

Comp. Psychol., 25:7–125). Secondly, the biting behind the back of the neck is a behavior used commonly in lizards to immobilize the female if it tries to escape (Crews 1987, *op. cit.*). These sexual behaviors presented by *A. poncensis* are important to be described in more detail since the courtship attempts that result in copulation are the ones that ensure the viability of the species.

ALBERTO C. CRUZ-MENDOZA, Department of Environmental Science, University of Puerto Rico -Río Piedras Campus, P.O. Box 23360, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00931-3360 (e-mail: alberto.cruz@upr.edu); **JOHANN D. CRESPO-ZAPATA**, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico -Humacao Campus, Call Box 860, Humacao, Puerto Rico 00792; **ELIACIM AGOSTO-TORRES**, Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico -Mayaguez Campus, Call Box 9000, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico 00681-9000.

ASPIDOSCELIS GUTTATUS (Mexican Racerunner). ARBOREAL BEHAVIOR. Many species of typically ground-dwelling lizards and snakes lack an arboreal psychology, but are anatomically capable of climbing trees. Species that occasionally stretch their habitat dimensions at varying ontogenetic stages to include arboreal forays are noteworthy (e.g., the lizard *Cnemidophorus (Aspidoscelis) tigris* [Anderson 1993. In Wright and Vitt [eds.]. Biology of Whiptail Lizards, pp. 83–114. Oklahoma Mus. Nat. Hist., Norman, Oklahoma] and the snakes *Bothrops alternatus* [Entiauspe-Neto 2019. Herpetol. Rev. 50:149–150] and *B. moojeni* [Ferraz et al. 2019. Herpetol. Rev. 50:150]). Species of *Aspidoscelis* (family Teiidae) are typically diurnal and ground-dwelling, even though they are anatomically well equipped to climb. *Aspidoscelis guttatus* (Mexican Racerunner), which has been reported from several states in southern Mexico (Duellman and Wellman 1960. Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Michigan 11:1–81), is a ubiquitous large-bodied species in the Pacific lowlands of the state of Oaxaca (Mata-Silva et al. 2015. Mesoam. Herpetol. 2:1–62). Noteworthy behaviors reported for this species have included drinking water from sources provided by humans for other animals (Mata-González et al. 2016. Mesoam. Herpetol. 3:483–484), and seasonal consumption of emerging winged termites (Walker et al. 2019. Herpetol. Rev. 50:568–569). We here add to the knowledge of noteworthy behaviors for this species.

We recorded observations on *A. guttatus* in May and June 2015 at Paja Blanca, Municipality of San Pedro Huamelula, Oaxaca, Mexico (15.92384°N, 95.73852°W; WGS 84; ca. 20 m elev.). Numerous individuals of this species were routinely observed as



FIG. 1. Young adult male *Aspidoscelis guttatus* that had climbed to a position ca. 100 cm up a derelict rough-barked tree (though not as a reaction to observers) at Paja Blanca in Oaxaca, Mexico.

they were basking, foraging, feeding, interacting with other lizard species (Walker et al. 2019, *op. cit.*), and/or seeking mates typically either at or near ground level. These lizards have well developed claws enabling them to dig for prey and to routinely utilize slightly elevated structures within a complex assortment of substrate components and litter. We observed a young adult male *A. guttatus*, identified based on color pattern, which was naturally positioned ca. 100 cm up a derelict rough-barked tree within a lowland forest (Fig. 1). The individual was clearly stabilized in the tree by clawed fore- and hind feet. Whether this arboreal foray served the purpose of foraging, basking, or escape behavior (though not from the observers) was open to conjecture. However, even a vertical inclination of a short distances would greatly increase the habitat dimensions and resources available to an individual. To place this observation in perspective, JMW has observed thousands of lizards of the genus *Aspidoscelis* in Mexico and the United States without ever observing one that had climbed to the level in a tree as reported in this note. However, the remarkable and frequent presence of *A. gularis* on granite boulders up to 2.5 m in height in Johnston County, Oklahoma, was reported by Walker et al. 1986 (Southwest. Nat. 31:405–408).

JAMES M. WALKER, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701, USA (e-mail: jmwalker@uark.edu); **MICHAEL E. KARTJE**, **JEFFREY P. CORNEIL**, and **CHAD E. MONTGOMERY**, Biology Department, Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri 63051, USA.

CRYPTOBLEPHARUS PANNOSUS (Ragged Snake-eyed Skink). TAIL TRIFURCATION. *Cryptoblepharus pannosus* (Horner 2007. The Beagle. Records of the Museum and Art Galleries of the Northern Territory, Supplement 3:21–198) is a species of small lizard of the family Scincidae. It occurs in a variety of habitats throughout eastern Australia, west of the Great Dividing Range and north of the Murray River, where it is usually observed in wooded environments (Horner 2007, *op. cit.*). Here, we report a relatively rare lizard tail malformation recorded for the first time in this species.

On the 17 April 2019 at ca. 1030 h AEDT near Reefton, New South Wales, Australia (34.249°S, 147.416°E), LR observed a *C. pannosus* that had a trifurcate tail. However, it escaped before a photo could be taken, and was not able to be found. The following day, at ca. 0900 h, it was observed 35 m away, in the area we had originally observed it the day before. Several images were taken (Fig. 1), over the course of 10 min, as the lizard moved across the pile of firewood it lived in. The lizard was sighted once more in the same location, in the afternoon of 20 April 2019, although no further images were collected. It was not able to be captured at any point, so no further testing was able to be conducted. The lizard did not appear to be suffering any mobility or health issues as compared to the other skinks observed in the area. Measurements of the specimen were performed by zooming in on images of the lizard so that the backdrop was life-size. Measurements were as follows: 35 mm SVL, 35 mm from the base of the tail to the branching point, 6 mm left tail, 8 mm middle tail, 11 mm right tail. The longest of these tail tips was observed to be flexible (Fig. 1), but the other two demonstrated no flexibility. Although the longest of the rigid tips extends straight out from the branching point, the shortest exhibits a bend of ca. 120° at its tip.

It is uncommon to find skinks or other lizards with three or more tails, although such lizards have been reported from Australia and other parts of the world (Broadley 1977. Occas. Pap. Natl. Mus. South Rhod. B Nat. Sci. 6:45–79; Bates 1990. African Herp



FIG. 1. A) *Cryptoblepharus pannosus* sunning itself on a log in New South Wales, Australia; B) detail of the trifurcate tail.

News. 14:19–22; Wilson 2012. Australian Lizards: A Natural History. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Victoria. 208 pp.; Homan 2015. The Victoria Naturalist 132:12–15; Koleska and Jablonski 2015. Ecol. Montenegrina. 3:26–28). Such malformation is well known and described in a variety of cases (e.g., Bates 1990, *op. cit.*; Jablonski 2016. IRCF Rept. Amphib. 23:171–172). However, this report increases the number of species where tail trifurcation is known. The occurrence of tail malformation may be underreported because they often affect survival, fitness, movement, and antipredator strategies (Bates 1990, *op. cit.*). This study was supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency under the contract no. APVV-15-0147.

DANIEL JABLONSKI, Department of Zoology, Comenius University in Bratislava, Ilkovičova 6, Mlynská dolina, 842 15 Bratislava, Slovakia (e-mail: daniel.jablonski@balcanica.cz); **LACHLAN REICHSTEIN**, Independent Researcher (e-mail: lachstein28@gmail.com).

DACTYLOA PUNCTATA (Amazon Green Anole). DIET. To know the diet of a species is fundamental to understand its trophic position, besides providing indications about its abiotic and biotic interactions (Simmons et al. 2005. Herpetologica 61:124–134), therefore informing conservation strategies. The knowledge of the natural history of *Dactyloa punctata* is incipient and information about its diet is lacking. The species is known to include ants and orthopterans in its diet (Vitt et al. 2003. J. Herpetol. 37:276–285), but specific information prey species is absent. In the central Amazon they are arboreal lizards, living on trunks, stems, and canopies having a restricted niche breadth (Vitt et al. 1999. Oikos 87:286–294).



FIG. 1. *Dactyloa punctata* feeding on the ant species *Cephalotes atratus* in Sergipe, Brazil.

On 20 February 2014 we observed a specimen of *D. punctata* feeding on ants (Fig. 1) in an Atlantic Rainforest remnant in eastern Sergipe (10.3223°S, 37.0327°W; SAD 69). The lizard was parallel to an ant trail and consumed an individual *Cephalotes atratus* at 0930 h, located by its side. *Cephalotes atratus* is an arboreal ant species with a broad distribution in the neotropics and is found in a variety of habitats, including urban areas (Kempf 1951. Rev. Entomol. 22:1–244; www.antweb.org; 14 Mar 2019). Ant specimens were collected and deposited at the Mirmecology Laboratory, Research Center of Cacau (CEPEC), CEPLAC, Ilhéus, Bahia (CPDC 5738). The consumption of *C. atratus* indicates trophic plasticity of *D. punctata* in the Atlantic rainforest. We hypothesize that *C. atratus* is a major item in the diet of *D. punctata* because this ant is also arboreal and widely distributed.

MARCELO CESAR LIMA PERES, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Planejamento Ambiental da Universidade Católica do Salvador (UCSal), Bahia, Brazil (e-mail: marcelo.peres@pro.ucs.br); **TÉRCIO DA SILVA MELO**, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ecologia e Biodiversidade da Universidade Federal da Bahia, Bahia, Brazil; **DANILO COUTO FERREIRA**, Biocore Tecnologia e Soluções Ambientais LTDA. Salvador, Bahia, Brazil; **MAGNO LIMA TRAVASSOS DE OLIVEIRA**, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ecologia e Biodiversidade da Universidade Federal da Bahia, Bahia, Brazil; **KÁTIA REGINA BENATI**, Programa de Pós-Graduação em Planejamento Ambiental da Universidade Católica do Salvador (UCSal), Bahia, Brazil; **JACQUES HUBERT CHARLES DELABIE**, Laboratório de Mirmecologia, Centro de Pesquisas do Cacau (CEPEC), CEPLAC, Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil

GLAUCOMASTIX ITABAIANENSIS. TAIL BIFURCATION. Tail bifurcation is known to occur in multiple families, including Aniguidae (Conzende et al. 2013. Herpetol. Rev. 44:145–146), Gekkonidae (Kumbar et al. 2011. Herpetol. Rev. 42:49), Lacertidae (Dudek and Ekner-Grzyb 2014. Nat. Slo. 16:65–66; Koleska and Jablonski 2015. Ecol. 3:1893–1899), and Teiidae (Pelegri and Leão 2016. Cuad. Herpetol. 30:21–23). *Glaucomastix itabaiensis* is a diurnal teiid lizard. This species is endemic to the “restinga” ecosystem sand dune habitat distributed from the Municipality of Jandaíra in Bahia to Pirambu Municipality in Sergipe, Brazil (Xavier and Dias 2015. Herpetol. Rev. 46:430–431; Rosário et al. 2019. Zootaxa 4624:451–477).