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ADDITIONS TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HERPETOFAUNA OF OAXACA, MEXICO

Hobart M. Smith¹

Among specimens recently collected by Mr. Thomas MacDougall for the University of Colorado Museum are four species of reptiles not previously, or rarely, recorded from the state of Oaxaca. I am indebted to Mr. Thomas MacDougall for obtaining this and much other material, and to Dr. T. Paul Maslin for provision of facilities for its study and care.

Barisia gadovi levigata Tihen. Since this subspecies was originally described (Tihen, 1949:231-233, pl. 2) from "Valley of Oaxaca" and "Mts. W Oaxaca, 9000 ft.," no new material has been noted in the literature except for mention by Bogert and Porter (1967:19) of occurrence at Tejocotes, 2500 m, Oax. Accordingly a specimen taken in 1968 at Lachiguiri, 7000 ft, Oax., is of special interest.

The specimen is a juvenile, 37 mm S-V, tail 68 mm. Its scale characters agree in detail with Tihen's description, except that there appear to be 14 dorsal scale rows and 54 dorsals rather than the expected 16 rows and 45-47 dorsals; however, the specimen is so small that accurate counts are virtually impossible to make. The critical characters of the head scales are precisely as described. Of greatest interest is the juvenile pattern, rather markedly different from that of the adult. A dark brown band extends down each side of head and body, fading out on tail; the band contains fine, superimposed light and dark lines; the dorsal surface of head, body, and tail is light tan, 8 scalerows wide at midbody; a series of 10 small, elongate dark brown spots on midline of body, between axilla and hind leg, and one spot on base of tail; each spot about two scales long and one wide, separated from others by about its own length; a dark streak down the center of each of the 12 rows of ventrals except the two midventral rows, the streaks broader on more lateral rows, becoming fine and interrupted on more medial rows.

Rhadinella schistosa Smith. No new material of this species has been reported since it was described some 30 years ago (Smith, 1941). Accordingly, a specimen (CUM 39790) taken in May 1969 at Vista Hermosa, Comaltepec, Ixtlán, Oaxaca, is of special interest in confirmation of existence of the species, and in extending its known range some 85 miles southeastward from the type locality at Cuautlapan, Veracruz. The habitat is much the same at both localities, indicating a range along the foothills of the central plateau, perhaps as far south as the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and as far north as southern Tamaulipas.

The specimen is a female 237 mm in total length, tail 45 mm; ventrals 154, caudals 38; labials 8-8; oculars 1-2; other scutellation, color, and pattern as originally described.

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Sibon nebulata nebulata (Linnaeus). In his monograph of the Dipsadinae, Peters (1960:200) noted Mexican specimens only from the states of Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Michoacán, Quintana Roo, and Yucatán. Smith and Taylor (1945:126) noted its occurrence also in Oaxaca, Tabasco, and Veracruz, based respectively upon Gadow's (1905:196, 225) report for "La Raya," Boulenger's (1894:293-294) for Teapa, and Cope's (1885:382) for Jicaltepec (the latter confirming Sumichrast's [1873:247, 249] vague notation of the species in the state of Veracruz). A specimen (CU 40009) taken at Progreso, Palomares, Juchitán, Oax., in 1968, provides a more reliable record for Oaxaca. Substantiative records have appeared in the literature for both Veracruz and Tabasco, as well as for several other states with previous records.

In addition, records have now appeared for Jalisco (Dixon, Sabbath, and Worthington, 1962:96), Colima (Duellman, 1958:12, 17) and Nayarit (Zweifel, 1959:7). Records of occurrence in southern Sinaloa, Tamaulipas, and San Luis Potosí, as well as eastern Hidalgo and Puebla, may be expected.

Xenodon rabdocephalus mexicanus Smith. Two specimens (CUM 40047-8) are from Progreso, Palomares, Juchitán, Oax., taken in 1968; and one (CUM 40049) is from Palomares, Juchitán, Oax., taken in 1969. Smith and Taylor (1945:153) record this taxon from the states of Chiapas, Guerrero, Tabasco, and Veracruz. Since then it has been recorded from Quintana Roo (Peters, 1953:231), and we are aware of one specimen (No. 26826) in the Museum of Comparative Zoology from Chichen Itza, Yucatán.

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