

(Fig. 1), followed by Isoptera, Aranae, and Hymenoptera (non-ant). The more frequent item was Aranae. Two stomachs were empty, and the contents of seven stomachs could not be determined.

Despite the preference for spiders observed in our study, *N. frenata* could be considered an opportunist predator that may prey on social insects, like termites (the second more abundant prey item), if available, as reported for a large sample from Valinhos, São Paulo state, southeastern Brazil, where Isoptera was the most important item both in volume and in total number, and arthropod eggs were not recorded (Vrcibradic and Rocha, *op. cit.*). The presence of arthropod eggs in the diet confirms that this lizard is an active forager able to chemically locate immobile prey (Pianka and Vitt 2003. *Lizards—Windows to the Evolution of Diversity*. University of California Press, Berkeley. 333 pp.).

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PHYMATURUS ZAPALENSIS. DIET. *Phymaturus* has been described as an entirely viviparous and strictly herbivorous genus (Ceí 1986. *Reptiles del Centro, Centro-oeste y Sur de la Argentina. Herpetofauna de las Zonas Áridas y Semiáridas*. Museo Regionale di Scienze Naturali, Torino, Italy. 527 pp.; Espinoza et al. 2004. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 101:16819–16824; Córdoba et al. 2015. *Rev. Mex. Biodivers.* 86:1004–1013). However, individuals of *Phymaturus zapalensis* feed on mealworms (*Tenebrio molitor*) in captivity. *Phymaturus zapalensis* is a medium-sized liolaemid lizard endemic to rocky outcrops within and around Laguna Blanca National Park in Zapala, Occidental District, Neuquén Province, Argentina (39.07088°S, 70.38864°W, WGS 84; elev. 824–1312 m). Herein we report on the first evidence of carnivory (insectivory) in wild *P. zapalensis*.

The stomach and intestine of specimens from the collection of the Centro Regional Universitario Bariloche (7 adult females including 2 pregnant individuals, 8 adult males, and 5 juveniles including 3 females and 2 males) were removed and examined under an Olympus SZ-PT40 stereoscopic microscope. The observations of the stomach and intestine of the 20 individuals showed the presence of plant parts in all samples, and the presence of insects in 75% (N = 15) of the sample. These results support our observations in captivity, and confirm that *P. zapalensis* is the only known omnivorous species in its genus. The high-energy omnivorous diet of *P. zapalensis* could explain the capability of females to breed annually, instead of the characteristic biennial cycle of other species in the genus (Boretto and Ibarquengoytia 2009. *J. Herpetol.* 43:96–104). If this difference holds, it may have consequences for growth and life history parameters, such as longevity, relative reproductive time, and proportion of adult life, allowing higher reproductive frequencies and higher investment in energy and biomass in each reproductive event, compared to congeners with an herbivorous diet (Boretto et al. 2018. *J. Comp. Physiol. B* 188:491–503).

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PLESTIODON FASCIATUS (Five-lined Skink). ECTOPARASITES.

Plestiodon fasciatus is widely distributed throughout the eastern United States and into southeastern Ontario, Canada. However, there are disjunct populations present in Minnesota, northeastern Iowa, and southeastern Wisconsin (Moriarty and Hall 2014. *Amphibians and Reptiles in Minnesota*. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota. 370 pp.). Although ectoparasites are known to frequently infect reptiles (Frank 1981. *In* J. E. Cooper and O. F. Jackson [eds.], *Diseases of the Reptilia* Vol. 1., pp. 359–383. Academic Press, London), very little is known about the ectoparasites that are present in Minnesota's reptiles and amphibians. Furthermore, very little is known about ectoparasites that are found on lizards in Minnesota. Here, we report baseline locality records of ectoparasites of *P. fasciatus* as well as prevalences from Minnesota and Wisconsin. Between 26 June 2016 and 11 August 2016, 14 *P. fasciatus* were collected by hand from Polk Co., Wisconsin and Renville Co., Minnesota. After collection, 10 (71%) of the lizards were found to be infected with chigger mites (lizard mean SVL = 58.5 mm ± 7.2 SD, range 48–71 mm). Only the 4 hatchling skinks were uninfected (lizard mean SVL = 32 mm ± 1.15 SD, range 31–33 mm). Several mites were carefully removed from infected lizards and were mounted on slides. We tentatively identified the mites as *Eutrombicula alfreddugesi* (Brennan and Goff 1977. *J. Parasitol.* 63:554–566). Within our samples, our morphological identification concurred with other identifications in a key published by Brennan and Goff (*op. cit.*). This ectoparasite has been reported in multiple reptiles and amphibians (Walters et al. 2011. *Fac. Publ. H. W. Manter Lab Parasitol.* 697:1–183). However, lack of comprehensive keys available for aid in the identification of ectoparasites could present difficulty in identifying other cryptic species. The high prevalence of chigger mites in our sample of *P. fasciatus* might be related to the close confinement of skinks during the summer months in Minnesota. *Eutrombicula alfreddugesi* is known to occur in areas of low to moderate temperature, high humidity, and low sunlight (Clopton and Gold 1993. *J. Med. Entomol.* 30:47–53), which could aid in the understanding of how these parasites find suitable hosts. In addition, after housing the skinks in the lab for ~ 7 days, mites were completely absent from all previously infected hosts. This occurrence is probably due to the larval stage dropping off the host before molting into the nymphal stage. Because of the large geographic distribution of this ectoparasite and its potential to infect a wide variety of hosts, it is important to document baseline data for lizards in both Minnesota and Wisconsin.

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