

SEPTEMBER 2008

## Conservation, Natural History, and Husbandry of Reptiles

International Reptile Conservation

www.IRCF.org

Dominican Anoles (*Anolis oculatus*) are ubiquitous on Dominica, but populations on different parts of the island vary consistently in color and pattern — to the extent that they were considered to be different species or subspecies until recently. See article on p. 130.



Little is known about the biology of dwarf geckos, presumably because of their small size and secretive nature. The elevated head and tail of this male South Leeward Dwarf Gecko (Sphaerodactylus fantasticus) probably indicate arousal, triggered by concern over the presence of the photographer (see article on p. 130).



Critically endangered Guatemalan Black Iguanas (Ctenosaura palearis) still are hunted for meat, eggs, and skins (see article on p. 142).



Mountains meet the sea on the Atlantic coast of Dominica, which bills itself as the "nature island" (see travelogue on p. 162).



About 800 Gharials (Gavialis gangeticus) hatch each year in the Katerniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in India, but many were washed away by monsoon floods this year (see article on p. 150).



Dominican Racers (Alsophis antillensis sibonius) are locally abundant on Dominica. Three short notes (beginning on p. 154) describe a failed foraging attempt, nocturnal activity, and color changes.