

Noteworthy Records of Amphibians and Reptiles from Zacatecas, México

The herpetofauna of Zacatecas is relatively poorly known judging by the few studies that have been published for the state. To date, 18 species of amphibians and 59 species of reptiles have been documented from Zacatecas (CONABIO 2006). Other papers listing species in Zacatecas include those by Smith and Taylor (1945, 1948, 1950), Baker et al. (1967), Wilson and McCranie (1979), and Baker et al. (1980). To help rectify this deficit in distributional information, we conducted field herpetological surveys in 2008 within the municipality of Atolinga, and during 2009 in the southern part of the state in the municipalities of Mezquital del Oro, Trinidad García de la Cadena, and Moyahua de Estrada (Fig. 1). Our collecting efforts produced nine new state and three new municipality records; all are presented herein. All voucher specimens and photographs were deposited in the Museo de Zoología, Facultad de Ciencias, UNAM (MZFC). All vouchers were collected by the first two authors and identifications verified by Luis Canseco Marquez. The map datum for locality coordinates was WGS84. Standard English names are those suggested by Liner and Casas-Andreu (2008).

ANURA — FROGS

RHINELLA MARINA (Cane Toad). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N of Mezquital del Oro (21.22769°N, 103.37003°W), 1230 m elev. 19 April 2009. MZFC-ID 014. New state record and a ca. 56 km N range extension from closest reported locality north of Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos and Huerta-Ortega 2004). The toad was found in tropical deciduous forest.

SMILISCA FODIENS (Lowland Burrowing Treefrog). MUNICIPALITY OF GARCÍA DE LA CADENA: 2 km S of García de la Cadena (21.18928°N, 103.47519°W), 1880 m elev. 31 August 2008. MZFC 23703. New state record, and a ca. 50 km NE (air line) range extension from the closet known locality at La Magdalena, Jalisco (Duellman 2001). This species was commonly observed under rocks in tropical deciduous forest.

HYPOPACHUS VARIOLOSUS (Sheep Frog). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N of Mezquital del Oro (21.22769°N, 103.37003°W), 1230 m elev. 19 April 2009. MZFC 23716. Municipality of Atolinga, Ojo de Agua, 2 km W Los Adobes (21.74808°N,

103.49856°W), 2151 m elev. 28 July 2008. MZFC 23696. New state record, filling a distributional gap between localities at Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos and Huerta-Ortega 2004), and in the Municipality of Calvillo, Aguascalientes (Vásquez-Díaz and Quintero-Díaz 2005). The frogs were found in tropical deciduous forest and oak forest, respectively.

LITHOBATES NEOVOLCANICUS (Transverse Volcanic Leopard Frog). MUNICIPALITY OF GARCÍA DE LA CADENA: 2 km S of García de la Cadena (21.19858°N, 103.47378°W), 1770 m elev. 31 August 2008. MZFC 23699. Municipality of Atolinga, Cerrito Pelón (21.82803°N, 103.41067°W), 2067 m elev. 26 October 2008. MZFC 23708. New state records, filling a distributional gap between localities north of Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos and Huerta-Ortega 2004), and in the Municipality of Calvillo, Aguascalientes (Vásquez-Díaz and Quintero-Díaz 2005). The frogs were found in grassland and aquatic vegetation, respectively.

LITHOBATES PSILONOTA (Smooth-backed Frog). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N of Mezquital del Oro (21.22744°N, 103.16689°W), 1255 m elev. 17 May 2009. MZFC 23721. New state record, and a ca. 56 km N range extension from the closet known locality north of Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos and Huerta-Ortega 2004). It also fills a distributional gap between records in Aguascalientes and Jalisco (Hillis et al. 1984; Webb 2001). The frog was found in tropical deciduous forest near a water source.

SQUAMATA — LIZARDS

CTENOSAURA PECTINATA (Western Spiny-tailed Iguana). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N Mezquital del Oro (21.22744°N, 103.16689°W), 1255 m elev. 17 May 2009. MZFC 23722. New municipality record. Previously known in Zacatecas from Santa Rosa, about 20 km (air line) to the northwest (Baker et al. 1967). The specimen was found in tropical deciduous forest.

SCELOPORUS CLARKII (Clark's Spiny Lizard). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N of Mezquital del Oro (21.22769°N, 103.37003°W), 1230 m elev. 16 May 2009. MZFC 23719. New municipality record. Previously known in Zacatecas from Santa Rosa, about 20 km (air line) to the northwest (Baker et al. 1967). The specimen was found in tropical deciduous forest.

SCELOPORUS UTIFORMIS (Cope's Large-scaled Spiny Lizard). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N of Mezquital del Oro (21.22769°N, 103.37003°W), 1230 m elev. 19 April 2009. MZFC 23717–718. New state record, with the closest previous known locality being from the Rio Santiago near Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos and Huerta-Ortega 2004). The specimen was found in tropical deciduous forest.

UROSAURUS BICARINATUS (Tropical Tree Lizard). MUNICIPALITY OF ATOLINGA: 3 km E of Cerrito Pelón (21.84442°N, 103.41564°W), 2120 m elev. 28 September 2008. MZFC 23705. New municipality record, and a range extension of ca. 73 km (air line) N of a

IVÁN TRINIDAD AHUMADA-CARRILLO¹

OCTAVIO VÁZQUEZ-HUIZAR¹

JOEL VÁZQUEZ-DÍAZ²

URI OMAR GARCÍA-VÁZQUEZ^{3*}

¹Centro Universitario de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias, Carretera a Nogales Km. 15.5. Las Agujas, Nextipac, Zapopan, Jalisco, México

²Instituto de Investigación para las Ciencias Ambientales, Fac. de Ciencias de la Tierra y de la Vida de la Universidad del Medio Ambiente. Calz. Revolución Mexicana No. 12 Col. El Paraíso, Guadalupe, Zacatecas C.P. 98613

³Laboratorio de Herpetología, Museo de Zoología, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, A.P. 70-399, C. P. 04510, México, D.F., México

*Corresponding autor; e-mail: urigarca@gmail.com

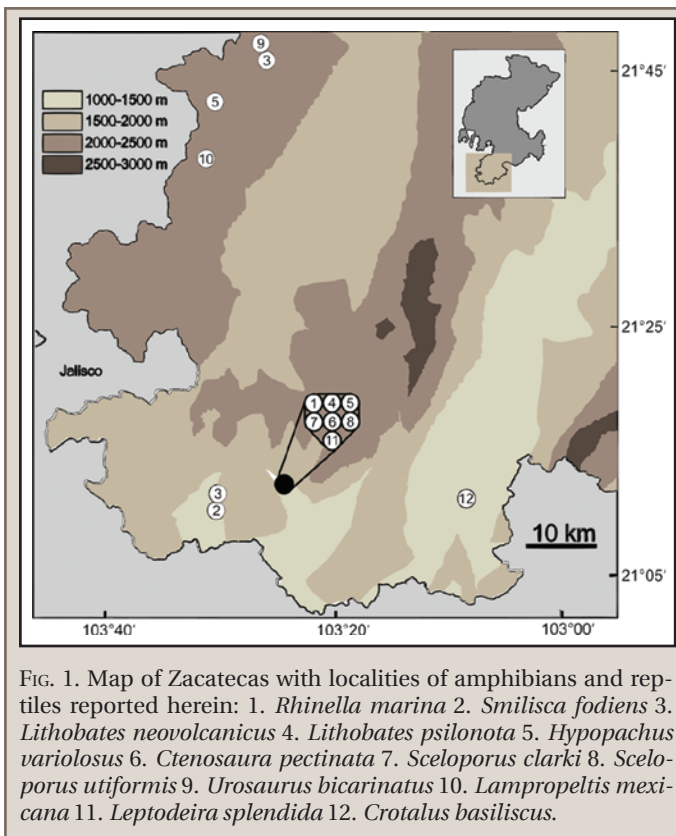


FIG. 1. Map of Zacatecas with localities of amphibians and reptiles reported herein: 1. *Rhinella marina* 2. *Smilisca fodiens* 3. *Lithobates neovolcanicus* 4. *Lithobates psilonota* 5. *Hypopachus variolosus* 6. *Ctenosaura pectinata* 7. *Sceloporus clarki* 8. *Sceloporus utiformis* 9. *Urosaurus bicarinatus* 10. *Lampropeltis mexicana* 11. *Leptodeira splendida* 12. *Crotalus basiliscus*.

previously known locality in the state at Santa Rosa (Baker et al. 1967). The specimen was found in oak forest.

SQUAMATA — SNAKES

LAMPROPELTIS MEXICANA (San Luis Potosí Kingsnake). MUNICIPALITY OF ATOLINGA, LA CIENEGA: (21.66683°N, 103.51244°W), 2328 m elev. 29 September 2008. MZFC 23706. New state record, extending the known range in Zacatecas ca. 106 km SW from the closest known locality at Arroyo los Timones, 1 km S of Santa Rosa (Quintero-Díaz et al. 2001), and fills an east-west gap between the known localities in Aguascalientes (Vásquez-Díaz and Quintero-Díaz, 2005) and Nayarit (Hansen et al. 2011). The snake was found in oak forest.

LEPTODEIRA SPLENDIDA (Splendid Cat-eyed Snake). MUNICIPALITY OF MEZQUITAL DEL ORO: 1 km N of Mezquital del Oro (21.22744°N, 103.16689°W), 1255 m elev. 17 May 2009. MZFC 23723. New state record, extending the known range ca. 42 km N from the closet known locality north of Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos et al. 2003). The specimen was found in tropical deciduous forest.

CROTALUS BASILISCUS (Mexican West Coast Rattlesnake). MUNICIPALITY OF MOYAHUA DE ESTRADA: 2.25 km N (by road) of Santa Rosa (21.21256°N, 103.18183°W), 1148 m elev. 7 August 2009. MZFC-ID 013. New state record, with the closest known locality being 102 km S from Rio Santiago in Guadalajara, Jalisco (Ponce-Campos and Huerta-Ortega 2004). The specimen was found in tropical deciduous forest.

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