

The size of hatchlings is not known, however, the four subadults (August $n = 3$, September $n = 1$) may have been born in the early months of the year as reported for *L. curtus* (Kraus, 2007).

REFERENCE

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First country records for *Urotheca decipiens* and *Urotheca pachyura* and range extensions of *Urotheca guentheri* in Nicaragua

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Although the number of amphibian and reptile species reported for Nicaragua is lower when compared to other Central American countries, efforts to revert this situation have been increasing during the last decade. Here, we report the first country records of the collared glass-tail snake (*Urotheca decipiens*) and the Costa Rican glass-tail snake (*Urotheca pachyura*), as well as range extensions for the striped glass-tail snake (*Urotheca guentheri*). These findings confirm the suspected presence of the former two species and increase the country distribution of the latter.

The herpetofauna from Central America has

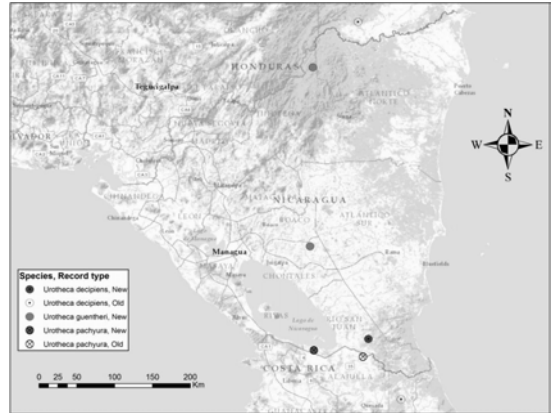


Figure 1. Map of Nicaragua showing the location of new and closest, old records for three species of *Urotheca*.

attracted the attention of many biologists since the 1950's, making this a well explored area. However, exploration in Nicaragua has proven difficult, causing the number of amphibian and reptile species reported for this country to be lower when compared to neighboring countries (Khöler, 2001; Savage, 2002; Ruiz & Buitrago, 2003). Although many species are suspected to occur in Nicaragua, their presence has not yet been confirmed (Sunyer Mac Lennan, 2009) or only a few records are available (HerpNet, 2011). This is the case for snakes of the genus *Urotheca* (Squamata, Colubridae, Dipsadinae), which is composed of 10 species (Savage, 2002), with only two having been recorded in Nicaragua (*U. guentheri* and *U. euryzona*) and two more expected to occur there (*U. pachyura* and *U. decipiens*). Here, we report the first records of the Costa Rican glass-tail snake, *U. pachyura*, and the collared glass-tail snake, *U. decipiens* for Nicaragua. We also report two further records that extend the distribution of the striped glass-tail snake, *U. guentheri*, within Nicaragua.

On 12 August 2005 an adult individual of *U. pachyura* was found at Los Guatuzos Ecological Centre (11°01'50" N, 85°03'12" W, 41 m a.s.l.), Municipality of San Carlos, Río San Juan Department, Nicaragua (Figure 1). This individual (Figure 2a) was found by Marco D. Barquero during a field course and later released at its point of capture. Photographs were deposited (as



Figure 2. Adult specimens of: (A) *U. pachyura* observed at Los Guatuzos Ecological Centre; (B) *U. decipiens* found at El Quebracho Wildlife Reserve; and *U. guentheri* found at Bosawás Biosphere Reserve, Jinotega Department (C) and Santo Domingo, Chontales Department (D), Nicaragua.

vouchers) in the collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History (catalog numbers USNM Herp Images 2744-2749). This specimen represents the first country record for this species, which extends its distribution 60 km to the northwest from the closest Costa Rican record (Museum of Zoology, University of Costa Rica, catalog number UCR-5933).

On 08 September 2009 an adult female of *U. decipiens* was found at El Quebracho Wildlife Reserve (11°09'58" N, 84°24'21" W, 60 m a.s.l.), Municipality of El Castillo, Río San Juan Department, Nicaragua (Figure 1). The snake (570 mm snout vent-length [SVL], Figure 2b) was

collected during a field trip sponsored by Fundación del Río and deposited in the herpetological collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley (catalog number MVZ-267438). This specimen represents the first country record for this species, which extends its distribution 100 km northwards from the closest Costa Rican record (Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, catalog number USNM-219971) and 450 km southwards from the nearest known locality in Honduras (McCranie et al., 2003).

Finally, on 03 December 2008 an adult specimen of *U. guentheri* (Figure 2c) was observed at the Bosawás Biosphere Reserve (14°21'46" N,

85°03'48" W, 283 m a.s.l.), Jinotega Department, Nicaragua (Figure 1). Another adult specimen (female, 700 mm SVL, Figure 2d) of *U. guentheri*, however, was found on 21 July 2011 at Santo Domingo (12°15'39" N, 85°05'50" W, 375 m a.s.l.), Chontales Department, Nicaragua (Figure 1). Both specimens were found by Milton Salazar S., with the latter deposited in the herpetological collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley (catalog number MVZ-267439). These specimens extend the distribution of this species to central (200 km) and northern (400 km) areas of the country, since the species was previously reported unambiguously from only one southeastern locality (Cerro El Gigante, Río San Juan Department, see Khöler, 2001).

This report contributes to confirm the presence and expand the distribution of secretive species such those of the genus *Urotheca*; for which only a handful of specimens are available (HerpNet, 2011), increasing both the number of reptile species and individuals collected in Nicaragua. Recent efforts to explore different areas of the country (Sunyer Mac Lennan, 2009; Barquero et al., 2010) have been adding to the number of species of herpetofauna, although many sites remain poorly or completely unexplored. Therefore, more exploration is still required to complete a species list for the country; very basic information that can be used by conservationists and decision-makers.

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Distributional range of the poorly known *Liolaemus tacnae* (Shreve 1941)

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Liolaemus is a large genus of lizards, subdivided into two subgenera: *Liolaemus* (sensu stricto) and *Eulaemus* (Laurent, 1983), each of which has been divided into several groups. *L. tacnae* Shreve 1941 was described based on three specimens