Herpetological type specimens in the Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University

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The research collection of amphibians and reptiles in the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science was initiated in 1946 with the incidental acquisition of herpetological specimens during the Museum's first ornithological expedition to the Mexican state of San Luis Potosí. A series of such expeditions to San Luis Potosí through 1953 yielded 1821 specimens of amphibians and reptiles. To date this remains one of the largest and most diverse herpetological collections made in that state. Included in this material were eight taxa new to science—the holotypes of six species and two subspecies were designated from among these specimens. The first taxon to be described was appropriately named *Gerrhonotus liecephalus loweryi* (Tihen, 1948), with a subspecific epithet honoring Dr. George H. Lowery, Jr., the founder of the Museum of Natural Science. Although his own research was confined to the fields of ornithology and mammalogy, Dr. Lowery was very supportive of herpetological research in the Museum, and he always encouraged his ornithological and mammalogical field parties to collect amphibian and reptile specimens as well. This accounts for the fact that many of the herpetological type specimens in the Museum are from Peru, a country in which he had a long-standing interest.

The Museum was without a professional herpetologist until 1963, when the senior author was hired as Curator of Amphibians and Reptiles. During his tenure the collection has increased from 6550 to 55,660 specimens (as of January 1993). David C. Cannatella was hired as Curator of Amphibians in 1988, at which time the senior author became Curator of Reptiles. The junior author succeeded Cannatella in 1991.

In the list that follows we have attempted to include all of the herpetological type material in the Museum of Natural Science. We believe
Table 1. Geographic provenance of the herpetological type material in the Museum of Natural Science.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Holotypes</th>
<th>Paratypes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oaxaca</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Luis Potosí</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamaulipas</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>118</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

that we have included all holotype material, but paratypes were never accorded special treatment and it is likely that we have overlooked some. We would appreciate being notified of any LSUMZ type specimens that are not in the list.

The collection of amphibians and reptiles contains 25 holotypes and at least 277 paratypes. Holotypes of 20 species and 5 subspecies are present, as are 185 species paratypes and 92 subspecies paratypes. The majority of the holotype material comes from San Luis Potosí, Mexico, and from Peru. The overall geographic provenance of the type material is presented in Table 1.

Until recently, the research division of the Museum of Natural Science was referred to as the Museum of Zoology, hence the acronym LSUMZ. When the Museum of Zoology designation was discarded in 1988 as being unnecessarily confusing, the long-standing acronym was retained for the sake of continuity. Some authors have used the acronym "LSU" for specimens in this collection, but this is incorrect and could be confused with the collection at Louisiana State University, Shreveport (correctly LSUS).

Information about each type specimen in the following list includes the LSUMZ number, collecting locality, collector(s), and collection date. In the case of holotypes, the type locality is listed in quotes exactly as it appeared in the type description, and the age, sex, and original collector's number are included. Each of these specimen records has been checked against
the LSUMZ catalogue and any data tags attached to the specimens. Any discrepancies among these sources of information are discussed.

AMPHIBIA
CAUDATA
FAMILY PLETHODONTIDAE


HOLOTYPE: LSUMZ 25514, “along the Río Santa Rosa a few kilometers upstream from the Río Apurímac between Patacococha and San José (12° 44'S, 73° 46'W), Departamento de Ayacucho, Perú, at an elevation of 1000 m (3300 ft.).” Adult female. Collected by Richard Thomas on 2 May 1971. Original number RT-P 1594.

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 25509-12, type locality, collected by Richard Thomas on 1 May 1971; LSUMZ 25516, same data as holotype; LSUMZ 25517-18, type locality, collected by Richard Thomas on 20 May 1971.


PARATYPES: LSUMZ 15411, near U. S. Hwy. 60, 2.1 mi S Smithland, Livingston Co., Kentucky, 400 ft. (122 m) elev., collected by Douglas A. Rossman and Nita J. Rossman on 22 March 1958; LSUMZ 15728, 15732, 15944, 16005, 16061, same as previous locality and collectors, collected on 11 May 1958.

COMMENTS: These paratypes were designated in the type description as DAR 803, 861, 859, 862-63, and 860, respectively. The type description referred to the paratypes having been collected “with holotype,” implying that they were collected on the same day (28 July 1957). However, although they were collected at the type locality, they were collected on different dates.


COMMENTS: The type description listed all of these paratypes as having been collected ca. 1 mi NE Tilarán; the above localities are from the LSUMZ catalogue and field tags on the specimens.
ANURA
FAMILY HYLIDAE

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 37078, Cordillera Colán, 9775 ft (2981 m) elev., NE La Peca, Depto. de Amazonas, Peru, collected by Lynn J. Barkley on 8 September 1978; LSUMZ 37093, same as previous locality but 9225 ft (2804 m) elev., collected by Thomas S. Schulenberg on 8 September 1978; LSUMZ 37097, same as previous locality but 10,500 ft (3192 m) elev., collected by Morris D. Williams on 2 September 1978; LSUMZ 37098, same as previous locality but 10,000 ft (3040 m) elev., collected by Morris D. Williams on 30 August 1978; LSUMZ 37099, same as previous locality and collector, collected 25 August 1978; LSUMZ 37103, same as previous locality but 10,800 ft (3283 m) elev., collected by Thomas S. Schulenberg on 7 September 1978.

COMMENTS: The type description listed the type locality as E (rather than NE) La Peca.


PARATYPES: LSUMZ 32050-51, 32059, same data as holotype; LSUMZ 32052-53, 33 km SW Huancabamba, below 10,000 ft camp at Cruz Blanca, Depto. Piura, Peru, 6800 ft (2130 m) elev., collected by Richard Thomas on 1 December 1974.

COMMENTS: The locality for the holotype in the LSUMZ catalogue reads “Peru: Depto. Piura: ca. 15 km SE Canchaque on Huancabamba road, ca. 5700 ft (<1 km E Puente Fierro).” Paratype LSUMZ 32052 was exchanged to the University of Texas at Arlington in 1987 and is now UTA A-20920.


FAMILY LEPTODACTYLIDAE

Eleutherodactylus mendax Duellman, 1978a, Herpetologica 34 (3):266.
PARATYPES: LSUMZ 26180, between Mitupucuru and Estero Ruana on Tambo-Valle del Apurímac path, Depto. Ayacucho, Peru, ca. 7200 m elev., collected by Alfred L. Gardner and Richard Thomas on 18 May 1971; LSUMZ 26656, same as previous locality and date, collected by Richard Thomas.

HOLOTYPE: LSUMZ 26150, “Huanhuchayocc, 1650 m, on trail from Tambo to Valle del Apurímac, Departamento Ayacucho, Perú (12° 45’S; 73° 50’W).” Adult female. Collected by Alfred L. Gardner (misspelled as “Gardiner” in the type description) and Richard Thomas between 5 and 7 May 1971. Original number RT-P 1675.
PARATYPES: LSUMZ 26145, 26182, from Balta, Río Curanja, 300 m elev., Depto. Loreto, Peru, collected by Richard Thomas on 9 May 1971; LSUMZ 26147-48, 26254, Río Santa Rosa, between Patacocha and San José, 3300 ft (1020 m) elev., Depto. Ayacucho, Peru, collected by Richard Thomas on 1 May 1971; LSUMZ 26151, same data as holotype; LSUMZ 26153, type locality, collected by Richard Thomas on 7 May 1971; LSUMZ 26158, same locality as LSU 26147, collected by Richard Thomas on 20 May 1971; LSUMZ 26251, just below Yuraccayucu, on trail from Tambo to Valle de Apurímac, 2650 m elev., Depto. Ayacucho, Peru, collected by Alfred L. Gardner on 20 May 1971.
COMMENTS: LSUMZ 26154 was listed in the type description as a paratype, as was KU 175082, but these numbers represent the same specimen. LSUMZ 26154 was exchanged to the University of Kansas prior to the type description. The type description listed the locality for paratype LSUMZ 26251 as “above Yuraccayucu.”


Phyllonastes heyeri Lynch, 1986, J. Herpetol. 20 (3):426. PARATYPES: LSUMZ 32134, ca. 15 km E Canchaque by road on Huancabamba Rd., Depto. Piura, Peru, ca. 5700 ft (1647 m) elev., collected by Richard Thomas on 8 December 1974; LSUMZ 32169-70, 33 km SW Huancabamba, below camp about 7000 ft (3100 m) elev., Depto. Piura, Peru, collected by Richard Thomas on 28 November 1974; LSUMZ
32173, 33 km SW Huancabamba, below camp, Depto. Piura, Peru, ca. 10,000 ft, collected by Richard Thomas on 4 December 1974.

COMMENTS: The type description lists all three of these localities as "33 km SW Huancabamba, Depto. Piura, Peru." The localities above are from the LSUMZ catalogue.

REPTILIA
LACERTILIA
FAMILY ANGUIDAE

PARATYPE: LSUMZ 21938, Barreras, Prov. Azua, Dominican Republic, collected by locals for Albert Schwartz on 25 July 1969. This species was placed in the genus *Sauresia* by Strahm and Schwartz (1977:66).


COMMENTS: Paratypes LSUMZ 474, 476, 484, and 486 were donated to the University of Kansas in 1948 and are now KU 24065, 24064, 24063, and 24066, respectively. Paratype LSUMZ 483 was exchanged to the Carnegie Museum in 1966 and is now CM 41517.


COMMENTS: The name of the collector of the holotype has been confused. McConkey (1955) cited it as “C. D. Peterson,” a name which also appears on one of the two data tags attached to the type. However, the LSUMZ catalogue lists the collector as “O. D. Peterson” and the other data tag attached to the type reads “C. O. Peterson.” The tag which reads “C. D. Peterson” also contains the type citation and so obviously is not the original tag. The other tag (presumably the original) lists “C. O. Peterson.” In addition, Richard Graber’s field notes list the collector as “C. O. Peterson.” The “O. D. Peterson” in the catalogue is clearly a mistake.

FAMILY GEKKONIDAE

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 16987-92, same data as holotype.


COMMENTS: The data tag on paratype LSUMZ 21912 states that it was collected on 7-8 April 1970, but this is clearly a mistake and the specimen was collected with the other members of the series in 1966.
PARATYPES: LSUMZ 21915-19, 4.8 km S Cabrera, Prov. María Trinidad Sánchez, Dominican Republic, collected by Donald W. Buden and Richard Thomas on 29 November 1964.

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 24679-81, 1.9 mi (3.0 km) N Cuce de Ocoa, Prov. Peravia, Dominican Republic, 700 ft (214 m) elev., collected by Jeffrey R. Buffett and Albert Schwartz on 19 November 1971.

COMMENTS: This paratype was listed in the type description as LSUMZ 21927, but that number is a paratype of Sphaerodactylus difficilis diolenius from 1 km W Guayacanes, Prov. San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic. The data for LSUMZ 21937 match the information in the type description exactly, and we assume that it is the real paratype.

FAMILY IGUANIDAE

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 22367-71, approximately 3 mi (4.8 km) W Roatán on path to Flowers Bay, Isla de Roatán, Depto. de las Islas de la Bahía, Honduras, near sea level, collected by Larry David Wilson on 19 August 1969; LSUMZ 22399, near Roatán, Isla de Roatán, Depto. de las Islas de la Bahía, Honduras, collected by Larry David Wilson on 20 August 1969.

FAMILY POLYCHRIDAE


FAMILY PHRYNOSOMATIDAE

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 23001-03, 23007-19, Closed Canyon, 14.3 road mi (23.0 km) SE Redford, Presidio Co., Texas, collected by R. Earl Olson on 10 June 1968; LSUMZ 23004-06, same as previous locality and collector, collected on 20 June 1968.

FAMILY TROPIDURIDAE

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 27231-32, ca. 15 km by road E Canchaque on Huancabamba Road, Depto. Piura, Peru, ca. 5700 ft (1740 m) elev., collected by Richard Thomas on 6 December 1974; LSUMZ 27233, same locality as LSUMZ 27231, collected by Richard Thomas on 9 December 1974.

COMMENTS: Paratype LSUMZ 19544 is listed in the specimen catalogue as having been collected on 8 July 1968, but the specimen tag states 11 July, the date of the remainder of the series LSUMZ 19545-48.

PARATYPES: LSUMZ 27212-15, 27222, ca. 15 km by road E Canchaque on Huancabamba Road, Depto. Piura, Peru, ca. 5700 ft (1737 m) elev., collected by Richard Thomas on 4 December 1974; LSUMZ 27217, same locality as LSUMZ 27212, collected by Richard Thomas on 5-6 December 1974; LSUMZ 27219-20, same locality as LSUMZ 27212, collected by

COMMENTS: The type description states that paratypes LSUMZ 27212-15, 27217, 27219-20, and 27222 were all collected on 4 December 1974, but this is actually only true of LSUMZ 27212-15 and 27222 (see above).

FAMILY XENOSAURIDAE


COMMENTS: Paratypes LSUMZ 489, 492, 496, and 502-03 were donated to the University of Kansas in 1948 and are now KU 24047, 24045, 24044, 24043, and 24046, respectively. Paratype LSUMZ 491 was exchanged to the University of Texas at Arlington in 1985 and is now UTA R-14092. Paratype LSUMZ 493 was exchanged to the San Diego Natural History Museum in 1985 and is now SDSNH 65033.

SERPENTES

FAMILY BOIDAE


FAMILY COLUBRIDAE


PARATYPES: LSUMZ 14326-27, same data as holotype; LSUMZ 14328-29, offspring of holotype born 3 August 1966; LSUMZ 16410-11, Mil Diez, ca. 1.8 mi SW EL Salto, Durango, Mexico, collected by Richard M. Blaney on

COMMENTS: The type description listed paratypes LSU 16410-11 as having been collected at the type locality. Paratype LSUMZ 14326 was prepared as a skin and complete skeleton. Paratype LSUMZ 14327 was exchanged to the University of Michigan in 1968 and is now UMMZ 128536.


PARATYPE: LSUMZ 11836, Alabama and Coushatta Indian Reservation on U.S. Hwy. 190, Polk County, Texas, collected by Henry R. Hermann on 6 May 1956.


PARATYPE: LSUMZ 18000, Kenscoff, Dept. de l’Ouest, Haiti, 5000 ft (1525 m), collected by Elie Cyphale on 11 July 1962.


HOLOTYPE: LSUMZ 274, “Xilitla region, San Luis Potosí [México].”
COMMENTS: Rhadinaea binfordi was synonymized with R. godmani ( Günther) by Myers (1974:122).

COMMENTS: Taylor (1949) listed the date of collection as 12 May 1947 but the original data tag reads 12 June.


COMMENTS: Schmidtophis was synonymized with Chersodromus by Dixon and Ketchersid (1969:165).

PARATYPE: LSUMZ 33737, same data as holotype.

COMMENTS: The locality for the holotype in the LSUMZ catalogue reads “México: San Luis Potosí: Xilitla region.” The locality on the specimen tag reads “San Luis Potosi, Rancho Miramar Grande, ca. 4500 ft (above Xilitla).”

PARATYPE: LSUMZ 35340, Valle de la Gruta, ca. 1.5 mi NW Rancho del Cielo, 5100 ft. (1556 m) elev., Tamaulipas, Mexico, collected by W. F. Harrison on 10 April 1953.
COMMENTS: Formerly UMMZ 108018. This specimen was obtained through an exchange in 1968.

COMMENTS: The locality for paratype LSUMZ 7132 in the LSUMZ catalogue, the specimen tag, and D. A. Rossman’s original catalogue read “3.25 mi E Econina River, Taylor Co., Florida.” This is the same locality as that listed above.

Tetranorhinus nigroluteus dichromaticus Villa, 1969, J. Herpetol. 3 (3-4):145.
PARATYPES: LSUMZ 21160-78, 0.5-2 km N Roatán, Roatán Island, Islas de la Bahía, Honduras, collected by John R. Meyer and Larry David Wilson on 14 July 1967.
COMMENTS: The locality listed in the type description for these paratypes reads “2-5 km N Coxen Hole, Roatán Island, Islas de la Bahía, Honduras,” but the LSUMZ catalogue lists the locality referred to above.
Acknowledgments

We would like to thank J. Simmons of the Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, for information concerning several LSUMZ types exchanged to that institution. The late A. Schwartz pointed out several errors in the MS as well as a number of paratypes of which we were unaware. The MS was reviewed also by R. Zink and J. Slowinski.

Literature Cited


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