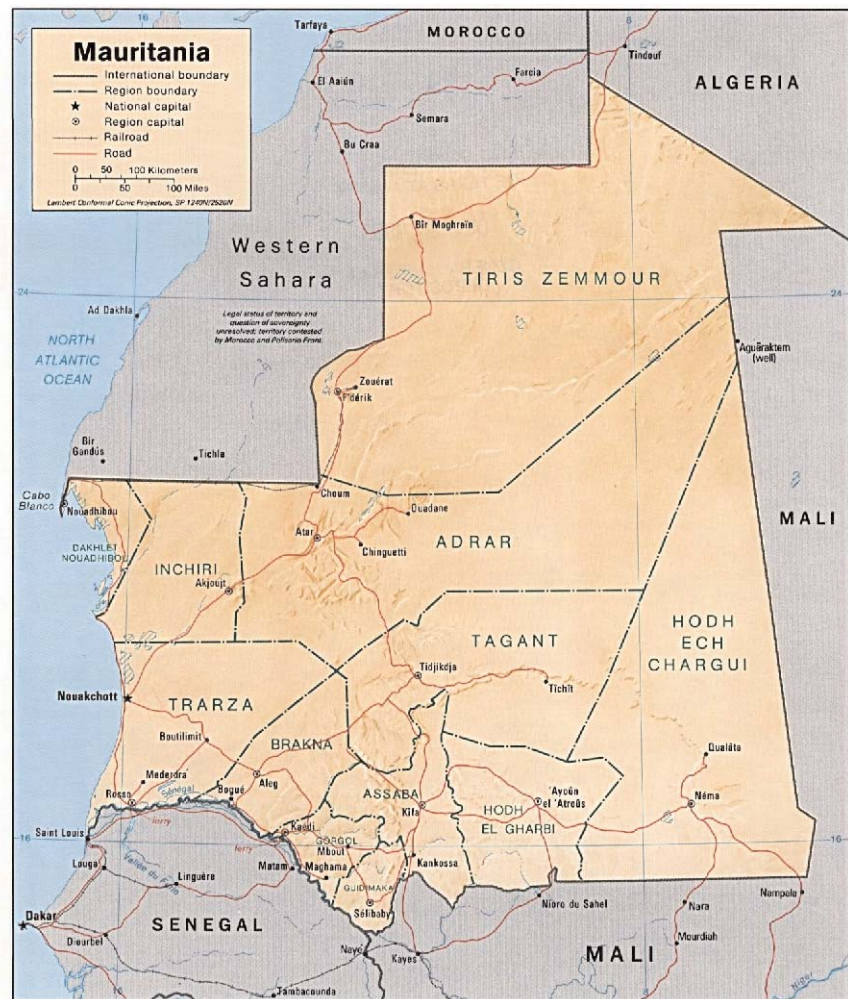


Fig. 1.— Map of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania showing main administrative divisions (Wilayas).

Fig. 1.— Mapa de la República Islámica de Mauritania y sus principales divisiones administrativas (Wilayas).

et al., 2001; Shine *et al.*, 2001; Padial *et al.*, 2002; Padial, 2003; Geniez & Luch, 2004; Aymerich *et al.*, 2004). Moreover, some species were described from neighboring countries (Geniez & Foucart, 1995; Joger & Lambert, 1996; Mateo *et al.*, 1998) and subsequently reported from Mauritania. Other species were described exclusively for Mauritania (Wallach, 2002; Padial, 2005; Geniez & Arnold, 2006). In addition, the systematics of some complex groups was analyzed (Mateo *et al.*, 1998; Wilms & Böhme, 2001; Crochet *et al.*, 2003). Finally Geniez *et al.*, (2000; 2004) and Chippaux (2001) added more herpetological information for Mauritania. Geniez *et al.*'s (2004) review was the most comprehensive herpetofaunistic list for northern Mauritania to date.

National species lists are of high relevance for conservation policy and scientific research (Padial & De la Riva, 2006). Biodiversity is managed at the

political level, and international funding is prioritized for endangered species, biodiversity hotspots, areas of endemism, etc. In this context, the Mauritanian herpetofauna lies outside the scope of serious attention, since there is no scientific list at all [the first list for amphibians was recently published by Padial & De la Riva (2004)]. The only available sources for general information on Mauritanian reptile diversity are on the web: the EMBL Reptile Database (2006) and the WCMC (2006). But they contain some outdated information and old mistakes. Whereas some countries around Mauritania have already been herpetofaunistically analyzed (see above), Mauritania urgently needs a reptilian species list.

My recent fieldwork in Mauritania and efforts in compiling and analyzing all available herpetological information from the country have led to this preliminary checklist. I have removed some erro-

neous records and also included taxonomic changes, new records, and a thorough literature revision. I also include a preliminary list of some species expected to occur. In fact, the reptile diversity in the country has been seriously underestimated and many areas need to be surveyed. Mauritania could play a very relevant role in conservation strategies and biogeographical analyses of the West African herpetofauna. I hope this list may facilitate all future observations on Mauritanian reptiles and provide a baseline for other herpetological studies and more general biodiversity research in the country.

Methods

Fieldwork was performed between April and August 2002. Specimens were collected only when they belonged to species with taxonomic problems or when they were not previously reported for the country. Common and easily identifiable species were collected by hand, photographed and released. Some specimens were found dead along the road or killed by local people. Specimens were sacrificed with injection of nicotine, fixed in 10% formalin, and preserved in ethanol 70°. They are deposited either in the Centro de Estudios Tropicales, Sevilla, Spain (CET) or the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid, Spain (MNCN). Tissue samples were deposited in the British Museum of Natural History (London). I tried to review and contrast all published literature about the herpetofauna of Mauritania. Nevertheless, it is possible that some localities, records or minor references may have been overlooked. In the text, scientific names are followed by the distribution and/or comments about the species. Localities are ordered by “wilayas” (main administrative divisions of the country, see Fig. 1). The wilayas are underlined. Localities are ordered alphabetically, and are followed by their respective references or the initials JMP in cases where I found the species in the respective locality. The Appendix compiles the coordinates of the localities extracted from the literature or visited by the author. Nevertheless, for some localities the coordinates could not be found. For general toponymy I followed the Carte Générale of Mauritania (1:2500000) (IGN, 1993). Some names may change when translated from French to Hassaniya or vice-versa, hence, spelling of some localities can vary in different cartographies.

Results

ANNOTATED LIST

REPTILIA SAURIA AGAMIDAE

Agama agama Linnaeus, 1758

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Joger, 1979), Chinguetti (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Guidimaka: Bouli (Padial, 2005); Foulania (Padial, 2005); Zoueina (Padial, 2005);

COMMENTS: Joger (1979) considered the Atar population of *A. agama* as a recent colonization. Some records of this species in desert habitats may correspond to *A. impalearis*. Grandison (1956) cited *A. agama* for Mauritania without locality.

Agama boueti Chabanaud, 1917

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Bougari (Nickel, 2003); Metraucha (Nickel, 2003); Hodh Ech Chargui: Mahmûdé Lake (Nickel, 2003); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (Böhme *et al.*, 2001; Padial, 2005); Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997); Muri (JMP); Northern from Rosso (Böhme *et al.*, 2001).

COMMENTS: Le Berre (1989) already cited this species for the country. Joger (1979) noted that this species inhabits southern Mauritania. Indeed, it is common in sandy savannas from southern Mauritania and also from the southern coastal area. See comments on *A. castroviejoi*.

Agama boulengeri Lataste, 1886

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Aggui (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Ben Amira (Padial, 2005); Chinguetti (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Guelta Molomhar (JMP), Guelta Oumm Lebare (Padial, 2005); Guelta Hamdoun (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Iriji (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Kanoal, Oued Séguélil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Oued Choûm (Padial, 2005); Terjît (Padial, 2005); Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); 44 km from Chinguetti on the road to Adrar, 19km before the Nouatil Pass (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); Assaba: Aïn El Ghaire (Lambert & Mullié, 1998); Bou Bleï'îne (Padial, 2005); Bougari (Padial, 2005); Guelta Oumm Lebare (Padial, 2005); Metraucha (Nickel, 2003; Padial, 2005); near Louths (Lambert & Mullié, 1998); Brakna: Achram (Lambert & Mullié, 1998); Gorgol: M'bout (JMP); Guidimaka: Sélibabi (JMP); Hodh Ech Chargui: Between Timbedgha and Ayoûn El Atroûs

(Böhme *et al.*, 2001; Padial, 2005); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (Padial, 2005); Oumm El Khez (JMP); Tintâne (JMP); Tagant: Guelta Fanar (JMP); Guelta Matmata (Padial, 2005); between Lekhcheb and Tîchît (Padial, 2005); Tidjikja (JMP).

COMMENTS: voucher specimens from Mauritania are in BM and museum IFAN in Dakar (Joger, 1979). The specimens of Oued Choum reported by Padial (2005) represent the northernmost record for this species.

Agama castroviejo Padial, 2005

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar plateau, road from Atar to Tidjikja (Padial, 2005); road from Atar to Chinguetti via Ebnou Pass (Brito, 2003); 44 km from Chinguetti on the road to Adrar, 19 km before the Nouatil Pass (Geniez & Arnold, 2006).

COMMENTS: I assign the recent record of *Agama boueti* for the Adrar, near the type locality of *A. castroviejo*, (Brito, 2003) to *A. castroviejo*, a recently described species very similar to *A. boueti* and endemic to this mountain range.

Agama impalearis Böttger, 1874

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Amogjar pass, c. 50 km East of Atar (Brito, 2003); Road from Atar to Chinguetti (JMP).

COMMENTS: Chabanaud (1917) cited *Agama colonorum* for “Mauritanie saharienne” based on a single individual collected by Audan. Despite Le Berre’s (1989) distribution map for *A. impalearis*, where this species appears to occur widely across the country, no concrete records were known up to then. Joger (1979) noted that this species did not occur in Mauritania and that the nearest record was Sequia el Hamra (West Sahara). Nevertheless, Brito (2003) recently confirmed the presence of this species in the Adrar. I also observed some gregarious specimens perched on rocks in the Adrar plateau between Adrar and Chinguetti. These may correspond to the Southern form of *A. impalearis*, but no specimen could be captured for confirmation.

Trapelus mutabilis (Merrem, 1820)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: El Beyyed (JMP); Kanoal, Oued Séguélil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); ca. 50 km south of Choum, road Choum-Atar (Brito, 2003); Ouadâne area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Terjît (JMP); Dakhlet Nouâdhibou: Banc d’Arguin (Padial *et al.*, 2002); between Tintan and Akjoujt (Pellegrin, 1910); Inâl (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Tintan (Pellegrin, 1910); Alsaz (Pellegrin, 1910), Manata (Pellegrin, 1910); Boû Lanouâr; c. 50 km east of Boû Lanouâr, track

Nouadhibou-Choum (Brito, 2003); Oued Khatt Atoui (Angel, 1938); Tasiast (Angel, 1938, 1939); Inchiri: Agneîtîr (Ineich, 1997); Azeffâl (Ineich, 1997); Bennichchâb (JMP); between Tiouilit and Bennichchâb (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Tiris Zemmour: near Toûâjil (JMP); between Choum and Toûâjil (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

Uromastix dispar Rüppel, 1827

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Ain Savra (JMP); Amogjar pass, ca 50 km E of Atar (Brito, 2003); Atar (terra típica) (Böhme *et al.*, 2001; Wilms & Böhme, 2001); Atar, 65 km S (JMP); Ar Bou M’rait (Wilms & Böhme, 2001); 53 km from Atar to Chinguetti (JMP); Ben Amira (JMP); between Ouârâne and Atar (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Chinguetti (Wilms & Böhme, 2001); Choum, 40 S to Atar (JMP); Dahr Chinguetti (JMP); El Beyyed (JMP); Guelb er Richât (Wilms & Böhme, 2001; JMP); Hamdoun (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956; Wilms & Böhme, 2001); Iriji (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Molomhar (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Ouadâne (Wilms & Böhme, 2001); Oued Choûm (JMP); Oued Séguélil (JMP); road Atar-Chinguetti via Ebnou pass (Brito, 2003); Te-n-Zak pass, road Choum-Atar (Brito, 2003); ca. 50 km S of Choum, road Choum-Atar (Brito, 2003); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: between Aghoueyyt and Inal (JMP); ca 5 km west of Inal, road from Nouadhibou-Choum (JMP); Tmeimichât (JMP); Hodh Ech Chargui: Oualâta (JMP); Inchiri: Akjoujt (JMP); Boudarga (JMP); Groutte Chauves-Souris, Guelb Moghrein (Jullien & Petter, 1969 [1970]); Tagant: Guelta Matmata (Wilms & Böhme, 2001); Lekhcheb (JMP); Tiris Zemmour: Bir Moghrein (Wilms & Böhme, 2001); between Zouérat and Bir Moghrein (JMP; Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); between Zouerat and Rich (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Dayet el Aam (Donaire *et al.*, 2000); Esfira (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Road N50 (Algeria), on the Mauritanian border (Donaire *et al.*, 2000); Zemmour (Wilms & Böhme, 2001); Zouérat (JMP).

COMMENTS: Willms & Böhme (2001) elevated *Uromastix acanthinura dispar* to full species and *Uromastix acanthinura flavifasciata* and *U. mailensis* were considered subspecies of the former. Assignment of specimens to species or subspecies of the *Uromastix acanthinura* group have been commonly based on coloration and pholidosis (Mateo *et al.*, 1998; Wilms & Böhme, 2001; Brito, 2003; Geniez *et al.*, 2004). But some of the described subspecies occur in sympatry, which is not compatible with the definition of subspecies (Mayr, 1942). Hence, either some cryptic species occur in sympatry or it is a case of intraspecific polymorphism.

CHAMALEONIDAE

Chamaeleo africanus Laurenti, 1768

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Diwaling National Park (Nickel, 2003).

Chamaeleo senegalensis Daudin, 1802

DISTRIBUTION: Mauritania, without locality (Grandison, 1956).

GEKKONIDAE

Hemidactylus brooki Gray, 1825

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Nouâdhibou (JMP); Hodh Ech Chargui: Mahmûdé Lake (Nickel, 2003, JMP); Hodh El Gharbi: Zoueina (JMP); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997).

COMMENTS: One specimen more similar to *Hemidactylus turcicus* (Linnaeus, 1758) was found by JMP in a house at Nouâdhibou (Cap Blanc). This species has colonized distant areas (Bons & Geniez, 1996) and this could well be the case in the Port of Nouâdhibou.

Pristurus adrarensis Geniez & Arnold, 2006

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); 44 km from Chinguetti on the road to Adrar, 19km before the Nouatil Pass (Geniez & Arnold, 2006).

COMMENTS: endemic for the Adrar, Mauritania.

Stenodactylus petrii Anderson, 1896

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Ben Amira (JMP); Oued Choûm (JMP); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Cap Blanc (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Oued Ech Chibka (Ineich, 1997); Tmeïmichât (JMP); Inchiri: Agneïtîr (Ineich, 1997); Akchâr (Angel, 1938; Padial *et al.*, 2002); Azeffâl (Ineich, 1997); Bennichchâb (JMP); dunes near Bennichchâb (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997); Tiris Zemmour: between Zouérat and Bir Moghreïn (JMP); Bezia, Zemmour (Angel, 1938).

COMMENTS: Böhme *et al.*, (2001) noted that specimens of this species in SW Mauritania are more robust and intensively patterned dorsally than other populations.

Stenodactylus sthenodactylus (Lichtenstein, 1823)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Banc d'Arguin National Park (JMP); Cap Blanc (Böttger, 1921;

Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Nouâdhibou (JMP); Oued Ech Chibka (Ineich, 1997); Inâl (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Hodh Ech Chargui: between Nema and Oualâta (JMP); Inchiri: Akchâr (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Agneïtîr (Ineich, 1997); Azeffâl, Tânit (Ineich, 1997); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997). Tiris Zemmour: Bezia, Zemmour (Angel, 1938); Fdêrik (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

COMMENTS: Pellegrin (1910) cited this species as *S. s. mauritanicus* Guichenot, 1850 for two localities between Cap Blanc (Mauritania) and Sant Louis (Senegal): Boguent and Touail. Welch's (1982) record of this species for Mauritania is based on Pellegrin (1910).

Tarentola annularis (Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1809)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Joger, 1980; Joger, 1984); Atar, 65 km S (JMP); Ben Amira (JMP); Chinguetti (Joger, 1984; Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Choûm (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Ouadâne (Joger, 1984); Oued Hassi el Atil (Joger, 1980); Tintan (Pellegrin, 1910); 30 km E of Atar, road Atar-Chinguetti via Amogjar pass (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Banc d'Arguin National Park (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Cap Blanc (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Inâl area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Marzouba (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Oued Ech Chibka (Ineich, 1997); Inchiri: Akchâr (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Akjoujt (Joger, 1980; Joger, 1984); Bennichchâb (JMP); Châmi (JMP); Tijirît (JMP); Nouakchott: Nouackchott (Joger, 1984); Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997); Tiris Zemmour: Bir Mogreïn (Joger, 1984); Fdêrik (Fort Gouraud) (Joger, 1984).

COMMENTS: Grandison (1961) included distributional information for Mauritania without names of localities.

Tarentola chazaliae (Mocquard, 1895)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Nouâdhibou (Mocquard, 1895; Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Cap Blanc (Ineich *et al.*, 1997, 1998; Geniez *et al.*, 2004; Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Boû Lanouar area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

COMMENTS: Although this species was thought to range to Senegal throughout all the Mauritanian Coast (Schleich *et al.* 1996; Bons & Geniez, 1996; Geniez *et al.* 2004), no confirmed record exists further south of Cap Blanc (Ineich *et al.*, 1998).

Tarentola ehippiata O'Shaughnessy, 1875

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Joger, 1984); between Tintane and Akjoujt (Pellegrin, 1910); L'Nouk Pass (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); W from Ouadâne

(Geniez *et al.*, 2004) Assaba: Bougari (Nickel, 2003; JMP); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Cap Blanc (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Marzouba (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Nouâdhibou (JMP); Oued Ech Chibka (Ineich, 1997); Hodh El Gharbi: Zoueina (JMP); Ayoûn el Atroûs (Joger, 1984); Hodh Ech Chargui: Oualata (Joger, 1984); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Pellegrin, 1910; Joger, 1984); between Akjoujt and the Ocean (Angel, 1938); Châmi (JMP); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Tagant: Tidjikja (Joger, 1984); Tiris Zemmour: Bir Mogreïn (Angel, 1938); Zemmour, Beziah (Angel, 1938).

COMMENTS: In Mauritania the subspecies *T. e. hoggarensis* (Joger, 1984) occurs. Grandison (1961) included some distributional information for Mauritania without locality names.

***Tarentola parvicarinata* Joger, 1980**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Joger, 1980); Guelta Hamdoun (Joger, 1980); Oued Choûm (JMP); Oued Hassi el Atil (Joger, 1980); Terjît (JMP; Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Tintane (Joger, 1980); Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); 30 km E of Atar, road Atar-Chinguetti via Amogjar pass (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); Assaba: Bougari (Nickel, 2003); Guelta Oumm Lebare (JMP); Metraucha (Nickel, 2003); Guidimaka: Bouli (JMP); Hodh Ech Chargui: Oualâta (Joger, 1980); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (Joger, 1980); Tintâne (JMP); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Joger, 1980); Tagant: Lekhcheb (JMP); Tîchît (JMP); Tidjikja (JMP).

***Tropicolotes algericus* (Loveridge, 1940)**

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Cap Blanc (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Inchiri: Agneïtîr (Ineich, 1997); Azeffâl (Ineich, 1997); Tiris Zemmour: Road N50 (Algeria), on the Mauritanian border (Donaire *et al.*, 2000); Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

COMMENTS: This species was previously considered a subspecies of *T. tripolitanus*.

***Tropicolotes tripolitanus* Peters, 1880**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Chinguetti (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Choum (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Ouadâne (JMP); Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); 30 km E of Atar, road Atar-Chinguetti via Amogjar pass (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); Assaba: Bougari (Nickel, 2003); Hodh Ech Chargui: Oualâta (JMP); Hodh El Gharbi: Mahmoudé Lake (Nickel, 2003); Hodh El Gharbi: Zoueina (JMP).

LACERTIDAE

***Acanthodactylus aureus* Günther, 1903**

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Atar, near Nouâdhibou (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Birguendouz (JMP); Cap Blanc (Mocquard, 1895; Pellegrin, 1910; Böttger, 1921; Ineich, 1997; Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Nouâdhibou (Salvador, 1982; Bons & Geniez, 1996; Padial *et al.*, 2002; Brito, 2003; Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Inchiri: Akchâr (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Akjoujt (Pellegrin, 1910); between Akjoujt and the Ocean (Salvador, 1982).

***Acanthodactylus boskianus* (Daudin, 1802)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Choum (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Kanoal, Oued Séguélil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); S from Atar (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: between Nouâdhibou and Boû Lanouâr (JMP); Cap Timirist (Ineich, 1997); Inchiri: between Akjoujt and the Ocean (Angel, 1938; Salvador, 1982); Tiris Zemmour: Bir Moghreïn; around 100 km S from Bir Moghreïn (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Trarza: Muri (JMP); Nouakchott (Salvador, 1982; Ineich, 1997); Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

***Acanthodactylus busacki* Salvador, 1982**

DISTRIBUTION: Tiris Zemmour: Road N50 (Algeria) on the Mauritanian border (Donaire *et al.*, 2000).

***Acanthodactylus dumerili* (Milne Edwards, 1829)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Salvador, 1982); Atar, 65 km S (JMP); Ain Savra (JMP); Tzougui (Salvador, 1982); Ben Amira (JMP); Chinguetti (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Ez Zerga (JMP); Oued Choûm (JMP); Tasiast, Oglâ de Tamarat (Salvador, 1982); Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); 65 Km SE of Atar (JMP); 30 km E of Atar, road Atar-Chinguetti via Amogjar Pass (Brito, 2003); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Banc d'Arguin National Park (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Mamghar (Angel, 1938; Salvador, 1982); Tafari Cape (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tidra Island (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Serreni, Banc D'Arguin National Park (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Guidimaka: Lake Houi (Salvador, 1982); Hodh Ech Chargui: Oualâta (JMP); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (JMP); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Salvador, 1982); Akjoujt, 20 km NW (JMP); Agneïtîr (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Akchâr (Padial *et al.*, 2002; Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tânit (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Aouarouâr, 30 km from Jreïf, Agneïtir (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Azeffâl (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Bennichchâb (JMP); between Akjoujt and the Ocean (Angel, 1938; Salvador, 1982); Manate, Agneïtir (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tembrahim

(Padial *et al.*, 2002); Tijirît (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Salvador, 1982); Trarza: Blaouakh (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Chott Boul (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Dar Es Salam (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); El Hazra (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Hassi Loubbou, El Mhaïjrât, (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Lekeseyr, 7.5 km N of (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Muri (JMP); Nouakchott, 10 km N of (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Nouakchott, 12 km N of (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tamzakt (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tanit (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tiouilit (Crochet *et al.*, 2003; JMP); Tagant: Lekhcheb (JMP); Lekhcheb, 25 km S (JMP); road between Atar and Tidjikja (JMP); Tidjikja (Salvador, 1982); Zig, between Lekhcheb and Tichât (JMP); Tiris Zemmour: between Zouérat and Bir Moghreïn (JMP); Zouérat, 60 km S (JMP); Bir Moghreïn; Fdèrik (Salvador, 1982); Tôûâjil (JMP).

COMMENTS: Boulenger (1921) already mentioned this species for Mauritania. Old records of this species could contain different currently recognized species. Crochet *et al.*, (2003) cited cases of hybridization between *A. dumerili* and *A. senegalensis*. Records of Ineich (1997) were subsequently studied and specifically relocated by Crochet *et al.*, (2003); therefore I only refer to the later reference.

***Acanthodactylus longipes* Boulenger, 1921**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Amguili, Assabet and Meddahiya (Salvador, 1982); Choûm (Salvador, 1982); Chinguetti (Salvador, 1982); Ijâfen area (BM 1975.1398; Salvador, 1982); Ogueilet Meïag (Salvador, 1982); Oued Choûm (JMP); 50 km S of Choum, road Choum-Atar (Brito, 2003); Tacarât area (BM 1975-1401; Salvador, 1982); Dakhlet Nouâdhibou: Iouik (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); St-Jean Island, Banc D'Arguin NP (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Inchiri: Agneïtir (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Azeffâl (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tagant: Adâfer Meridional (Salvador, 1982); Trarza: Akreïdil, 50 km NE Nouakchott (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Chott Boul, 6 km S of (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); El Hazra (Crochet *et al.*, 2003).

***Acanthodactylus scutellatus* (Audouin, 1827)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: E of Ouadane (Geniez & Luch, 2004); Tiris Zemmour: Tôûâjil (JMP).

COMMENTS: The first country record was reported by Geniez & Luch (2004) and assigned to *A. scutellatus audouini*. Specimens from Tôûâjil are deposited in MNCN.

***Acanthodactylus senegalensis* Chabanaud, 1918**

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet Nouadhibou: Tafari Cape (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Inchiri: Akchâr (Crochet *et al.*,

2003); Trarza: Chott Boul (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Dar Es Salam (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Hasseï Gâboûn (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Muri (JMP); Nouakchott (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); 10 Km N of Nouakchott (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); 12 km N of Nouakchott (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); 156 km beyond Nouakchott towards Rosso (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tamzakt (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); 4 Km NW Tamzakt (Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Tanit (Crochet *et al.*, 2003).

COMMENTS: Some previous records of *A. aureus* from coastal Mauritania may correspond to *A. senegalensis*. Records of Ineich (1997) were subsequently studied and specifically relocated by Crochet *et al.*, (2003), I therefore refer to the later.

***Acanthodactylus taghitensis* Geniez & Foucart, 1995**

DISTRIBUTION: Tiris Zemmour: Fdèrik (Hasi *et al.*, 1997; Crochet *et al.*, 2003); Northern Tagenzé, Ouan n'Namour (Geniez & Luch, 2004).

***Latastia longicauda* (Reuss, 1834)**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997).

***Mesalina guttulata* (Lichtenstein, 1823)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: road Atar-Chinguetti via Ebnou Pass (Brito, 2003); Tiris Zemmour: Fdèrik (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

COMMENTS: Grandison (1956) did not report any locality for this species and, therefore, the record of Brito (2003) and Geniez *et al.* (2004) represent the first precise records of this species for the country.

***Mesalina olivieri* (Adouin, 1829)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Chinguetti (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); southern limit of Adrar area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Böhme *et al.*, 2001); Tagant: Lekhcheb (JMP).

COMMENTS: Grandison, 1956 cited this species without locality.

***Mesalina pasteurii* (Bons, 1960)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Oued Choûm (JMP); Inchiri: Tembrahim, Akchâr (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Tagant: Lekhcheb (JMP); Tiris Zemmour: Aghreïjît area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Châr area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

***Mesalina rubropunctata* (Lichtenstein, 1823)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: El Beyyed (JMP); Choûm (Böhme *et al.*, 2001); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Böhme *et al.*, 2001); Tiris Zemmour: Dayet el Am (Donaire *et al.*, 2000).

SCINCIDAE

Chalcides ocellatus (Forskal, 1775)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Chinguetti (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (JMP).

Scincopus fasciatus Peters, 1864

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Nterguent, near Atar (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Trarza: near Tiguent (Böhme *et al.*, 2001).

COMMENTS: Welch (1982) already cited this species without locality.

Scincus albifasciatus Boulenger, 1890

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Arnold & Levinton, 1977); Ain Savra (JMP); Ben Amira (JMP); Chinguetti (Arnold & Levinton, 1977); Choûm (Arnold & Levinton, 1977); Legleitât (Arnold & Levinton, 1977); Kanoal, Oued Séguelil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Oued Aïmou (Angel, 1938); Oued Choûm (JMP); Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti (Geniez & Arnold, 2006); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Boû Lanouâr (JMP); Inâl (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Tassias (Arnold & Levinton, 1977); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (JMP); Inchiri: Akchâr, Tânit (Ineich, 1997); Agneîtîr (Ineich, 1997); Azeffâl (Ineich, 1997); Boudarga (JMP); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Arnold & Levinton, 1977); Tiris Zemmour: N from Fdêrik (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Tourîne area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Trarza: without locality (Arnold & Levinton, 1977).

COMMENTS: Arnold and Levinton (1977) considered most Mauritanian populations as *S. scincus albifasciatus*, but they found differences in colour pattern among specimens from the Adrar region, even in the same locality.

Sphenops delislîi (Lataste, 1876)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Chinguetti (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Dakhlet Nouâdhibou: road from Boû Lanouâr to Choum, around Inâl and Tmeïmîchât (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

Sphenops sphenopsiformis (Duméril, 1856)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Cap Blanc (Grandison, 1956; Salvador, 1982; Welch, 1982; Le Berre, 1989; Bons & Geniez, 1996; Ineich, 1997; Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Pellegrin, 1910).

Trachylepis perrotetii (Duméril & Bibron, 1839)

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997).

VARANIDAE

Varanus exanthematicus (Bosc, 1792)

DISTRIBUTION: Hodh El Gharbi: Foulania (JMP); Trarza: Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997).

COMMENTS: Böhme (2003) also mentions *V. exanthematicus* for Subsaharan Mauritania.

Varanus griseus (Daudin, 1803)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Kanoal, Oued Séguelil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Ouadane area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Oued Choûm (JMP); Tin Demane (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); 20°15'S/13°16' (Pleguezuelos *et al.*, 2005); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Cap Blanc (Böttger, 1921; Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (JMP); Inchiri: Bennichchâb (JMP); Chekraf (Padial *et al.*, 2002); S from Akjoujt (Böhme *et al.*, 2001); Nouakchott: N from Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Tagant: Lekhcheb (JMP); Trarza: Boutlimit (JMP); Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

COMMENTS: *V. g. griseus* is the subspecies present in Mauritania (Böhme, 2003).

Varanus niloticus Linnaeus, 1766

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Bou Bleï'îne (JMP); Bougari (Nickel, 2003); Hodh Ech Chargui: Mahmûdé Lake (Nickel, 2003); Hodh El Gharbi: Zoueina (JMP); Tagant: Guelta Fanar (JMP); Guelta Matmata (JMP); Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997); road Diama-Rosso (Brito, 2003).

COMMENTS: This species can be found in isolated wetlands surrounded by dunes in the Assaba region.

SERPENTES

LEPTOTYPHLOPIDAE

Leptotyphlops algeriensis (Jaquet, 1896)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Kanoal, Oued Séguelil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956).

COMMENTS: this species was considered a synonym of *L. macrorhynchus* until very recently (Hahn & Wallach, 1998), but it was subsequently resurrected by Trape (2002).

Leptotyphlops boueti (Chabanaud, 1917)

DISTRIBUTION: Brakna: Aleg (Villiers, 1950); Hodh El Gharbi: Aioûn el Atroûs (Villiers, 1950).

COMMENTS: cited by Villiers as *L. narirostris boueti* following the opinion of A. Loveridge [see Remarks on Hahn & Wallach (1998) for this species].

Nevertheless, the later authors mentioned significant differences between specimens of *L. nairostris* and *L. boueti*. Trape (2002) used the combination *L. boueti*. Under this author's view, the species shows differential characters [following Hahn & Wallach's, (1998) observations] that support its specific status.

***Leptotyphlops cairi* (Dumeril & Bribon, 1844)**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: without locality (BMNH 1913.5.9.45) (Hahn & Wallach, 1998).

COMMENTS: Welch (1982) listed this species without locality for the country, probably on the basis of the single specimen collected by Audan and deposited in the British Museum of Natural History.

TYPHLOPIDAE

***Typhlops etheridgei* Wallach, 2002**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: between Atar and Choum (Wallach, 2002).

COMMENTS: this species is endemic for Mauritania and only known from the type locality (between Atar and Choûm along Route Nationale 1, a distance of ca. 85 air km through the Amsâga region, western Adrar Region, west-central Mauritania).

BOIDAE

***Gongylophis muelleri* Boulenger, 1892**

DISTRIBUTION: Inchiri: between Akjoujt and the ocean (Angel, 1938); Tasiast, Oued Aïmou (Angel, 1938); Trarza: Bafrechié (Villiers, 1954); R'kiz (Villiers, 1954); without locality (Boulenger, 1919).

COMMENTS: Angel (1938) described *E. m. subniger* from Tasiast, Oued Aïmou. Villiers (1954) detected some morphological differences between the specimens from Mauritania studied by him and this subspecies. Ineich (1997) cited this species for the Mauritanian coast without locality.

ATRACTASPIDIDAE

***Atractaspis microlepidota* Günther, 1866**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: without locality (Boulenger, 1919, Angel, 1933, Villiers, 1950, 1951)

COMMENTS: Many authors have cited this species for Mauritania (Boulenger, 1919; Angel, 1933; Villiers, 1950; Villiers, 1951; Villiers, 1975; Welch, 1982; Hughes, 1983; Le Berre, 1989; Chippaux, 2001), but none have given any precise locality.

***Atractaspis micropholis* Gunther, 1872**

DISTRIBUTION: Hodh Ech Chargui: Adel Bagrou (H. Nickel pers. comm.)

COMMENTS: Welch (1982) cited this species without locality.

COLUBRIDAE

***Hemorrhois algirus* (Jan, 1863)**

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Nouâdhibou (Chabanaud, 1924; Monod, 1928); Tiris Zemmour: between Zemmour and Bir Moghreïn (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Fdérîk (Villiers, 1950); approx 100 km S from Bir Moghreïn (Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

COMMENTS: *H. a. intermedius* is the subspecies present in Mauritania.

***Hemorrhois dorri* (Lataste, 1888)**

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Metraucha (Nickel, 2003).

***Dasypeltis scabra* (Linnaeus, 1759)**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997); Dar es Salam (Ineich, 1997).

***Lamprophis fuliginosus* (Boié, 1827)**

DISTRIBUTION: Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Thorpe & McCarthy, 1978); Trarza: without locality (Boulenger, 1919; Villiers, 1950).

***Lytorhynchus diadema* (Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Kanoal, Oued Séguélil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Nouâdhibou (Villiers, 1950); Inâl (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Isnaïa, near Cap Timirist (Villiers, 1954); Inchiri: Akjoujt (Pellegrin, 1910, 1911); Azeffâl (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Tagant: Bir el Fouj, NW Tichît (Villiers, 1956); Tiris Zemmour: W from Touâjîl, Aghreïjît area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

***Prosymna meleagris* (Reinhardt, 1843)**

DISTRIBUTION: Mauritania, without locality (Welch, 1982).

***Scutophis moilensis* (Reuss, 1834)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: El Berbera (Villiers, 1950, 1951); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: El Aïouej, NW Mauritanien, 60 Km NE from Port Etienne/Nouadhibou (Angel, 1939); Inchiri: between Akjoujt and the Ocean (Angel, 1938); Nouakchott: Nouakchott; Tiris Zemmour: between

Fdérík and Bir Moghreïn (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Bir Moghreïn (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Châr area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Fdérík (Villiers, 1950b); Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

COMMENTS: Boulenger (1919) cited *Malpolon mospesulanus* for “borders of the Mediterranean, southwards to Mauritania”. Villiers (1950) considered this record doubtful, and suggested that Boulenger’s specimen may have been found in South Morocco. This species reaches Dakhla (West Sahara).

***Psammophis elegans* Shaw, 1802**

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Metraucha (Nickel, 2003); Trarza: cited by Boulenger (1919), without locality (see also Villiers, 1950, 1951).

COMMENTS: Although many authors cited this species for Mauritania, the only precise record corresponds to that of Nickel (2003) for the Assaba region. The taxonomic status and geographical assignment of records to species of the genus *Psammophis* is problematic, see (Chippaux, 2001) and Trape and Mané (2002).

***Psammophis phillipsi* (Hallowell, 1844)**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997).

COMMENTS: See comments on *P. elegans*.

***Psammophis schokari* (Forskål, 1775)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Villiers, 1950); Oued Choûm (JMP); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Nouâdhibou (Chabanaud, 1924; Monod, 1928; Bons & Geniez, 1996); Inchiri: Agneîtîr (Ineich, 1997); Azeffâl (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Akjoujt (Angel, 1938; Loveridge, 1941); between Akjoujt and the Ocean (Angel, 1938); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Tiris Zemmour: Bir Mogrein (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Châr area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Trarza: Chott Boul (Ineich, 1997); near the Senegal border (Ineich, 1997); Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997); without locality (Boulenger, 1919; Villiers, 1950).

COMMENTS: Loveridge (1941) cited *P. schokari* as *P. sibilans schokari* from Akjoujt. Angel & Lothe (1938) cited this species for Mauritania without locality. See comments on *P. elegans*.

***Psammophis sibilans* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Villiers (1950) mentioned two specimens from Trarza deposited in the BM. See comments on *P. elegans*.

***Spalerosophis diadema* (Schlegel, 1837)**

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Villiers, 1950; Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Trarza: Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

***Telescopus guidimakaensis* (Chabanaud, 1916)**

DISTRIBUTION: Guidimaka: without locality (typus of *Tarbophis guidimakaensis*) (Chabanaud, 1916; see also Villiers, 1950); Trarza: without locality (Boulenger, 1919).

COMMENTS: Cited as *T. obtusus* (Reuss, 1834) for Trarza region without locality by Boulenger (1919) and subsequent authors (Villiers, 1950; Villiers, 1975; Welch, 1982; Le Berre, 1989; Hasi *et al.*, 1997; Chippaux, 2001), probably followed Boulenger’s record. Welch (1982) cited this species as *Telescopus dhara obtusus*. Geniez *et al.* (2004) cited this species for Ichargan, in the Zemmour Mountains near the Mauritanian border. Hence, this species is expected to occur also in northern Mauritania.

***Ramphiphis oxyrynchus* (Rheinhardt, 1843)**

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: Diwaling National Park (Nickel, 2003).

ELAPIDAE

***Elapsoidea semiannulata* Bocage, 1882**

DISTRIBUTION: Guidimaka: without locality (Angel, 1933).

COMMENTS: cited by Angel (1933) as *E. sundevalli gunt-herii* (see also Villiers, 1950).

***Naja katiensis* Angel, 1922**

DISTRIBUTION: “Sud de la Mauritanie” (Villiers, 1975).

***Naja nigricollis* Reinhardt, 1843**

DISTRIBUTION: Gorgol: M’bout (Villiers, 1950); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Villiers, 1950); Trarza: Boutlimit (Villiers, 1950).

COMMENTS: Villiers (1951) gives the same records.

PYTHONIDAE

***Python sebae* Gmelin, 1788**

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Bougari (Nickel, 2003); Metraucha (Nickel, 2003); Gorgol: M’bout (Villiers, 1950); Guidimaka: Boudami (Villiers, 1950); Meyane (Villiers, 1950); Hodh Ech Chargui: Mahmûdé Lake (Nickel, 2003; Padial, 2003); Tagant: Tamourt en Naaj (Padial, 2003); Trarza: 20 km N of N’Diago (Padial, 2003), Diawling National Park (Ineich, 1997); R’Kiz (Villiers, 1950).

COMMENTS: see Padial (2003) for a recent revision on the status of this species in Mauritania.

VIPERIDAE

Causus maculatus (Hallowell, 1842)

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: without locality (Chabanaud, 1916).

COMMENTS: Cited by Chabanaud (1916) and subsequently by Angel and Lothe (1938) and Villiers (1950) as *Causus rhombeatus*.

Cerastes cerastes (Linnaeus, 1758)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Aouelloul (Villiers, 1950, 1951); Atar (Villiers, 1951); between Tmeïmîchât and Choûm (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Choûm (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Kanoal, Oued Séguélil (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Oued Choûm (JMP); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: between Boû Lanouâr and Inâl (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Marzouba (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Nouâdhibou (Böttger, 1921); Tanoudert (Angel, 1939); Gorgol: M'Bout (Villiers, 1950); Inchiri: Akchâr, Tânit (Ineich, 1997); Akjoujt (Angel, 1938, Villiers, 1950); Aleibataf (Pellegrin, 1910); between Akjoujt and the ocean (Angel, 1938); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Tagant: Zig, between Lekhcheb and Tichît (JMP); Tiris Zemmour: Bir Mogrein (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Fdêrik (Villiers, 1950); Hasi el Fogra (Donaire *et al.*, 2000); Trarza: Aleib Ataf (Pellegrin, 1911); Boutlimit (Villiers, 1950); Tamzakt (Ineich, 1997).

Cerastes vipera (Linnaeus, 1758)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: between Tmeïmîchât and Choûm (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Chinguetti (Villiers, 1950; Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Oued Choûm (JMP); Ouadane area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Southern Adrar (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Boû Lanouâr area (Bons & Geniez, 1996); Inchiri: Agneïtir (Ineich, 1997); Akchâr, Tânit (Ineich, 1997); Aleibataf (Pellegrin, 1910); Azeffâl (Ineich, 1997); Bennichchâb, 25 km S (JMP); between Akjoujt and the ocean (Angel, 1938); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Ineich, 1997); Tiris Zemmour: El Hammâmi area (Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Tagant: Lekhcheb (JMP).

COMMENTS: Angel & Lothe (1938) cited this species for Saharan Mauritania.

Bitis arietans (Merrem, 1820)

DISTRIBUTION: Gorgol: M'Bout (Villiers, 1950); Guidimaka: Sélibabi (Villiers, 1950); Trarza: Boutlimit (Villiers, 1950).

Echis leucogaster Roman, 1972

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: Atar (Villiers, 1950); Oued El Akhdar (Villiers, 1950, 1951); El Ouedi; Guelta

Hamdoun (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Iriji (Dekeyser & Villiers, 1956); Hodh Ech Chargui: without concrete locality (Chippaux, 2001); Hodh El Gharbi: Ayoûn El Atroûs (JMP); Oumm El Khez (JMP); Trarza: between Nouakchott et Saint-Louis (Villiers, 1954); Marais de Toumboss (Villiers, 1954), près Keur Massène (Villiers, 1954); R'kiz (Villiers, 1954).

COMMENTS: Another possible record is from northern Mauritania, in Kreyma el Maijat, between Houmat and Doloa (Aymerich *et al.*, 2004; Geniez *et al.*, 2004).

Echis ocellatus Stemmler, 1970

DISTRIBUTION: Trarza: without locality (Villiers, 1950; Chippaux, 2001).

COMMENTS: Most of these records may correspond to *E. leucogaster*. Those from Trarza have been cited as *E. ocellatus* by Chippaux (2001). Villiers (1950) cited it as *E. carinatus*.

CROCODYLIA

CROCODYLIDAE

Crocodylus cataphractus Cuvier, 1825

DISTRIBUTION: Senegal River (Fuchs *et al.*, 1974; Villiers, 1958).

COMMENTS: Specimens cited for Guelta Matamata of Tagant (Staudinger, 1929) correspond to *C. suchus*.

Crocodylus suchus (Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1807)

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Bougari (Nickel, 2003); Metraucha (Nickel, 2003); Hodh Ech Chargui: Lake Dendaré; Tagant: Amzouzef (Behra, 1994); Ederoum (Behra, 1994); Guelta Fanar (JMP obs), Guelta Matmata (Staudinger, 1929; Behra, 1994; JMP); Laout (Behra, 1994); Rh Zembou (Behra, 1994).

COMMENTS: Crocodiles were cited historically for Mauritania. For example in Lake Calula and M'bout in the Wilaya Gorgol, Lake Dendaré in Hodh Ech Chargui, and in Hodh El Gharbi (Pellegrin, 1911; Monod, 1921; Staudinger, 1929; Spatz, 1930; Joleaud, 1933; Villiers, 1958; Le Berre, 1989). Most records corresponded to Tagant and Assaba, where around 28 Gueltas still harbour crocodiles (Shine *et al.*, 2001). We herein report those localities where the presence of this species was confirmed recently (see: Behra, 1994; Shine *et al.*, 2001 and Nickel, 2003 for updated information). Phylogenetic analyses (Schmitz *et al.*, 2003) indicate that West African populations currently considered *C. niloticus* correspond to *C. suchus* (Geoffroy, 1807) while *C. niloticus* is restricted to East Africa.

TESTUDINES
CHELONIIDAE

Caretta caretta (Linnaeus, 1758)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Baie du Cansado (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Baie du Lévrier (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Banc d'Arguin National Park; Cap Blanc (Bons & Geniez, 1996); Nouâdhibou (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Pointe des Coquillages (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Pointe des Crabes (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996).

COMMENTS: Bons & Geniez (1996) also reported the information of Maigret (1983). Arvy & Dia (1997) reported this species for most of all the coastal area of Mauritania.

Chelonia mydas (Linnaeus, 1758)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Baie d'Arguin (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Baie du l'Etoile (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Baie du Lévrier (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Banc d'Arguin National Park (Padial *et al.*, 2002); Cap Arguin (Maigret, 1975); Ile Marguerite (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Iouik (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Nouâdhibou (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Inchiri: El Mhâjirât (Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Jraïf (Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Trarza: Blaouakh (Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Campament 28 (Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Campament 65 (Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Nouakchott (Arvy *et al.*, 1996).

COMMENTS: Geniez & Bons (1996) cited this species for all the Cap Blanc area. Arvy & Dia (1997) reported this species for all the Mauritanian coast.

Eretmochelys imbricata (Linnaeus, 1766)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Iouik (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Nouâdhibou (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Trarza: Blaouakh (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Campament 65 (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); El Msid (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Nouakchott: Port of Nouakchott (Arvy *et al.*, 1996).

COMMENTS: Arvy & Dia (1997) also reported this species for the coastal area (Grand Plage).

Lepidochelys kempii (Garman, 1880)

DISTRIBUTION: Nouakchott: Port of Nouakchott (Arvy *et al.*, 1996; Arvy & Dia, 1997); Trarza: Campament 28 (Arvy *et al.*, 1996).

Lepidochelys olivacea (Eschscholtz, 1829)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Nouâdhibou (Villiers, 1958; Bons & Geniez, 1996); Nouâmghâr (Arvy & Dia, 1997).

DERMOCHELYIDAE

Dermochelys coriacea (Vandelli, 1761)

DISTRIBUTION: Dakhlet-Nouâdhibou: Baie de Cansado (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996; JMP); Baie de Etoile (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Baie du Repos (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Bahie du Lévrier (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996; Arvy & Dia, 1997); Plage SIGP (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996); Cap Timirist (Maigret, 1983; Arvy *et al.*, 1996).

COMMENTS: JMP and R. García Romo released an adult specimen accidentally trapped in an abandoned net in Cansado Bay, near Nouadhibou. Bons & Geniez reported the records of Maigret (1975, 1983) for Cap Blanc area.

EMYDIDAE

Mauremys leprosa (Scheweiger, 1812)

DISTRIBUTION: Adrar: without locality (Villiers, 1958; Le Berre, 1989; Geniez *et al.*, 2004); Tiris Zemmour: Idjil, near Fdërik (Villiers, 1958; Le Berre, 1989; Geniez *et al.*, 2004); near Western Sahara border (Loveridge & Williams, 1957).

COMMENTS: These localities are isolated wetlands in Saharan Mauritania. People of Fdërik mentioned that the only wetland of the region disappeared due to water pumping for iron extraction. This activity may have led to the extinction of this terrapin population. There is no recent record of this species for the country but its presence in the Adrar or adjacent areas is still hoped for. Nevertheless, Dekeyser & Villiers (1956) did not record this species there.

PELOMEDUSIDAE

Pelusios adansoni (Schweigger, 1812)

DISTRIBUTION: Senegal River (Iverson, 1992).

COMMENTS: no concrete record in known.

Pelomedusa subrufa (Bonnaterre, 1789)

DISTRIBUTION: Senegal River (Iverson, 1992)

COMMENTS: no concrete record is known.

TESTUDINIDAE

Geochelone sulcata (Miller, 1779)

DISTRIBUTION: Assaba: Kiffa (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Brakna: Aleg (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Bogue (Arvy *et al.*, 1997);

Guidimaka: Sélîbabi (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Nouakchott: Nouakchott (Joger, 1981; Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Tagant: Massif montagneux du Sud du Tagant (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Trarza: Amnéguir (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Boutlimit (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Hasseida (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Méderdra (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Parc National du Diawling et Dune littorale (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Rosso (Arvy *et al.*, 1997); Tiguent (Arvy *et al.*, 1997).

TRIONYCHIDAE

Cyclanorbis senegalensis (Duméril & Bibron, 1835)

DISTRIBUTION: Senegal River (Iverson, 1992; Joger & Lambert, 1996).

COMMENTS: no concrete record is known.

Trionyx triunguis (Forsk., 1775)

DISTRIBUTION: Senegal River (Iverson, 1992).

COMMENTS: no concrete record is known.

Discussion

Some of the species cited in the literature or in the Internet databases should be removed from the lists. For example, *Psammmodromus algirus* (Linnaeus, 1766) ranges from southern France to South Morocco (Bons & Geniez, 1996). The record for Mauritania without locality (see Welch, 1982) is surely an error and I therefore exclude this species from the list. *Saurodactylus brosetti* Bons & Pasteur, 1957, cited for the Banc d'Arguin (Mahe, 1985 in Geniez & Bons, 1996), was surely mistaken for *Tropicolotes tripolitanus* (Geniez & Bons, 1996). However, *S. brosetti* may occur in northern Mauritania since it has been cited for Zemmour and Tindouf (Geniez *et al.*, 2004). *Ptyodactylus hasselquistii hasselquistii* (Donndorff, 1798) was cited for Mauritania without locality (Welch, 1982). In a revision of this group, Heimes (1987) did not cite this species for the country and the nearest record in his distribution map corresponds to *P. h. ragazzi* from central Mali. Although the presence of *Ptyodactylus* is likely, I prefer to exclude this genus from the list until there is additional evidence of its presence in the country. Chabanaud (1917) cited *Tarentola delalandii* for Saharan Mauritania, a species that is restricted to the Canary Islands. Although we cannot discard an accidental reintroduction of this species in coastal Mauritania, I prefer to exclude this species from the list until confirmation. The record for *Typhlops punctatus* (Leach, 1819) by Wallach (2002) from the dry

savanna of southern Mauritania is a mistake (Wallach, pers. com.). This species has not been recorded for the country to date, although its presence is to be expected because it occurs in northern Senegal (Roux-Estève, 1974). *Malpolon monspessulanus* and *Macroprotodon cucullatus* (Geoffroy St. Hilaire, 1827) were cited by Boulenger (1919) based on collections from Trarza made by Audan (see Villiers, 1950), we consider these records as erroneous, as did Villiers (1950) when he tentatively assigned these records to southern Morocco. The presence of *Naja haje* (Linnaeus, 1758) is not confirmed although it is listed in the EMBL reptile database. Villiers (1950) considered the presence of this species very likely. It occurs in Senegal and Mali, and Chippaux (2001) also included Mauritania within the range of this species without giving any concrete record. Bons & Geniez (1996) and Geniez *et al.* (2004) cited this species for two localities in West Sahara, very close to the Mauritanian border. The absence of any concrete record for Mauritania is most likely due to a lack of sampling. *Pelusios castaneus* (Schweigger, 1812) is cited in the EMBL reptile database, but we were not able to locate any concrete record or reference for this species in Mauritania and, therefore, I tentatively exclude this species from the list. *Mabuya quinquetaeniata* (Lichtenstein, 1823) is listed in the WCMC web site for Mauritania without a concrete reference for corroboration. Nevertheless, this species inhabits adjacent areas in Mali (Joger & Lambert, 1996) and its presence in Mauritania is expected.

The reptile fauna of Mauritania is currently composed of 86 species belonging to 21 families (Table 1). Lacertidae and Colubridae are the most diverse families, and Agamidae, Gekkonidae, Scincidae or Viperidae are also well represented. Among the 80 continental species, 47.5% are Saharan, 33.8% Afrotropical, 16.2% Sahelian and 2.5% Mediterranean. The marine turtles form another important group, with six species. These data contrast with the 53 species (of which only 48 are valid) reported in the most complete and useful Internet database for reptiles (EMBL Reptile Database, 2006). Another database (WCMC, 2006) offers a list of 73 species (of which 65 are valid). The herpetological diversity of Mauritania is in urgent need of a thorough revision, as evidenced by the panorama of reptile diversity reported here.

Among the species expected to occur, at least nine may be found in Saharan environments, fourteen in the Sahelian savannah and two could have been potentially reintroduced. The expected species are as follows: a) Saharan species: *Uromastyx acanthinura*

Table 1.— Number and percentage of species for each family of Mauritanian reptiles.

Tabla 1.— Número y porcentaje de especies para cada familia de reptiles en Mauritania.

Family	Number of species	%
Colubridae	14	16,3
Lacertidae	13	15,1
Gekkonidae	10	11,6
Agamidae	7	8,1
Scincidae	6	7,0
Viperidae	6	7,0
Cheloniidae	5	5,8
Leptotyphlopidae	3	3,5
Elapidae	3	3,5
Varanidae	3	3,5
Atractaspididae	2	2,3
Chamaleonidae	2	2,3
Crocodylidae	2	2,3
Pelomedusidae	2	2,3
Trionychidae	2	2,3
Typhlopidae	1	1,2
Boidae	1	1,2
Dermochelyidae	1	1,2
Emydidae	1	1,2
Pythonidae	1	1,2
Testudinidae	1	1,2
TOTAL	86	100

Bell, 1825; *U. occidentalis* Mateo, Geniez, López-Jurado & Bons, 1998; *Ptyodactylus oudrii* Lataste, 1880; *P. ragazzi* (Andersson, 1898); *Saurodactylus brosetti* Bons & Pasteur, 1957; *Tarentola boehmei* Joger, 1984; *Sphenops boulengeri* (Anderson, 1896); *Macrovipera mauritanica* (Gray, 1849); *Naja haje* (Linnaeus, 1758); b) Sahelian and Afrotropical species: *Agama paragama* Grandison, 1956; *A. sankaranica* Chabanaud, 1918; *A. weiholzi* Wettstein, 1932; *Hemitheconyx caudicinctus* (Duméril, 1851); *Mabuya quinquetaeniata* (Sternfeld, 1917); *Dromophis praeornatus* (Schlegel, 1837); *Lycophidion albomaculatum* Steindachner 1870; *Philothamnus irregularis* (Leach, 1819); *Psammophis rukwae* Spawls, 1983; *Typhlops lineolatus* (Jan, 1864); *T. punctatus* (Leach, 1819); *Echis jogeni* Cherlin, 1990; *Kinixys belliana* (Lataste, 1886); c) introduced species: *Hemidactylus turcicus* (Linnaeus, 1758) and *Tarentola mauritanica* (Linnaeus, 1758).

In summary, more than one hundred reptiles may be present in Mauritania. These data confer on Mauritania a good position in reptile diversity. For example, Joger & Lambert (1997) reported 107 species for Mali, and 48 have been cited for Western Sahara (Geniez *et al.*, 2004). However, we are far from having a complete panorama of the reptile diversity in Mauritania. Most records come from a handful of scattered localities and vast areas remain unexplored. For example, huge Saharan areas in the northern and northeastern parts of the country, and great part of the Sahel savannas in the south, lack any record of reptiles. Moreover, these savannas are highly endangered due to intense wood harvesting (mainly for firewood) and intense agropastoral use. These factors, together with long droughts have quickly transformed the environment. Therefore, most efforts should be oriented toward the study of diversity in the Sahel. The study of isolated wetlands in the Sahara, occupied by a mixture of Saharan and relict Sahelian elements, is also of high relevance if we are to understand the desert/savannah dynamics driven by climatic changes.

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Appendix.— Reptile localities of Mauritania.**Apéndice.**— Localidades de los reptiles Mauritania.

LOCALITIES	COORDINATES		
Adrar			
Aggui	21°10'N, 13°07'W	Bahie du Lévrier	20°50'N, 17°24'W
Amogjar pass	20°32'N, 12°48'W	Banc d'Arguin, National Park	19°26'N, 16°19'W
Atar	20°31'N, 13°03'W	Birguendouz	21°36'34.3"N, 16°27'59.7"W
Ain Savra	19°32.416'N, 12°06.829'W	Boû Lanouâr	21°16.120'N, 16°31.950'W
Azougui	20°30'N, 13°10'W	Boû Lânoir-Inâl, between	
Ben Amira	21°13.765'N, 13°40.329'W		21°17.038'N, 15°08.371'W
Châr area	21°18'N, 11°00'W	Cap Arguin	20°33'32.2"N, 16°31'46.2"W
Chinguetti	20°27'N, 12°22'W	Cap Blanc	20°54'N, 17°04'W
Oued Choûm	21°17.050'N, 13°06.060'W	Cap Timirist	19°23'N, 16°32'W
Dahr Chinguetti	20°26.547'N, 12°49.407'W	El Aïouej	21°15'N, 16°40'W
E of Ouadane	20°59'N, 11°26'W	Inâl	21°17.165'N, 14°59.720'W
El Beyyed	21°27'N, 11°29'W	Iouïk	19°53.055'N, 16°17.696'W
El Gueldi	20°57.783'N, 13°11.002'W	La Güera	20°49'51.2"N, 17°5'14.9"W
Ez Zerga	20°22.412'N, 12°45.625'W	Mamghar	19°21.631'N, 16°30.674'W
Guelb er Richât	21°03'N, 11°15'W	Marzouba	21°01.490'N, 16°29.290'W
Guelta Hamdoun	20°20'N, 13°30'W	Nouâdhibou	20°55.183'N, 17°02.714'W
Guelta Molomhar	20°34'N, 13°07'W	Oued ech Chibka	20°36'5.2"N, 16°5'53.2"W
Ijâfen area (BM 1975.1398)	20°27.4'N, 8°48'W	Oued Khatt Atoui	20°04'12"N, 15°58'48"W
Iriji	20°31'N, 13°03'W approx.	Tafarit Cape	20°07'50"N, 16°15'41"W
Kanoal, Oued Séguelil	20°18.216'N, 13°11.837'W	Tanoudert	20°20'N, 16°02'W
Legleitât	19°59'N, 13°17'W	Tidra Island	19°35'95"N, 16°25'97"W
Ouadâne	20°50'N, 11°36'W	Timirist Cape	19°22'34.1"N, 16°32'22.3"W
Ouarâne	20°27.4'N, 8°48'W	Tmeimichat	21°14.281'N, 14°23.570'W
Oued Choûm	21°22.6'N, 12°58.6'W	50 km East of Boû Lanouâr, track	Nouadhibou-Choum
road Atar-Chinguetti via Ebnou Pass			21°17'N, 16°01'W
Tacarât area (BM 1975-1401)	20°33'N, 12°36'W	Gorgol	
Tasiast, Oglâ de Tamarat	20°44.5'N, 10°30'W	Kaedi	16°09'N, 13°30'W
Te-n-Zak pass, road Choum-Atar	21°02'N, 15°15'W	M'bout	16°1'41.8"N, 12°34'37.5"W
Terjît	20°44'N, 13°08'W	Guidimaka	
Tintane	20°15.578'N, 13°05.854'W	Lake Houi	15°28'N, 12°03'W
Zerga mountains, about 34 km WSW of Chinguetti	19°50'N, 13°00'W	Bouli	15°18'57.7"N, 11°48'0.3"W
44 km from Chinguetti on the road to Adrar, 19 km before the Nouatil Pass	20°19'11.6"N, 12°40'52"W	Sélibabi	15°9'39.9"N, 12°10'59.3"W
30 km E of Atar, road Atar-Chinguetti via Amogjar pass	20°32'45.2"N, 12°17'22.2"E	Hodh Ech Chargui	
50 km S of Choum, road Choum-Atar	20°34'N, 12°52'W	Adel Bagrou	8°02'N, 15°55'W
65 Km S of Atar	21°00'N, 13°09'W	Dendaré	16°17'12.1"N, 6°41'12.8"W
Assaba		Mahmûdê Lake	16°29.969'N, 7°42.911'W
Aïn El Ghairé	17°11.70'N, 12°14.92'W	Oualâta	17°17'47.5"N, 7°1'24.3"W
Bou Bleï'ine	17°07.564'N, 10°59.404'W	Timbedgha	16°14'41.4"N, 8°10'5.5"W
Bougari	16°32.034'N, 10°47.892'W	Hodh El Gharbi	
Foum El Cherat	16°30'35"N, 10°49'3"W	Ayoûn El Atroûs	16°39'41"N, 9°37'2.3"W
Guelta Mettraucha	16°33'48"N, 10°45'17"W	Chlim	9°05'N, 16°42'W
Guelta Oumm Lebare	16°29.472'N, 10°49.822'W	Foulania	15°31'N, 9°49'W
Kiffa	16°36.850'N, 11°24.930'W	Oumm El Khez	17°3.705'N, 10°57.278'W
Louths	17°14.40'N, 12°06.04'W	Tâmcheppet	17°14'50.6"N, 10°40'23"W
Brakna		Timbedgha-Ayoûn El Atroûs, between	16°26.890'N, 9°14.690'W
Achram	17°21.01'N, 12°23.98'W	Tintâne	16°23.522'N, 10°10.405'W
Aleg	17°3'12"N, 13°54'58"W	Zoueina	15°42.689'N, 9°39.906'W
Boguê	16°35'36"N, 14°16'28.8"W	Inchiri	
Dakhlet Nouâdhibou		Agneïtir	19°21'3.5"N, 16°15'25.3"W
Aghoueyyt and Inâl, between	21°17.038'N, 15°08.371'W	Agneïtir, Elb Aouarouâr, 30 km from Jreïf	19°11'13"N, 16°19'25"W
Baie de Cansado	20°51'16.6"N, 17°1'32.8"W	Agneïtir, Manate	19°26'66"N, 16°16'95"W
		Akchâr	19°55.059'N, 15°58.775'W
		Akjoujt	19°44.636'N, 14°23.139'W
		Azeffâl	20°05'N, 15°47'W
		Bennichchâb	19°27.996'N, 15°25.663'W
		Boudarga	20°30.096'N, 14°53.541'W
		Châmi	20°03.508'N, 15°52.915'W
		Echekraf	19°36.450'N, 16°0.821'W
		El Mhaijrat	19°01.64'N, 16°13.92'W
		Jraïf	19°15.98'N, 16°28.42'W
		Tenbrahim	19°37.762'N, 15°56.764'W
		Tijirît	19°38.777'N, 16°0.821'W
		Nouakchott	
		Nouakchott	18°4'51.1"N, 15°58'55.55"W
		Port of Nouakchott	18°06.30'N, 16°01.55'W
		Tagant	
		Adâfer Meridional	19°30'N, 10°00'W
		Atar-Tidjikja, between	20°22.412'N, 12°45.625'W
		Guelta Fanar	18°0.951'N, 12°10.498'W
		Guelta Matmata	17°53'N, 12°07'W
		Lekhcheb	18°30.928'N, 10°0.769'W
		Tichît	18°26.380'N, 9°29.666'W
		Tidjikja	18°33'N, 11°25'W
		Zig	18°34.487'N, 9°48.379'W
		Tiris Zemmour	
		Aghreïjt area	21°47'N, 12°07'W
		Bir Moghreïn/Fort Tringuet	25°13'38.1"N, 11°34'45.3"W
		Dayet el Am	25°56'N, 8°25'W
		Hasi el Fogra	27°04'N, 8°21'W
		Fdêrik (Fort Gouraud)	22°41.659'N, 12°42.912'W
		Northern Tagenzé, Ouan n'Namour	21°22'51"N, 11°24'36"W
		Road N50 near the Sahara Border	27°14'N, 8°25'W
		Toûâjil	22°10'17.2"N, 12°40'18.2"W
		Tourîne area	22°25'N, 11°52'W
		Zemmour	25°3'50.4"N, 11°57'28.1"W
		Zouérat	22°44.00'N, 12°28.00'W
		Zouérat-Bir Moghreïn, between	24°46'N, 11°46'W
		Trarza	
		Akreïdil, 50 km NE Nouakchott	18°25'55"N, 15°35'58"W
		Aleib Ataf	18°45'31"N, 16°6'29'W
		Bafrechîé	16°50'50.9"N, 15°29'46.5"W
		Blaouakh	18°30.98'N, 16°04.45'W
		Boutlimit	17°32'41"N, 14°41'56"W
		Campament 28	17°41.55'N, 16°02.61'W
		Campament 65	17°31.35'N, 16°04.93'W
		Chott Boul	16°38'00"N, 16°26'40"W
		Dara	16°36.323'N, 16°7.969'W
		Dar es Salam	16°36.158'N, 16°05.491'W
		Diama-Rosso, road	16°33'N, 16°05'W
		El Hazra	18°58'43"N, 16°12'07"W
		El Msid	18°41.18'N, 16°06.09'W
		Grand Plage	17°32'N, 16°04'W
		Hasseï Gâboûn	18°16'22"N, 15°51'01"W
		Keur Macène	16,23'N, 16,55'W
		Lekeseyr, 7.5 km N of Muri	16°28'54"N, 16°27'42"W
		N'Diago, 20 Km North of Rosso	16°26'16"N, 16°28'00"W
		R'kiz	16°55.110'N, 15°14.432'W
		Tamzakt	16°30.880'N, 15°48.784'W
		Tanit	17°27'48"N, 16°09'00"W
		Tiguent	18°36'50"N, 16°06'50"W
		Tiouilit	17°16'0.4"N, 16°1'42.3"W
			18°52.311'N, 16°10.475'W