



New Size Record for the Cuban Giant Blue Anole, *Anolis equestris cyaneus* (Squamata: Dactyloidae)

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Anolis equestris cyaneus (Squamata: Dactyloidae) is a subspecies of the Cuban Giant Anole restricted to Coco Key, Ciego de Ávila Province, Cuba (Garrido et al. 2001), where it inhabits the forests of the Ecological Reserve “Centro Oeste Cayo Coco” (Zulueta-Villaurrutia et al. 2022). This taxon is one of three blue Giant Anoles in the Sabana-Camaguey Archipelago, and is the least studied of all subspecies in the complex. Only the original description (Garrido et al. 2001) included sizes of individuals, and all were <165 mm SVL. We herein report a new size record for *A. e. cyaneus*.

At 1033 h on 22 April 2024, we captured an adult male *A. e. cyaneus* perched at a height of 190 cm on the trunk of an Almácigo Tree (*Bursera simaruba*) in coastal microphyllous evergreen forest (22.3217, -78.2240). Snout-vent length was 180 mm, tail length 277 mm, total length 457 mm, head length 45.7 mm, and head width 27.9 mm (Fig. 1). After taking measurements, the lizard was released unharmed on the tree where it was initially observed.

Protected area personnel are continuing ecological studies of this subspecies. However, as of now, this individual constitutes a size record for the subspecies, exceeding by 16 cm the total length of the holotype. Photographs were deposited in the University of Kansas Digital Archive (KUDA 14692), Lawrence, Kansas, USA. The identity of the species was confirmed by Dr. C. Ángel Arias Barreto, Center for Environmental Studies and Services of Villa Clara, Cuba.

Acknowledgements

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Literature Cited

Garrido, O.H., L.V. Moreno, and A.R. Estrada. 2001. Subespecies y nuevos reptiles del complejo *Anolis equestris* (Lacertilia: Iguanidae) para los cayos Las Brujas, Coco y Sabinal, Archipiélago de Sabana-Camaguey, Cuba. *Solenodon* 1: 55–65.



Figure 1. Taking measurements of a record-sized Blue Cuban Giant Anole (*Anolis equestris cyaneus*) from Coco Key, Sabana-Camaguey Archipelago, Ciego de Ávila Province, Cuba. Photographs by Serguei López Pérez.

Zulueta-Villaurrutia, E., M. Milanés-Pedroso, F. Bravo-Cabrera, M. Valladares-Gregori, D. Fundora-Caballero, O. Martínez-Llanes, and F. Matos-Pupo. 2022. Plan de Manejo 2022–2026 Elemento Natural Destacado Dunas de Playa Pilar. Unpublished report. Empresa Nacional para la Protección de la Flora y la Fauna, Ciego de Ávila, Cuba.