



# New Distribution Records from the Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores, Tezonapa, Veracruz, Mexico

Víctor Vásquez-Cruz<sup>1</sup>, Arleth Reynoso-Martínez<sup>1</sup>, Alfonso Kelly-Hernández<sup>1</sup>, Eduardo M. Pérez-Gómez<sup>2</sup>, and Luis Canseco-Márquez<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PIMVS Herpetario Palancoatl, Avenida 19 número 5525, Colonia Nueva Esperanza, C.P. 94540, Córdoba, Veracruz, México (victorbiolvc@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Natura Medio Ambiente, Colonia Condesa, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, Ciudad de México, México

<sup>3</sup>Departamento de Biología Evolutiva, Museo de Zoología, Facultad de Ciencias, UNAM, AP 70-399 México, D.F. 04510, México

The Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores (CARF), Municipality of Tezonapa, Veracruz, Mexico, is in an area known as “La Región de Las Altas Montañas.” Located in the northern Sierra de Tezonapa (18.7205°N, 96.8481°W; WGS 84), CARF has an elevational range of 980–1,300 m asl in an area of 177 ha. The predominant vegetation is semideciduous tropical forest, but an ecotone with cloud forest is present along with patches of shade-grown coffee (*Coffea arabica*), banana (*Musa* sp.), and palm (*Chamaedorea elegans*).

Herein, we report two amphibian and two reptilian species that were not recorded in the CARF by Vásquez-Cruz and Canseco-Márquez (2020) in 2014 and 2015. These records accrued during casual visits and surveys at the CARF between 2016 and 2019. Individuals were photographed and released. Photographs of each species were deposited in the digital collection of the Natural History Museum of Los

Angeles County (LACM PC). All coordinates were determined using map datum WGS 84.

At about 1145 h on 21 July 2017, we found a Mexican Robber Frog (*Craugastor mexicanus*) (LACM PC 2580). The frog (Fig.1) was active in primary vegetation of tropical semi-deciduous forest (18.714°N, 96.847°W; elev. 1,145 m). This locality is 18.6 km south of the closest previously reported locality in Cuauhtémoc, Municipality of Córdoba (Vázquez-Cisneros 2006).

We found several Leprus Chirping Frogs (*Eleutherodactylus leprus*) (LACM PC 2579) (Fig. 2) in gardens and patches of coffee (18.719°N, 96.847°W; elev. 1,030 m). This record is 22.5 km south of the closest previously reported site at Agustín Millán, Municipality of Córdoba (Vázquez-Cisneros 2006). This species was assessed as vulnerable (VU) on the IUCN Red List (Santos-Barrera et al. 2004), adding to the more than half of the species in the CARF that



**Fig. 1.** An adult Mexican Robber Frog (*Craugastor mexicanus*) from Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores, Tezoapa, Veracruz, México (LACM PC 2580). Photograph by Víctor Vásquez-Cruz.



**Fig. 2.** An adult Leprus Chirping Frog (*Eleutherodactylus leprus*) from Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores, Tezoapa, Veracruz, México (LACM PC 2579). Photograph by Víctor Vásquez-Cruz.



**Fig. 3.** A juvenile Common House Gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*) from Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores, Tezoapa, Veracruz, México (LACM PC 2581). Photograph by Arleth Reynoso-Martínez.



**Fig. 4.** A juvenile Adorned Graceful Brown Snake (*Rhadinaea decorata*) from Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores, Tezoapa, Veracruz, México (LACM PC 2578). Photograph by Víctor Vásquez-Cruz.

are considered in some category of risk (Vásquez-Cruz and Canseco-Márquez 2020).

At about 2245 h on 21 April 2018, we found a juvenile Common House Gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*) (LACM PC 2581) (Fig. 3) in a house (18.719°N, 96.848°W; elev. 1,055 m), where we also heard an adult. This site is 18.6 km south of the closest previously reported locality in Cuauhtémoc, Municipality of Córdoba (Vázquez-Cisneros 2006). Farr (2011) mistakenly listed the Municipality of Orizaba for the localities of Agustín Millán and Cuauhtémoc reported by Vásquez-Cisneros (2006) in the Municipality of Córdoba. Also, the georeference for Cuauhtémoc was in error; based on the map in Vásquez-Cisneros (2006), we recommend using 18.877°N, 96.902°W. This invasive species has only recently been introduced into this area, although the presence of a hatchling indicates that it is established.

At about 1300 h on 27 August 2018, we found a juvenile Adorned Graceful Brownsnake (*Rhadinaea decorata*) (LACM PC 2578) (Fig. 4) under a decaying log in a patch of tropical semideciduous forest (18.7244°N 96.8487°W; elev. 1,015 m). This record is 16.8 km southwest of the closest previously reported locality in Peñuela, Municipality of Amatlán de los Reyes (USNM 110362–3; VertNet 2016).

These records increase the known number of species in the CARF to 46 (18 species of amphibians and 28 species of reptiles).

#### Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Neftali Camacho at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County for cataloging our digital photographic vouchers.

#### Literature Cited

- Farr, W.L. 2011. Distribution of *Hemidactylus frenatus* in Mexico. *The Southwestern Naturalist* 56: 265–273.
- Santos-Barrera, G., L. Canseco-Márquez, J. Lee, and M. Acevedo. 2004. *Eleutherodactylus leprus*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2004: e.T56714A11521644. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2004.RLTS.T56714A11521644.en>.
- Vázquez-Cisneros, N.R. 2006. Herpetofauna de dos áreas perturbadas del municipio de Córdoba, Veracruz, pp. 251–265. In: A. Ramírez-Bautista, L. Canseco-Márquez, and F. Mendoza-Quijano (eds.), *Inventarios Herpetofaunísticos de México: Avances en el Conocimiento de su Biodiversidad*. Publicaciones de la Sociedad Herpetológica Mexicana No. 3. Sociedad Herpetológica Mexicana, A.C., México, D.F., México.
- Vásquez-Cruz, V. and L. Canseco-Márquez. 2020. Anfibios y reptiles de la Colonia Agrícola Rincón de las Flores, Tezonapa, Veracruz, México. *Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología* 3: 68–80.
- VertNet. 2016. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (USNM) 110362–3. *Rhadinaea decorata*. National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Version 2016-09-29. <[www.vertnet.org/index.html](http://www.vertnet.org/index.html)>.