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**CYRTODACTYLUS PULCHELLUS (Malayan Forest Gecko). EN-DOPARASITE.** *Cyrtodactylus pulchellus* ranges from southern Thailand throughout much of Peninsular Malaysia; it is nocturnal and scansorial, restricting its activity to rocks, trees, or root systems (Grismer 2011. *Lizards of Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore and their Adjacent Archipelagos*. Edition Chimaira, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. 728 pp.). We know of no reports of endoparasites from *C. pulchellus*. Here we report the presence of one species of Nematoda, thereby establishing the helminth list for this gecko.

One female *C. pulchellus* (SVL = 111 mm), from Peninsular Malaysia, Penang State, Pulau Pinang. Air Terjun Titi, Kerawang (5.40388°N, 100.22333°E, WGS 84; 257 m elev.) and deposited in the herpetological collection of La Sierra University (LSUHC), Riverside, California, USA as LSUHC 10022 was examined. The specimen had been collected in March 2011 by hand, was euthanized within 12 h of capture, preserved in 10% formalin, and stored in 70% ethanol. The body cavity was opened by a longitudinal incision, and the digestive tract was removed and opened. The esophagus, stomach, small intestine, and large intestine were examined for helminths under a dissecting microscope. Only one nematode was found (small intestine) which was placed on a glass slide in a drop of lactophenol, a coverslip added, and identification made from this temporary wet mount utilizing Anderson et al. (2009. *Keys to the Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates*, Archival Volume. CAB International, Wallingford, Oxfordshire. 463 pp.) and Gibbons (2010. *Keys to the Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates*, Supplementary Volume. CAB International, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, UK. 416 pp.). The nematode was identified as a male *Rhabdoconia* sp. and subsequently deposited in the Harold W. Manter Parasitology Laboratory (HWML), The University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA as HWML 92091.

We have assigned our specimen to *Rhabdoconia* because the cylindrical, elongated pharynx is dilated anteriorly to form a well-defined funnel-shaped buccal cavity armed with sclerotized rods projecting anteriorly as teeth. In addition, caudal alae are absent, gubernaculum is absent, and spicules are unequal and dissimilar.

*Rhabdoconia* is a speciose genus considered by Asmatullah-Kakar et al. (2012. *Pakistan J. Zool.* 44:95–99) to contain over 160 species. Members of *Rhabdoconia* are commonly found as parasites of freshwater fishes, less frequently in marine fish from all zoogeographical realms (Bilqees 1979. *Zool. Scripta* 88:107–110; Lakshmi 2001. *Bol. Chileno Parasitol.* 57:3–4; Moravec 2007. *Folia Parasitol.* 55:144–160; Moravec 2010. *Acta Parasitol.* 55:144–160).

*Rhabdoconia* sp. in *C. pulchellus* is a new host record and the first report of this genus from a lizard.

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**HOLBROOKIA LACERATA (Spot-tailed Earless Lizard). BURYING BEHAVIOR.** Burying behavior is well documented within the phrynosomatid sand lizards, but no literature exists on the burying habits of *Holbrookia lacerata*. Other members of this clade prefer sandy soils and are known to bury in soft soils to avoid

extreme temperatures and predation, and to lay eggs (Axtell 1956. *Bull. Chicago Acad. Sci.* 10:163–179; Brennan and Holycross 2009. *A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles in Arizona*. Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix. 150 pp.; Hibbitts and Hibbitts 2015. *Texas Lizards: A Field Guide*. University of Texas Press, Austin. 351 pp.). *Uma notata* (Colorado Desert Fringe-toed Lizard) have been documented burying themselves in coarse pebbly sand (Pough 1970. *Copeia* 1970:145). However, clay soils are preferred by *H. lacerata* (Hibbitts and Hibbitts, *op. cit.*).

Over the course of a telemetry study on *H. lacerata* from May to July 2017, a number of individuals were discovered buried in multiple substrates and under varied weather conditions. All lizards used in the study were adults. Two sites were used for this study: one located in Crockett County, Texas, USA (ca. 30.9300°N, 101.1916°W; WGS 84) and another located in Val Verde County, Texas, USA (ca. 29.3712°N, 100.7722°W; WGS 84). Lizards from these sites represent two separate subspecies: *H. l. lacerata* (Northern Spot-tailed Earless Lizard) at the Crockett County site and *H. l. subcaudalis* (Southern Spot-tailed Earless Lizard) at the Val Verde County site. The Crockett County site consists of a mixture of Chihuahuan thornscrub and arid grasslands. The Val Verde County site is heavily modified and consists of a mowed airfield surrounded by Chihuahuan thornscrub. Both sites are primarily clay soils intermixed with varied amounts of limestone.

In Val Verde County, eight individual lizards were observed at least partially buried a combined total of 37 times. Many of these events were sequential encounters in the exact same location. Assuming these represented times the lizards did not become active and then rebury themselves at the same location, lizards were discovered buried 17 times. Five lizards were female, two of which were gravid during and after our observations. With respect to weather, 78% of encounters with buried lizards occurred during overcast or rainy conditions, while the remaining observations were made during sunny conditions. Lizards never buried more than 1 cm deep, and were occasionally partially exposed. One female lizard was documented twice buried into a harvester ant (*Pogonomyrmex* sp.) mound. Four lizards were recorded buried along caliche roads in shallow, relatively loose gravel. Two lizards were discovered buried in the detritus and shallow soil occupying cracks in an abandoned asphalt runway. Additionally, 325 of 578 total observations (56.2%) of lizards were found completely hidden underneath thick forbs or grass bunches but not buried. Most of these lizards were hiding in detritus, primarily dead grass, beneath the plants. In total, lizards were hidden 62.6% of encounters.

In Crockett County, 10 individual lizards were observed at least partially buried a combined total of 82 times. Excluding sequential encounters in the same exact location, lizards were observed buried 40 times. Six of these lizards were female, and four were male. Five of the females were gravid during burying observations. In contrast to Val Verde County, only 25% of encounters with buried lizards in Crockett County occurred under overcast or rainy conditions. Lizards were recorded buried, or actively burying, in caliche roads 13 times. Additionally, 144 of 475 total observations (30.3%) of lizards were found completely hidden beneath thick forbs or grass bunches, and under dry cattle feces in three cases. Similar to the Val Verde County site, detritus beneath the plants were used as cover. In total, lizards were hidden 47.6% of encounters. Burying behavior at both sites seemed to coincide with longer periods of inactivity (i.e. cool, overcast days). Short-term refuge use was most often just the cover of vegetation or detritus.

Other members of this genus have been shown to be extremely wary, readily sprinting away when approached (Cooper 2000. Behaviour 137:1299–1315). This wariness, in conjunction with their cryptic pattern and the burying habits described here, suggest that the detection probability of this species could be extremely low.

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**HOLBROOKIA LACERATA (Spot-tailed Earless Lizard). PREDATION.** *Holbrookia lacerata* is a small phrynosomatid lizard that inhabits short-grass prairies in central and south Texas (USA) and adjacent Mexico. Populations of this species are thought to be in decline, but little is known about its natural history, especially sources of predation. Here we report an observation of predation on *H. lacerata* by a Rio Grande Ground Squirrel, *Ictidomys parvidens*.

At 1325 h on 4 June 2017, during a telemetry study of *H. lacerata* on Laughlin Air Force Base in Val Verde County, Texas, USA, while attempting to locate a study lizard on the airfield, we received a signal, and approximately 30 m ahead a ground squirrel was eating a food item. Upon further inspection through binoculars, the food item was determined to be the telemetered study lizard in question (Fig. 1). The lizard was still alive when first sighted. The squirrel shook the lizard a few times, and then began eating it, headfirst. When approached, the squirrel retreated to a nearby burrow with the lizard. The lizard was a gravid female (SVL = 58 mm, mass = 6.4 g). The lizard had two missing toes and a partially regrown tail, perhaps contributing to its capture.

Sciurid consumption of animals, particularly small vertebrates, has been well documented (Callahan 1993. Great Basin Nat. 53:137–144) but little literature exists on the specific predatory habits of *Ictidomys parvidens*. This squirrel is native to southern and western Texas, southeast New Mexico, and adjacent



FIG. 1. *Ictidomys parvidens* preying upon *Holbrookia lacerata*. The radiotransmitter can be seen affixed to the back of the lizard.

Mexico. It occupies grass and shrublands, and shares much of this habitat with *H. lacerata*. These two species are commonly encountered on the airfield portion of the base. Both also exist in above-average numbers (as compared to surrounding habitat) and interactions between species are likely not uncommon.

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**LYGODACTYLUS KLUGEI and TROPIDURUS COCOROBENSIS. DEATH FEIGNING.** *Lygodactylus klugei* is a small, diurnal, and arboreal lizard occurring in the areas of Caatinga domains, in northeastern Brazil. *Tropidurus cocorobensis* is a medium-sized and diurnal lizard with a relictual distribution in the northeastern semi-arid zone, occurring in the states of Bahia, Alagoas, and Pernambuco (Uetz et al. 2018. The Reptile Database; <http://www.reptile-database.org>; accessed 8 January 2018). Information about its natural history remains scarce. Here, we describe defensive behavior of *L. klugei* and *T. cocorobensis* in an area of caatinga, Brazil.

At 0953 h on 18 October 2017, during fieldwork in the Catimbau National Park, Pernambuco, Brazil (8.34150°S, 37.14385°W, WGS 84; 764 m elev.), a *T. cocorobensis* was captured by hand. Immediately after capture the lizard displayed death feigning behavior, remaining immobile for about three minutes.

The second observation occurred at 0923 h on 21 December 2017, also in Catimbau National Park. Here we captured two *L. klugei*; each displayed similar death feigning behavior. The lizards remained on their back, with eyes open and feet up, both for about a minute, after which time each returned to its usual position.

Our observations are consistent with thanatosis in response to the perceived threat of predation. Thanatosis has been reported in lizards including species of Tropiduridae: *Tropidurus montanus* (Machado et al. 2007. South Am. J. Herpetol. 4:136–140), *Eurolophosaurus nanuzae* (Galdino and Pereira 2002. Herpetol. Rev. 33:54), *E. divaricatus* (Gomes et al. 2004. Amphibia-Reptilia 25:321–325), *T. torquatus*, *T. hispidus*, and *T. cocorobensis* (Bertolucci et al. 2006. Herpetol. Rev. 37:472–473). Our observations are the first record of this defensive behavior for *L. klugei* and the second for *T. cocorobensis*.

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**MICROLOPHUS ATACAMENSIS (Atacamen Pacific Iguana). DIET.** *Microlophus atacamensis* (Tropiduridae) lives in the