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# Geographic Distribution: Hemidactylus frenatus (Common House Gecko)

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Arlington (UTADC 9427–9430; photo voucher). This site consists of gravel parking areas, extensive piles of oyster shells, a number of concrete highway barricades, grasses, and shrubby vegetation, and neighbors a shrimp-trawler marina and public boat launch. Green Anoles (*Anolis carolinensis*) and Mediterranean Geckos (*Hemidactylus turcicus*) are present at the site (BJA, pers. obs.). Parish record update (Boundy and Carr 2017. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Louisiana*. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 386 pp.). There were no previous geographic records for Plaquemines Parish although bordering parishes (Jefferson, Orleans, and Saint Bernard) have records. The previous records are concentrated in the New Orleans metropolitan area, while this Plaquemines Parish observation is in a sparsely populated area ca. 84 km SE of New Orleans and ca. 32 km NW of the Mississippi River Delta, between the Mississippi River and Barataria Bay. This observation is ca. 85 km from an Orleans Parish record (Louisiana Museum of Natural History, Louisiana State University [LSUMZ] 81976) and ca. 96 km from a Jefferson Parish record (LSUMZ 47958).

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**COLEONYX SWITAKI** (Switak's Banded Gecko). USA: CALIFORNIA: IMPERIAL CO.: Fish Creek Mountains (33.01668°N, 116.03752°W; WGS 84), 85 m elev. 3 May 2019. A. Mills, S. Murray, E. Dugan, T. Henry, and G. Henry. Verified by L. Lee Grismer. La Sierra University Digital Photograph Collection (LSUDPC 10973; photo voucher). At 2216 h we observed an adult male *C. switaki* foraging in a boulder-strewn arroyo cut through a steep, rocky canyon. First record for this mountain range, bridging a distribution gap between populations in the Coyote Mountains, Imperial County, California (Fritts et al. 1982. *J. Herpetol.* 16:39–52; Dugan 2008. *In* Jones and Lovich [eds.], *Lizards of the American Southwest*, pp. 308–311. Rio Nuevo Publishers, Tucson, Arizona.) and Yaqui Pass (CA Highway S-3), San Diego County, California (Fritts et al. 1982, *op. cit.*; Grismer 2001. *Gekko* 2:14–19). There is a large, active gypsum mine ca. 2 km west of this site. Mining operations and mine expansion represent the greatest threat to this population of *C. switaki*. Field work was conducted under California Department of Fish and Wildlife Scientific Collecting Permit #5172 issued to EAD.

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**CTENOSAURA SIMILIS** (Gray's Spiny-tailed Iguana). USA: FLORIDA: PINELLAS CO.: Largo, 155 8 Avenue SE (27.90786°N, 82.78364°W; WGS 84). 3 October 2016. Charles Martin. Verified by Coleman M. Sheehy, III. Florida Museum of Natural History (UF 190023; photo voucher). New county record and 58 km NW of the closest record, from Manatee County (UF 150020; Krysko et al. 2019. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Florida*. University of Florida Press, Gainesville, Florida. xiv + 706 pp.).

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**GYMNOPHTHALMUS UNDERWOODI** (Smooth-scaled Worm Lizard). BRAZIL: RORAIMA: MUNICIPALITY OF BONFIM: Uberlândia

Farm (3.27755°N, 59.88338°W; SIRGAS 2000), 93 m elev. 16 October 2000. S. P. Nascimento and A. A. C. Pinto. Verified by A. A. C. Pinto. Museu Integrado de Roraima, Boa Vista, Roraima, Brazil (MIRR 1556, 1557). *Gymnophthalmus underwoodi* is known from northern South America and Lesser Antilles, French Guiana, Suriname, Guyana, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Dominica, Guadeloupe, and Saint Vincent and Grenadines. In Brazil, *G. underwoodi* is known from the state of Amazonas and along the Branco River system in the forests of southern Roraima (Avila-Pires 1995. *Zool. Verh.* 299:1–706; Oliveira et al. 2014. *Check List* 10:46–53; Ribeiro-Júnior and Amaral 2017. *Zootaxa* 4269:151–196). This is the first record for the savanna of the state of Roraima, a physiographic unit commonly called “lavrado,” comprising an area of ca. 230 km<sup>2</sup> in the northeast region of the state (Myers 1936. *J. Ecol.* 24:161–184; Pires and France 1985. *In* Prance and Lovejoy [eds.], *Key Environments Amazonia*, pp. 109–145. Pergamon Press, Oxford, United Kingdom). This record extends the geographic distribution ca. 1 km S from Barbados, the type locality (Grant 1959. *Herpetologica* 15:97–101) and 271 km NE of Apiaú, the closest known record (Vanzolini and Carvalho 1991. *Pap. Avul. Zool.* 12:173–226).

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**HEMIDACTYLUS FRENATUS** (Common House Gecko). REPUBLIC OF PANAMA: VERAGUAS: MONTIJO DISTRICT: Coiba Island National Park (7.63784°N, 81.70386°W; WGS 84), 36 m elev. 18 July 2019. E. E. Flores. Verified by Abel Batista. Illinois Natural History Survey Biological Collection (INHS 2019a; photo voucher). An adult individual (60 mm SVL, 5.93 g) was found at 2230 h on the wall of the terrace of Coibita Island Research Station of Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute located on the north part of the main island of Coiba, where more individuals were observed. This individual constitutes the first record of this exotic species for Coiba Island and the Coiba National Park, located in the Gulf of Chiriquí, in the Pacific Ocean. Taxonomic identification was corroborated with sequencing analysis of a 650-bp segment of the cytochrome oxidase gene. This record is 165 km SW of the nearest vouchered record in El Cope, Coclé Province (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution [USNM] 579861). This species is the second exotic gecko reported for Coiba Island, with *Lepidodactylus lugubris* recorded in 1997 (De la Riva 1997. *In* S. Castroviejo [ed.], *Herpetofauna [Cocodrilos, Tortugas y Saurios] del Parque Nacional de Coiba (Panamá) Comentarios sobre su Diversidad*, pp. 433–444. Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional, Madrid, España). Although the diversity of amphibians and reptiles of Coiba is regarded as relatively poor due to isolation from mainland, this report highlights the ability of exotic species to colonize even pristine environments where the impact on local species and ecosystems is still unknown. Therefore, population assessments of this exotic species that also include genetic data should be part of future studies. Fieldwork was supported with funds from a Coiba Scientific Station (COIBA AIP) grant to EEF and under the scientific permit SE/A-53-19 issued by the Ministry of Environment of Panama.

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**HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS (Mediterranean Gecko)**. USA: LOUISIANA: ASSUMPTION PARISH: ca. 5.6 km SW of Donaldsonville in Belle Rose just S of the Ascension-Assumption parish line (30.05993°N, 91.03428°W; WGS 84). 22 August 2019. Chase Walker. Verified by Giulia I. M. Pasquesi. Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Research Center, University of Texas at Arlington (UTADC 9431–9433; photo voucher). Parish record update (Boundy and Carr 2017. Amphibians and Reptiles of Louisiana. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 386 pp.). There were no previous geographic records for Assumption Parish despite multiple neighboring parishes (Ascension, Iberville, and Saint James) having records. This record expands their range south and west, from previously mentioned parishes. Iberia Parish, which borders Assumption Parish to the west, also has records for *H. turcicus*; however, the Atchafalaya River Basin separates that location and this location. This report is ca. 17 km E of recently published Iberville specimens (Alleman 2019. Herpetol. Rev. 50:329).

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**HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS (Mediterranean Gecko)**. USA: MISSISSIPPI: LOWNDES CO.: First United Methodist Church in Columbus, Main Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street South (33.49491°N, 88.42674°W; WGS 84). 25 August 2019. Thomas Rogers, Taylor Banks, and Caleb A. Aldridge. Verified by Coleman Sheehy. Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH 190039; photo voucher). A single individual observed on an interior wall ca. 1120 h. New county record (Lee 2008. J. Mississippi Acad. Sci. 53:184–188). Two additional individuals were photographed 1900–2030 h, 20 October 2019 at Jamie's Salon in Columbus, College Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Street South (FLMNH 190040: 33.49364°N, 88.42801°W), and Elbow Room Lounge (Zachary's Event Room as of September 2019), 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North and 5<sup>th</sup> Street North (FLMNH 190041: 33.49619°N, 88.42863°W). Six more individuals were observed but not photographed—most under eaves of buildings. This county record fills the gap between neighboring Oktibbeha County, ca. 37 km W (Altig et al. 2016. Herpetol. Rev. 47:628) and nearby Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, ca. 96 km E (Thawley 2010. Herpetol. Rev. 41:378) along US Hwy 82. The number and rate at which individuals were encountered, along with resident testimony, suggest that the population is well established, possibly for decades (Keiser 1984. J. Mississippi Acad. Sci. 29:17–18; Lee 2008, *op. cit.*; Altig et al. 2016, *op. cit.*).

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**PHELSUMA LATICAUDA (Gold Dust Day Gecko)**. USA: FLORIDA: MONROE CO.: Key West, Whitehead Street (24.55651°N, 81.804597°W; WGS 84). 2 November 2019. Andrew Borgia. Verified by Coleman M. Sheehy, III. Florida Museum of Natural History (UF 190180; photo voucher). New island record (Krysko et al. 2019. Amphibians and Reptiles of Florida. University of Florida Press, Gainesville, Florida. xiv + 706 pp.) and 6.7 km SW

of Stock Island—the first island in the Florida Keys from which this species has been recorded (Krysko and Borgia 2012. IRCF Rept. Amphib. 19:217–218). Quizzing of property staff revealed that around 13 adult *P. laticauda* were released on the property in ca. 2012, all of which were wild-caught specimens from Big Island, Hawaii. If true, this represents an interesting example of a secondary introduction sensu Kolbe et al. (2004. Nature 431:177–181). This population is established and reproducing. A breeding population of *Phelsuma grandis* also exists at the site (UF 190181), making this the only known site in the contiguous United States where *P. grandis* and *P. laticauda* exist in sympatry, the two species also being sympatric on the island of O'ahu, Hawaii (UF 173599–173602).

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**PLESTIODON LOTUS**. MEXICO: OAXACA: MUNICIPALITY OF VILLA DE CHILAPA DE DÍAZ: Villa de Chilapa de Díaz (17.58467°N, 97.63273°W; WGS 84), 2032 m elev. 24 July 2019. Oscar Morales-Posada. Verified by Carlos J. Pavón-Vázquez. UTEP Biodiversity Collections, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP Obs: Herp 189; photo voucher). First municipality record, third report for the state, and a range extension of ca. 62 km W from the nearest locality: “5 km NE Santiago Tamazola, 174246 N, 981222 W, 1629 m elevation (MZFC-HE 30623),” Municipality of Silacayoápan (Pavón-Vázquez et al. 2017. Zootaxa 4365:149172). The locality reported herein also represents the highest elevation recorded for the species (previous high: 1770 m; Pavón-Vázquez et al. 2017, *op. cit.*). The lizard was observed in xeric scrub vegetation.

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#### SQUAMATA — SNAKES

**CARPHEPHIS AMOENUS (Eastern Worm Snake)**. USA: VIRGINIA: GILES CO.: Mountain Lake Biological Station (37.37845°N, 80.52198°W; WGS 84), 1183 m elev. 5 July 2018. Daisy Horr, Ariel Miranda, and David S. McLeod. Verified by J. D. Kleopfer. Mountain Lake Biological Station Herpetology Collection (MLBS-H 00481). Individual found under an artificial cover board at Horton Pond, a permanent artificial pond at Mountain Lake Biological Station, at 0847 h. This record was verified as new to the county using the Virginia Fish and Wildlife Information Service (<https://vafwis.dgif.virginia.gov/fwis/>; 8 July 2019) and VertNet (vertnet.org; 8 July 2019). This species is recorded in all surrounding counties and is ca. 24 km NW of the nearest record in Montgomery County (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution [USNM] 420904). This specimen was collected under the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries scientific collection permit (#059179). Support for this project was provided by Mountain Lake Biological Station and NSF REU award (DBI-1461169).