



INTRODUCED SPECIES

First Report of a Brown Basilisk (*Basiliscus vittatus*) from the Florida Keys

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On 7 June 2012, BH collected an adult male Brown Basilisk (*Basiliscus vittatus*) at 1300 h along the walkway to the Dive Shop in John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, Key Largo, Monroe County, Florida (25.123942°N, -80.407310°W; datum: WGS84; elev. <1 m). Max A. Nickerson confirmed the identity of the lizard (128.1 mm

SVL, 334.7 mm tail length), which was accessioned into the herpetological collection of the Florida Museum of Natural History (UF 167196).

This new county record is the first Brown Basilisk recorded from the Florida Keys. King and Krakauer (1966) recorded the first *Basiliscus vittatus* (mislabelled as *B. basiliscus*;



This adult male Brown Basilisk (*Basiliscus vittatus*) from John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, Key Largo, Monroe County, Florida was the first Brown Basilisk found in the Florida Keys. Photograph by Brian Hille.

e.g., Kraus 2009) in Florida prior to 1964. Presumably introduced via the pet trade, the geographic range of this species subsequently has expanded throughout the southern and central peninsula (Krysko et al. 2011a, 2011b; Meshaka 2011). This new voucher extends the range of the species in Florida ca. 36.7 km south of the closest known verified locality in Miami-Dade County; however, the status of the species on Key Largo remains unknown.

Literature Cited

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