

INTRODUCED SPECIES

Green Anoles (*Anolis carolinensis*) on Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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In June 2011, Quarantine Officer Basil Nash found four lizards in a container arriving on Canouan in the Grenadines. Subsequent to the discovery, the container, with an origin in Florida, USA, was closed and fumigated and all lizards were killed. The lizards were tentatively identified from photographs as *Anolis carolinensis* by Robert Powell, although he could not

categorically rule out the possibility that they could be *A. porcatius*, a Cuban anole established in southern Florida. A photographic voucher is deposited in the Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM Herpetology P761).

Anolis carolinensis, which is native to the southeastern United States, has been documented from Anguilla, Grand Cayman, and the Bahamas in the West Indies (Powell et al. 2011); the species also is widely established on a number of Pacific islands (Kraus 2009). Although the latter usually are attributed to the commercial live animal trade, the West Indian animals, like these on Canouan, almost certainly arrived as “hitch-hikers” in shipments of plants.

Literature Cited

- Kraus, F. 2009. *Alien Reptiles and Amphibians: A Scientific Compendium and Analysis*. Invading Nature: Springer Series in Invasion Biology 4. Springer, New York.
- Powell, R., R.W. Henderson, M.C. Farmer, M. Breuil, A.C. Echternacht, G. van Buurt, C.M. Romagosa, and G. Perry. 2011. Introduced amphibians and reptiles in the Greater Caribbean: Patterns and conservation implications, pp. 63–143. In: A. Hailey, B.S. Wilson, and J.A. Horrocks (eds.), *Conservation of Caribbean Island Herpetofaunas. Volume 1: Conservation Biology and the Wider Caribbean*. Brill, Leiden, The Netherlands.



This adult male *Anolis carolinensis* was one of four individuals found in a container originating in Florida after its arrival on Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

A Non-native Skink on Grand Bahama

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At 1032 h on 23 July 2011 at Lucayan National Park on Grand Bahama, Commonwealth of the Bahamas, I observed and photographed a non-native skink in leaf litter along a walking path in low coastal coppice forest near the beach. Robert Powell, Kenneth L. Krysko, and Joseph T. Collins identified the skink as *Plestiodon* sp. from the photograph. I was unable to catch the lizard, which precluded an examination of scales necessary for

identification to species. The photographic voucher (Fig. 1) is deposited in the Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM Herpetology P757).

The presence of skinks in Lucayan National Park has been known since 2008, when Eric Carey, Executive Director of the Bahamas National Trust, sent photographs of a skink (Fig. 2) to Sandra Buckner. Unable to identify the lizard to species, it was not recorded nor included in Knapp et



Fig. 1. This adult male *Plestiodon* sp. (top) formally documents the presence of this genus in the West Indies.



Fig. 2. Photograph of an unidentified skink taken at the Lucayan National Park, Grand Bahama, on 14 August 2008.