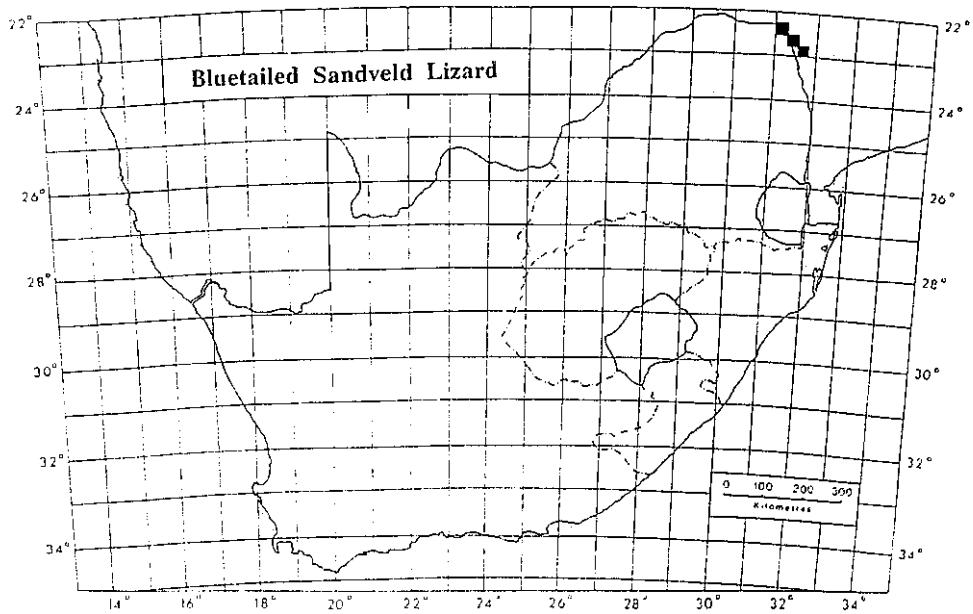


Map 90. Distribution of the webfooted gecko (*Palmatogecko rangei*).



Map 91. Distribution of the bluetailed sandveld lizard (*Nucras caesicaudata*).

BLUETAILED SANDVELD LIZARD
Bloustert-sandveldakkedie

International status: NOT LISTED
South African status: PERIPHERAL

Nucras caesicaudata Broadley 1972 Class: Reptilia, Suborder: Sauria, Family: Lacertidae

Nucras caesicaudata Broadley, 1972. A review of the *Nucras tessellata* group (Sauria: Lacertidae). *Arnoldia Rhod.* 5(20): 21. Type locality: Sazale pan, Gona-re-zhou, south-eastern Zimbabwe.

SUMMARY

Status: Peripheral. A small lizard only found within our limits in the sandveld of the north-eastern Kruger National Park.

Research: Poor. A study of its habits and habitat requirements should be considered.

SPECIES DATA

Identification: A small *Nucras* (maximum size 202 mm TL) with transversely enlarged plates under the forearm. Colour: Characteristically seven pale longitudinal stripes down the back. Tail powder blue.

Distribution: The species only occurs in the sandveld of the north-eastern Kruger National Park. Outside our limits it occurs in south-eastern Zimbabwe and more extensively along the Mozambique plain.

Habitat and Ecology: This species is found in areas with deep sand and has been observed feeding on termites (Pienaar *et al.*, 1983).

Breeding: No data available - presumably oviparous.

Remarks: A little known species.

CONSERVATION

Status: The species occupies a very limited distribution in South Africa. No details of the

population are known. Its main range appears to be in Mozambique.

Threats: None known as it is found in remote areas where human disturbance is minimal.

Existing Conservation Measures: It is offered some protection under the Transvaal Provincial Ordinance and its total distribution in South Africa is within the borders of the Kruger National Park.

Breeding Potential in Captivity: Not known. None in captivity.

Recommended Conservation Measures: More detail of its habitat and habits needed.

Remarks: A rare peripheral species with a very restricted range in South Africa. Status appears assured. Not listed in previous Red Data Book (McLachlan, 1978).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Taxonomy: Broadley, 1972; Pienaar, 1966; Pienaar *et al.*, 1983.

Conservation: Pienaar, 1966; Pienaar *et al.*, 1983.

Account prepared by: N. H. G. Jacobsen, Transvaal Nature Conservation Division.