

Leposoma southi RUTHVEN &
GAIGE, 1924, a new record to the
fauna of Antioquia (Colombia)

Leposoma southi RUTHVEN & GAIGE, 1924, the Northern Spectacled Lizard (Fig. 1), is a species distributed from Costa Rica to Colombia (ORTLEB & HEATWOLE, 1965; SAVAGE 2002; CASTAÑO-M. et al. 2004). In Colombia, it is fairly widespread in the western Pacific lowlands, having been registered in several municipalities such as Bahía Solano, Istmina and Nuquí (Department of Chocó); Pueblo Rico (Department of Risaralda); Buenaventura (Department of Valle del Cauca); and Guapi (exactly in Isla Gorgona, Department of Cauca) (SÁNCHEZ-C. et al. 1995; CASTAÑO-M. et al. 2004; Fig. 2).

In a study from Quibdó and Lloró municipalities in the Department of Chocó, RENGIFO et al. (2003) reported *Leposoma rugiceps* (COPE, 1869), but we consider that this report rather refers to *L. southi*, since the former species occurs in the Caribbean lowlands, the Magdalena River valley and the Guiana shield (AYALA & CASTRO unpublished document; PETERS & DONOSO-BARRIOS 1970; SÁNCHEZ-C. et al. 1995; ÁVILA-PIRES 2005) and not in western Colombia (CASTAÑO-M. et al. 2004). However, since RENGIFO et al. (2003) did not report a voucher specimen to corroborate the actual identity of the lizard and its origin, we did not take into account the localities reported by them in this note. CASTAÑO-M. et al. (2004) mentioned also "Department of Antioquia" for the species, but they did neither specify an exact locality nor a museum specimen from this site. Therefore, we consider that *L. southi* has never been previously recorded from both the Department of Antioquia and the Magdalena River valley in Colombia.

On 26-27 October 2005, J. C. ARREDONDO and V. PÁEZ captured two individuals of the lizard *L. southi* at the Hacienda Santa Bárbara (ca. 06°32'N / 74°38'W, between 515-575 m above sea level), vereda Las Brisas, Maceo municipality, Department of Antioquia. Both specimens were collected on litterfall in the morning, inside secondary forest, then deposited at the Museo de Herpetología Universidad de Antioquia



Fig. 1. *Leposoma southi* RUTHVEN & GAIGE, 1924 (MHUA 11399) from Vereda Las Brisas, municipio Maceo, department of Antioquia, Colombia. Photo: M. RIVERA-CORREA.

(MHUA), Medellín, Colombia (MHUA 11389, 11391). These lizards represent the first documented records of *L. southi* from the Department of Antioquia and the Cordillera Central of Colombia and extend the known geographic distribution from Bahía Solano municipality, Department of

Chocó (Fig. 2) ca. 270 km toward the north-east of the country.

The distribution extension from western Colombia to the Magdalena River valley is evidence that the Chocóan biogeographic region and the Magdalena River valley comprise a complete and extensive bioge-

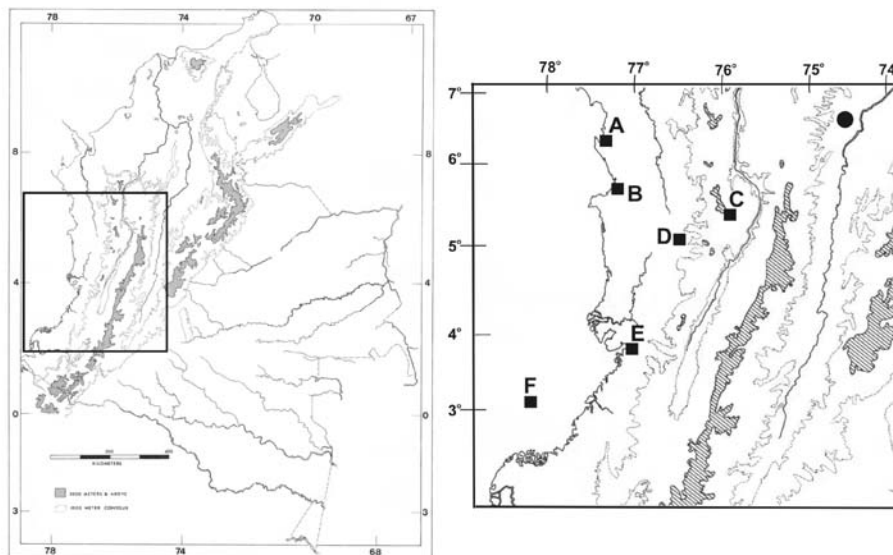


Fig. 2. Previously reported (squares) and new (circle) localities for *L. southi* RUTHVEN & GAIGE, 1924. Localities, from north to south, are: A, Bahía Solano (Chocó); B, Nuquí (Chocó); C, Pueblo Rico (Risaralda); D, Itsmina (Chocó); E, Buenaventura (Valle del Cauca); F, Isla Gorgona (Cauca).

graphic region as suggested by HERNÁNDEZ-CAMACHO et al. (1992). In the locality reported here, *L. southi* is syntopic with the congeneric species *L. rugiceps*.

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AUTHORS Paul D. GUTIÉRREZ-C., Juan Camilo ARREDONDO-S., Grupo Herpetológico de Antioquia and Museo de Herpetología Universidad de Antioquia (MHUA), Instituto de Biología, Universidad de Antioquia, oficina 7-121, A.A. 1226, Medellín, Colombia <pdgutierrez2@yahoo.com > <jcas36@gmail.com >. Present address of Paul D. GUTIÉRREZ-C. - Departamento de Ciencias Biológicas, Universidad de Caldas, Calle 65 # 26-10, Manizales, Caldas