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LACERTILIA


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GEHYRA MUTILATA (Mutilated Gecko), INDONESIA: KRAKATAU ISLANDS: Coastal forest, east shore, Panjang Island (06°05'5, 105°25'E), 2 April 2001. Mark O'Shea. Collected from under the bark of Casuarina tree. Rawlinson Krakatau Collection at Museum of Victoria, Melbourne, photographic voucher (NMV D 72413). Verified by Hitoshi Ota. The volcanic eruption of 27 August 1883 extinguished all life from Krakatau and the neighboring islands of Sertung and Panjang (Thornton 1996, The Destruction and Reassembly of an Island Ecosystem. Harvard Univ. Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, x + 346 pp.). All that remained of the original Krakatau was the southern half of Rakata volcano, a small outcrop to the north called Bootsmants, and the neighbouring islands of Panjang and Sertung, with a 200-m deep submarine caldera separating them. In 1930, a new island, Anak Krakatau, arose in the northern section of the Krakatau caldera.