

A photograph of a lizard, possibly a spiny-tailed lizard, perched on a green grass stem. The lizard is facing upwards and to the right, with its head tilted back. The background is a clear blue sky with some blurred grass stalks. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

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The Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, the largest international herpetological society, is a not-for-profit organization established to advance research, conservation, and education concerning amphibians and reptiles. Founded in 1958, SSAR is widely recognized today as having the most diverse society-sponsored program of services and publications for herpetologists. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in herpetology—professionals and serious amateurs alike—who wish to join with us to advance the goals of the Society.

All members of the SSAR are entitled to vote by mail ballot for Society officers, which allows overseas members to participate in determining the Society's activities; also, many international members attend the annual meetings and serve on editorial boards and committees.

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Future Annual Meetings

2007 — Saint Louis, Missouri, 11–16 July (with ASIH, HL)
2008 — Montreal, Canada (with ASIH, HL)
2009 — Portland, Oregon (with ASIH, HL)

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CHAUNUS BERGI (NCN). **ENDOPARASITES.** *Chaunus bergi* is associated with the floodplains of the Parana and Paraguay rivers in the northern Corrientes, eastern Chaco, Formosa, and northern and eastern Santa Fe, Argentina, and southern Paraguay (Céspedes 1999. *Facena* 15:69–82). The endoparasites of this toad have not been reported. The purpose of this note is to report the presence of three nematode species from Corrientes, Argentina.

Twenty adult (7 females, 13 males) *C. bergi* (mean SVL 30.78 mm \pm 12.38 SD, range 2.81–43.0 mm; mass 4.67 g \pm 2.32 SD, range 0.06–8.23 g) were collected in Corrientes, Argentina (27°28'S, 58°50'W) during Sept 2002–Nov 2003 and deposited in the herpetology collection of the Centro de Ecología Aplicada del Litoral (CECOAL 2893, 2896–98, 3061–64, 3103, 3170, 3191, 3360–62, 3365–66, 3370–72, 3458). Toads were transported to the laboratory and placed in ether sulfuric solution. At necropsy, the alimentary canal, lungs, liver, and urinary bladder were examined for parasites by dissection. Nematodes were observed in vivo, counted and killed in distilled hot water, and fixed in 70% ethyl alcohol. They were cleared in glycerin or lactofenol and examined as temporary mounts.

Fifteen toads were parasitized (prevalence 75%) by three species of nematodes [in parentheses, prevalence (number infected frog/number examined \times 100), mean intensity (mean number nematodes/infected frogs \pm 1 standard deviation) and range]: one specimen of *Rhabdias* sp. localized in the lung (5%, 1), one hundred twenty-three *Cosmocerca podicipinus* localized in the large and small intestine and in the lung (65%, 9.46 \pm 7.38, 1–24), and one hundred twenty-two *Cosmocerca parva* localized in the large and small intestine (40%, 15.25 \pm 10.15, 2–30).

The nematodes are stored in the helminthological collection of Centro de Ecología Aplicada del Litoral: *Rhabdias* sp. (female 02103064), *C. parva* (male 02092898), and *C. podicipinus* (female 02092897).

In South America, nematodes belonging to the genera *Cosmocerca* and *Rhabdias* are widely distributed in amphibians and reptiles (Baker 1987. *Mem. Univ. Newfoundland, Occas. Pap. Biol.* 11, 325 pp.; Bursey et al. 2001. *Comp. Parasitol.* 68:21–35; Vicente et al. 1990. *Rev. Brasil. Zool.* 7:549–626) although they have not been found in *C. bergi*. This note represents the first record of *Rhabdias* sp., *C. podicipinus*, and *C. parva* in *C. bergi*.

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CHIASMOCLEIS PANAMENSIS (Panama Humming Frog). **PREDATION.** *Chiasmocleis panamensis* is a small, explosively breeding microhylid whose distribution is restricted to central Panama and northwestern Colombia (Nelson 1972. *Copeia* 1972:895; IUCN, Conservation International, and NatureServe 2004. <http://www.globalamphibians.org/>). Breeding choruses of *C. panamensis* are rarely observed and its ecology remains little known (Ibáñez et al. 1999. *The Amphibians of Barro Colorado Nature Monument, Soberania National Park and Adjacent Areas Zone*, Editorial Mizrachi and Pujol, S.A., Panama, 187 pp.). Here I report a predation event on *C. panamensis* by the colubrid snake, *Leptodeira annulata* observed on 18 May 2005 at 0320 h, under a partly cloudy sky and a moon roughly 4/7 full, following perhaps the heaviest rain of the newly begun wet season. The locality was Bridge Pond, Gamboa, Colón Province, Republic of Panama, 30 m elev. (9.116°N, 79.700°W).

While observing a chorus of *C. panamensis*, I noticed a *L. annulata* moving through the leaf-litter along the pond's edge. The snake had a bulge in the anterior portion of its body. I caught the snake and forced regurgitation of its prey. A still-living *C. panamensis* emerged from the snake, but the frog died within a few minutes. The frog was male, judging from the darkly colored throat region (Nelson 1972, *op. cit.*; Ibáñez et al. 1999, *op. cit.*), (SVL 25.45 mm). This is exceptionally large for a male *C. panamensis* (Nelson 1972, *op. cit.*). The snake measured 32.0 cm SVL, and 44.5 cm total length. *Leptodeira annulata* from Costa Rica, Brazil, and Ecuador are known to commonly prey on frogs (Vitt 1996. *Herpetol. Nat. Hist.* 4:69; Savage 2002. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica*. Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, 934 pp.).

Identification of the frog and snake were confirmed by César Jaramillo. The snake was released two days after capture. The frog (field number AJC 1164) was deposited in the Museo de Vertebrados de la Universidad de Panamá (MVUP number not yet available).

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CROSSODACTYLUS GAUDICHAUDII (Gaudichaud's Frog). **BEHAVIOR.** *Crossodactylus gaudichaudii* is endemic to south-east Brazil (states of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo), inhabiting rocky streams inside forests (Heyer et al. 1990. *Arq. Zool., São Paulo* 31:291; Izecksohn and Carvalho-e-Silva 2001. *Ed. UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro*: 70). The only report on agonistic behavior comes from captive observations (Weygoldt and Carvalho-e-Silva 1992. *Amphibia-Reptilia* 13:35–45) and includes calling, visual displays, and agonistic interactions. Here we present the first record of agonistic behavior in this species in nature. On 10 Aug 2003, between 1210–1230 h, an agonistic encounter between two male *C. gaudichaudii* was observed in an area of Atlantic Forest at Ilha Grande, Rio de Janeiro state, Brazil. The observation was made along a trail in the forest, close to Vila Dois Rios Village (23°11'S, 44°12'W). One of the males was calling while perched on a rock ca. 15 cm above the water, at the margin of a puddle ca 1 m diameter and 3 cm deep. Four minutes after this male was located, a second male (distinguishable from the first one by its paler dor-