



INTRODUCED SPECIES

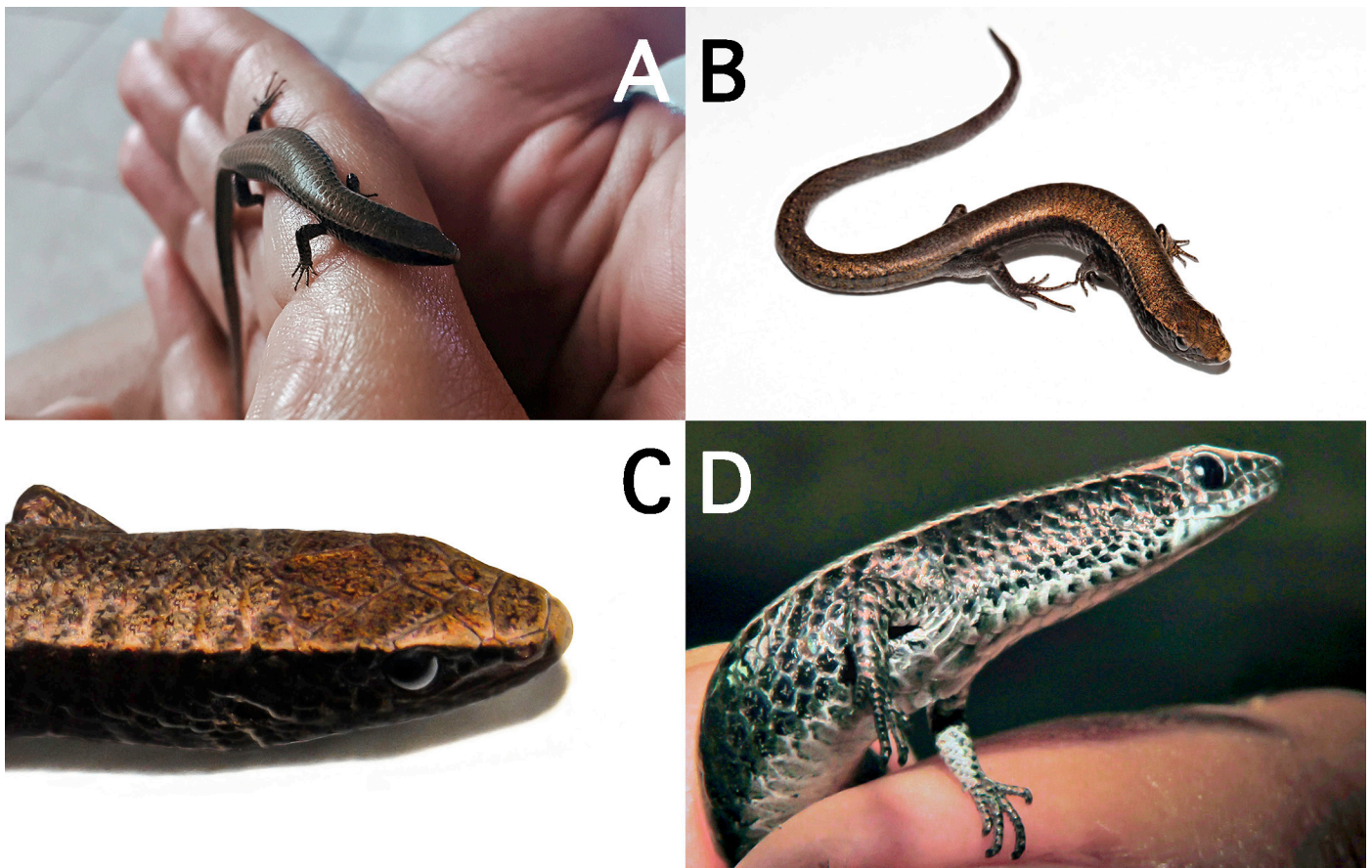
# New Cuban Locality Records for the Smooth-scaled Tegulet, *Gymnophthalmus underwoodi* Grant 1958

Diego Salas

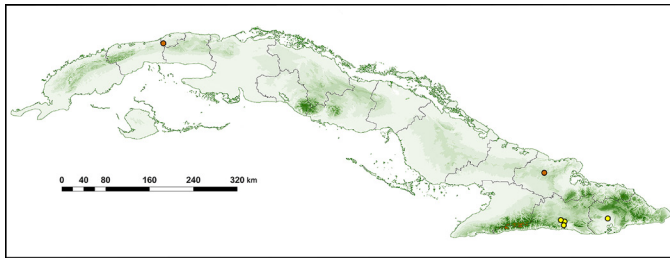
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The Smooth-scaled Tegulet (*Gymnophthalmus underwoodi* Grant 1958), is a unisexual parthenogenetic lizard (Hardy et al. 1989; Avila-Pires 1995) native to northern South America (Ávila-Pires 1995; Williamson and Powell 2004). Facilitated by the fact that only a single individual is necessary to establish a new population, this species has become widely distributed in the Caribbean (Henderson and Powell 2009), where it has been recorded from Antigua and

Barbuda, Barbados, Dominican Republic, the Grenadines (including Bequia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines), Grenada (including Hog Island), Guadeloupe (including Grande-Terre), Marie-Galante, Martinique, Saint Kitts, Saint Martin/St. Maarten, U.S. Virgin Islands (St. Thomas), Trinidad and Tobago (Lever 2003; Williamson and Powell 2004; Powell et al. 2013). The species was first recorded in the Cuban Archipelago by Alfonso et al. (2012) in Santiago de Cuba



**Fig. 1.** Smooth-scaled Tegulets (*Gymnophthalmus underwoodi*) from Holguín Province, Cuba (A) and from La Lisa, La Habana, Cuba (B–D). Photographs by Félix Javier Batista del Valle (A) and Diego Salas (B–D).



**Fig. 2.** Updated distribution of the Smooth-scaled Tegulet (*Gymnophthalmus underwoodi*) in Cuba. Previously documented records by Alfonso et al. (2012) and Alfonso and Hernandez (2017) are indicated by yellow dots; new locality records are marked by orange dots.

Province and later by Alfonso and Hernández (2017) in Guantánamo Province.

I herein report two new Cuban localities for *G. underwoodi* that considerably extend the distribution of this introduced species. At 1000 h on 10 April 2020, Félix Javier Batista del Valle and Claudia Arias Espinosa collected an adult (Fig. 1) on the patio of their home in Reparto Harlem, Barrio el Pití, Holquín Province (20°52'41.0"N, 76°16'19.9"W). It was subsequently released in the same place. At 1100 h on 28 May 2020, Ricardo Santovenia Marrero collected an adult (author private collection, catalogue number DSP-31; SVL = 33 mm) (Fig. 1) that was basking on the campus of the University of Informatic Sciences (UCI), Municipality La Lisa, La Habana Province (22°59'25"N, 82°27'57"W). The collector observed several additional individuals at the same time. Luis M. Díaz (Museo Nacional de Historia Natural de Cuba) confirmed the identification based on the photograph of the individual from Holquín Province and examination of the specimen collected in La Habana Province.

The new localities (Fig. 2) extend the distribution of the species 102–148 km to the northwest in eastern Cuba and 825 km into western Cuba from localities recorded by Alfonso and Hernandez (2017). Because of the distance from the previous Cuban records and the extensive movement of people and goods into nearby La Habana, the record from La

Lisa in particular is suggestive of an independent introduction from a source outside of Cuba.

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