



FIG. 1. *Ameiva ameiva* preying on an egg of *Tropicurus hispidus* in Parque Estadual de Dois Irmãos, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil.

The *Ameiva* grasped one egg (1.21 cm long) from the hole, but fled when a *T. hispidus* female approached rapidly and chased the *Ameiva*. The *Tropicurus* then re-buried the eggs. At 1057 h again at 1106 h, the same *A. ameiva* individual (identified due to its unique tail) returned to the nest, excavated it, and removed two more eggs, one at a time, each time moving about 40 cm from the nest with the egg in its mouth (Fig. 1). The *Ameiva* ingested the last two eggs in 46 and 61 s, respectively.

The ingestion of eggs by teiid lizards has been reported in *Salvator merianae* (Gonçalves et al. 2007. Rev. Bras. Zool. 24:1063–1070) and in *A. ameiva*, where traces of unidentified eggs in female's stomach were registered (Silva et al. 2003. Biol. Bull. Mus. Mello Leitão [N. Sér.] 15:5–15). *Ameiva ameiva* also preys upon turtle eggs (Moll and Legler 1971. Bull. Los Angeles Co. Mus. Nat. Hist. Sci. 11:1–12). However, our observations are apparently the first record of *A. ameiva* feeding on lizard eggs.

Saurophagy, in general, has been documented for *A. ameiva*, including on young *Tropicurus torquatus* (Rocha and Vrcibradic 1998. Science and Culture 50:364–368). Although the ingestion of eggs may be related to the competition between the syntopic *A. ameiva* and *T. hispidus*, it is more likely that the eggs of *T. hispidus* provide a high nutrient dietary source that is relatively common.

Images of the events and *T. hispidus* eggs were deposited in the Herpetological Collection of Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco, Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil (CHPUFRPE 4412). We thank the management at Parque Estadual de Dois Irmãos for the authorization and license to conduct the research, and Fundação de Amparo a Ciência e Tecnologia do Estado de Pernambuco - FACEPE for the scholarship granted to the first author of this article and also ICMBio for license number 11218-1.

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ANOLIS CRISTATELLUS (Puerto Rican Crested Anole). ABSENT TYMPANUM. *Anolis cristatellus* is native to Puerto Rico and has been introduced to Miami, Florida, USA (Kraus 2009. Alien Reptiles and Amphibians: A Scientific Compendium and Analysis. Springer, [Dordrecht, Netherlands], 563 pp.; Krysko et al. 2003.

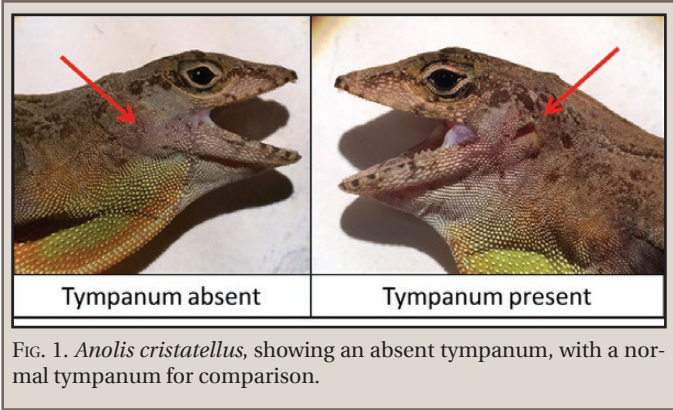


FIG. 1. *Anolis cristatellus*, showing an absent tympanum, with a normal tympanum for comparison.

Florida Sci. 66:74–79). In Miami, there are two independent and spatially distinct populations originating from two different locations in Puerto Rico: Key Biscayne, from San Juan, northwestern Puerto Rico; and South Miami, from Agua Claras/Ceiba, northeastern Puerto Rico (Kolbe et al. 2012. Ecol. Evol. 2:1503–1516). *Anolis* lizards have a visible external tympanum (Losos 2009. Lizards in an Evolutionary Tree: Ecology and Adaptive Radiation of Anoles. University of California Press, Berkeley, California. 528 pp.). Audition in *Anolis* lizards is sensitive, with a significant directional capacity (Christensen-Dalgaard and Manley 2008. J. Assoc. Res. Otol. 9:407–416), and hearing ranges are comparable to that of small birds (1000–7000 Hz) (Brittan-Powell et al. 2010. J. Acous. Soc. Am. 128:787–794). Hearing in *Anolis* lizards may be important in predator evasion (Cantwell and Forrest 2013. J. Herpetol. 47:293–298), and therefore damaged or missing auditory structures could reduce survival. Here we report an absent tympanum in *A. cristatellus*.

At 1400 h on 1 November 2015, an adult male *A. cristatellus* was observed at Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens, Miami, Florida (25.403°N, 80.163°W, WGS 84; < 1 m elev.), and subsequently captured using a 3-m Cabela telescopic fishing pole with Glide dental floss noose. This lizard is a member of the population of *A. cristatellus* in South Miami originating from Agua Claras/Ceiba, northeastern Puerto Rico. Upon capture, we noted that this lizard was lacking an external tympanum on the right side of its head, such that skin covered the ear opening. Assessment under a laboratory microscope revealed that scalation was faultless and continuous such that skin regeneration following an injury was deemed unlikely. We have not observed this condition in any other *Anolis* lizards at FTBG despite extensive sampling. Moreover, we could not find any published reports noting the complete absence of the tympanum for any species of *Anolis* lizard. Despite at an apparent auditory disadvantage this individual was fully mature and in good condition, suggesting no obvious consequences of this abnormality.

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ANOLIS EQUESTRIS (Cuban Knight Anole). NOVEL PREDATOR-PREY INTERACTION. *Anolis equestris* and *A. cristatellus* are native to Cuba and Puerto Rico respectively, and have both been introduced to South Florida, USA (Kraus 2009. Alien Reptiles and Amphibians: A Scientific Compendium and Analysis. Springer, Dordrecht, Netherlands, 563 pp.; Krysko et al. 2003. Florida Sci. 66:74–79). In South Miami, Florida, both species occur sympatrically. *Anolis equestris* is a large species, reaching up

to 20 cm SVL, and has a broad generalist diet including invertebrates, small vertebrates, and fruits (Giery et al. 2013. *Funct. Ecol.* 27:1436–1441). In Miami, Florida, they have been observed preying upon smaller sympatric species of *Anolis* (Stroud 2013. *Herpetol. Rev.* 44:661), although never *A. cristatellus*. *A. cristatellus* are smaller than *A. equestris* with a maximum SVL of ~7 cm, and feed primarily on invertebrates, specifically leaf-litter insects. These two species show slight differences in microhabitat use; *A. equestris* are highly arboreal and typically occur in tree canopies, while *A. cristatellus* commonly utilize lower tree trunks, branches and the ground. Here we report on a predation event of *A. equestris* on an *A. cristatellus* in South Florida.

On 16 August 2015 at 1415 h, we observed a large adult male *A. equestris* (~ 18 cm SVL) in Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden (25.676°N, 80.274°W, WGS 84; < 1 m elev.) on the trunk of a palm tree approximately 3 m off the ground covered by canopy shade. Below the *A. equestris* on the same tree trunk, at approximately 1.5 m, an adult female *A. cristatellus* (~ 4.5 cm SVL) was observed basking. The female *A. cristatellus* moved horizontally around the tree trunk into the field of vision of the *A. equestris* (approx. 1–1.5 m away). Upon detecting movement of the *A. cristatellus*, the *A. equestris* immediately and rapidly moved down the trunk in pursuit. Despite retreating to its previous thermally-exposed position, the *A. cristatellus* was caught and preyed upon by the *A. equestris* on the tree trunk (approx. ~ 0.7 m from the ground). Ingestion took < 1 minute. This is the first recorded observation of *A. equestris* preying upon *A. cristatellus* in South Florida.

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ANOLIS SAGREI (Brown Anole). AVIAN PREDATION. Avian predators are often documented preying upon various herpetofauna, and passerines are no exception. Some families, such as Laniidae (shrikes; Chiu et al. 2011. *Herpetol. Notes* 4:87–89), possess specialized foraging behaviors (spearing with plant thorns) to subdue insects and small vertebrate prey. However, even dietary generalists such as the American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) opportunistically consume small lizards (Smith 1983. *Herpetol. Rev.* 14:46). Here we report a new predator-prey relationship that also documents a new passerine family as a lizard predator.

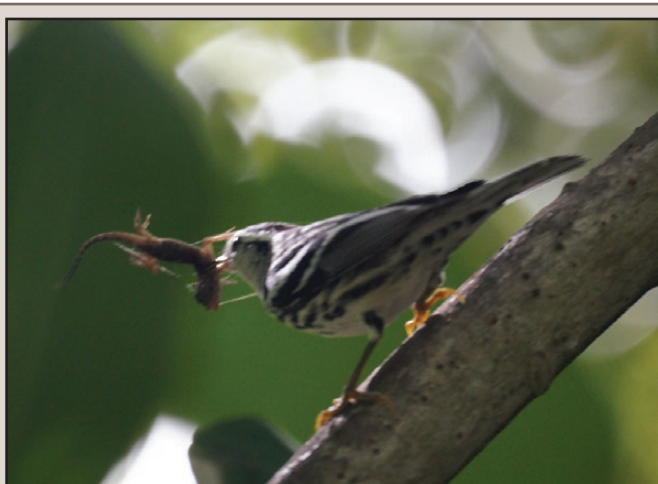


FIG. 1. A Black-and-White Warbler (*Minotilta varia*; Family Parulidae) carrying a juvenile (*Anolis sagrei*). Note the apparent spider web residue on the anole.

Anolis sagrei, a native to the Caribbean Islands, was introduced to Florida and Key West over 100 years ago. This species has been highly successful when introduced to new areas due to its competitive adaptability and limited predation by native species (Losos et al. 1993. *Oecologia* 95:525–532). On 7 November 2015 at Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Gardens (24.5737°N, 81.7493°W) in the Lower Florida Keys, Monroe Co., Florida, USA, we observed an adult Black-and-White Warbler (*Minotilta varia*; Parulidae) carrying a juvenile *Anolis sagrei* that appeared to be covered in spider webbing (Fig. 1). The warbler proceeded to beat the lizard against a tree trunk similarly to the expected handling of a large insect as prey. Wood warblers (Parulidae) are primarily insectivorous and opportunistically frugivorous (Greenberg 1981. *Biotropica* 13:215–223) and ours is the first documentation of any species from that family preying upon a lizard. Given that the *A. sagrei* was covered in spider webbing, it is probable that the warbler opportunistically collected the anole from a spider web as opposed to capturing and subduing the prey on its own. As this is the first documentation of a parulid preying upon a lizard, wood warblers are likely infrequent predators of lizards; however the value of exotic species as prey for migratory birds warrants further examination.

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ANOLIS VANIDICUS (Escambray Grass Anole). MAXIMUM ELEVATION. *Anolis vanidicus* (Fig. 1) is an endemic dactyloid lizard restricted to the Guamuhaya Range and immediate surroundings

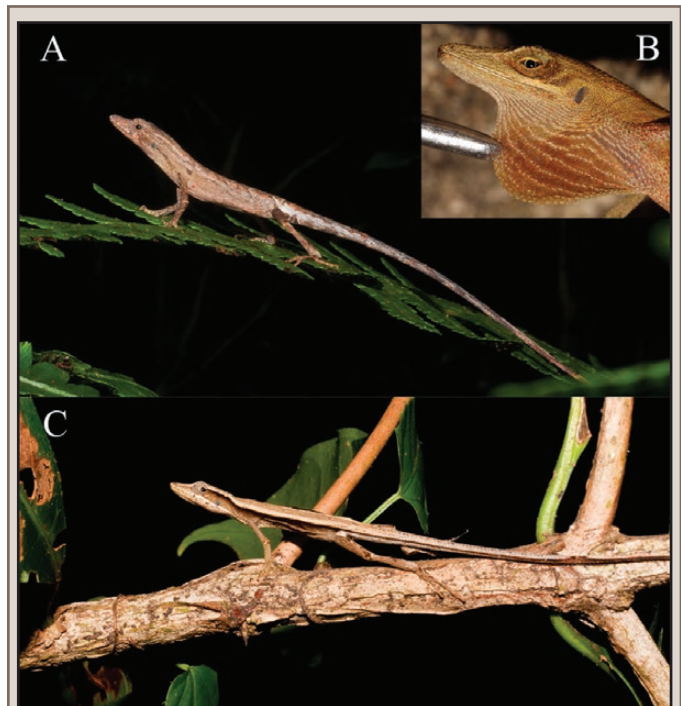


FIG. 1. *Anolis vanidicus* from the municipality of Pico San Juan Cumanayagua, Cienfuegos Province, Cuba: A) male, B) male's dewlap and C) female. Photos by Raimundo López-Silvero (A, C) and Ruben Marrero (B).