

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** JMP was granted by the Mutis program of the MAE-AECI (Spain). The travel to the museums in the U.S. was founded by The Ernst Mayr Travel Grant in Animal Systematics (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University) to JMP. We are grateful to the Museo de Historia Natural Noel Kempff Mercado, especially to Dr. M. SUÁREZ, A. JUSTINIANO, R. VESPA, R. MONTAÑO and L. GONZÁLEZ. To J. APARICIO (CBF), C. AGUILAR and J. CORDOVA (Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima), H. ZAHER and P. E. VANZOLINI (MZUSP), J. ROSADO (MCZ) and R. HEYER (USNM) for help and space provided at their institutions; to D. RAMOS (MNK) for ordering data of the collections; and to C. HADDAD (MN) for his comments. Finally, we are deeply indebted to the people of Chalaní Ecologde (especially to its manager, Guido MAMANI) and Madidi National Park (especially to its director, O. LOAYZA) for facilitating our work in the Madidi area. This work was partially funded by the project REN/GLO 2001-1046 of the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology (I. DE LA RIVA, Principal Investigator).

**REFERENCES:** BARTHOLOTT, W. & WINIGER, M. (1998): Biodiversity, a challenge for development research and policy. Berlin, Heidelberg, New York (Springer Verlag), 429 pp. CADLE, J. E. & GONZÁLEZ, L. & GUERRERO, G. (2003): Anfíbios y reptiles; pp. 41-45. In: ALVERSON, W. S. & MOSKOVITS, D. K. & HALM, I. C. (eds.): Bolivia: Pando: Federico Román. Rapid Biological Inventories Report 06, The Field Museum, Chicago. DE LA RIVA, I. & KÖHLER, J. & LÖTTERS, S. & REICHLER, S. (2000): Ten years of research on Bolivian amphibians: updated checklist, distribution, taxonomic problems, literature and iconography.- Revista Española de Herpetología, Barcelona; 14: 19-164. DE SOUZA, M. B. & HADDAD, C. F. B. (2003): Redescription and reevaluation of the generic status of *Leptodactylus dantasi* (Amphibia, Anura, Leptodactylidae) and description of its unusual advertisement call.- Journal of Herpetology, Lawrence; 37 (3): 490-497. KÖHLER, J. (2000): Amphibian diversity in Bolivia: a study with special reference to montane forest regions.- Bonner zoologische Monographien, Bonn; 48: 1-244. FROST, D. R. (2004): Amphibian species of the world: an online reference. Version 3.0 (22 August, 2004). Electronic Database accessible at <<http://research.amnh.org/herpetology/amphibia/index.html>> American Museum of Natural History, New York [last accessed February 10, 2005].

**KEY WORDS:** Amphibia: Anura: *Hydrolaetare schmidtii*, distribution, *Hyla balzani*, *Hyla leali*, *Hyla minuta*, *Osteocephalus buckleyi*, *Phyllomedusa palliata*, *Scinax castroviejoi*, *Scinax garbei*, *Scinax nasicus*, *Sphaenorhynchus lacteus*, *Leptodactylus didymus*, *Leptodactylus knudseni*, *Chiasmocleis ventrimaculata*, *Pipa pipa*, new amphibian records, megadiversity country, Bolivia

SUBMITTED: October 11, 2004

**AUTHORS:** José M. PADIAL & Ignacio DE LA RIVA; Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales-CSIC, C/ José Gutiérrez Abascal 2, 28006 Madrid, Spain <[iriva@mncn.csic.es](mailto:iriva@mncn.csic.es)>.

## Notes on a juvenile *Celestus montanus* SCHMIDT, 1933, a rare lizard from Parque Nacional El Cusuco, Honduras

*Celestus montanus* SCHMIDT, 1933 was described based on a single adult female "from the mountains west of San Pedro, Honduras (the Sierra de Merendon)" at around 1,400 m elevation, a locality that is likely along Quebrada del Infierno on the eastern slope of Cerro de La Virtud, Depto. Cortés (SCHMIDT 1942; MCCRANIE & WILSON 2002). The second and third specimens, both females, were reported by WILSON et al. (1986) from a locality in southern Depto. Cortés near the eastern shore of Lago de Yojoa at 915 m elevation. This species is also known from the Guatemalan portion of the Merendón Mountains (J. CAMPBELL, pers. comm.).

On 13 July 2004, a juvenile *C. montanus* (UF 142324, deposited in the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, Florida) was collected while it was active on the ground near a rocky stream that runs through Guanales camp (15°48'55"N / 88°23'26"W; 1,225 m elevation), Parque Nacional El Cusuco, Depto. Cortés, Honduras. Guanales camp lies in a steep-sided stream valley in primary evergreen broad-leaf forest in the Premontane Wet Forest formation as defined by HOLDRIDGE (1967). This locality is less than 20 km west of the type locality, which is outside of the current boundary of P.N. El Cusuco. The type locality, while afforded some semblance of legal protection as part of the Zona Productora de Agua Cordillera de Merendón, was long ago denuded of the vegetation present when the type was collected (MCCRANIE & WILSON 2002: 412). Thus UF 142324 is the first example of *C. montanus* to demonstrate the occurrence of that species within an established protected area with intact habitat, important to note as WILSON & MCCRANIE (2004) listed *C. montanus* as a "high vulnerability species" in terms of conservation status. The fact that UF 142324 was collected on the ground is also noteworthy, as species of the genus *Celestus* tend to be regarded as either terres-

trial or arboreal in habit. The type specimen of *C. montanus* was collected "in the thatch of a ...shelter at the lower border of the cloud forest" (SCHMIDT 1933: 22), leading CAMPBELL & CAMARILLO R. (1994) to consider the species (listed as *Diploglossus montanus*) to be arboreal. WILSON et al. (1986) reported their two specimens were collected "on a hill," but did not specify the position of the animals.

This small juvenile *C. montanus* agrees well with the descriptions provided by SCHMIDT (1933), WILSON et al. (1986), and CAMPBELL & CAMARILLO R. (1994), with some exceptions noted here. The snout-to-vent length is 34.2 mm and the incomplete tail measures 36 mm. There are three prefrontals, one median and two laterals; and two rows of internasals. This specimen is apparently unique among known examples of *C. montanus* in having two small scales irregularly positioned between the anterior internasals and the rostral; the nasal contacts the rostral. Differing from SCHMIDT's (1933) original description, the frontal is more than two times as long as it is wide. The interparietal is equal to or slightly smaller than the size of the parietals. There are three loreals; five supraoculars, with supraocular two and three contacting the frontal; four postoculars; 10 and 11 supralabials, with supralabials seven and eight being directly below the orbit on both sides; and eight infralabials. The lower postnasal contacts the third supralabial. There are 34 scales around the body, and 71 scales along the dorsal midline. The fourth toe has 24 subdigital lamellae.

The color after two months in preservative is as follows: dorsal surfaces olive green, dorsal surface of head somewhat darker; supralabials dark gray-brown towards upper edges, pale cream towards lower edges, with a black line along the posterior edges; dark gray mottling on lateral surfaces between the head and forelimbs, with some infusion of pale blue from the ventral surface in the lateral gular region; lateral surfaces of body with some well defined and some poorly defined ocelli, increasing in number anteriorly; dorsal surface of limbs mottled brown and black; ventral surface of body pale blue; dorsal

surface of tail copper-infused green with some black flecks and subcaudal surface orange-tinted towards distal portion.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** Fieldwork was conducted as part of the Operation Wallacea Merendón Mountains Forest Research Project. Hector O. CARDONA (AFE-COHDEFOR) and Roberto DOWNING (San Pedro Sula, Honduras) assisted in obtaining export permits. Jonathan A. CAMPBELL (University of Texas, Arlington) verified the presence of *C. montanus* in Guatemala. Larry D. WILSON (Miami Dade College, Florida) kindly reviewed a draft of this manuscript.

**REFERENCES:** CAMPBELL, J. A. & CAMARILLO R., J. L. (1994): A new lizard of the genus *Diploglossus* (Anguidae: Diploglossinae) from Mexico, with a review of the Mexican and Northern Central American species.- *Herpetologica*, Johnson City, Tennessee; 50 (2): 193-209. HOLDRIDGE, L. R. (1967): Life zone ecology. Revised edition.- San Jose, Costa Rica (Tropical Science Center); pp. 206. MCCRANIE, J. R. & WILSON, L. D. (1995): A new arboreal lizard of the genus *Celestus* (Squamata: Anguidae) from Northern Honduras.- *Rev. Biol. Trop.*, San Jose, Costa Rica; 44 (1): 259-264. MCCRANIE, J. R. & WILSON, L. D. (2002): The amphibians of Honduras.- *Ithaca* (Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles); pp. 625. SCHMIDT, K. P. (1933): New reptiles and amphibians from Honduras.- *Zool. Ser. Field Mus. Nat. Hist.*, Chicago, Illinois; 20: 15-22. SCHMIDT, K. P. (1942): A cloud forest camp in Honduras.- *Chicago Nat.*, Chicago, Illinois; 5:23-30. WILSON, L. D. & MCCRANIE, J. R. (2004): The conservation status of the herpetofauna of Honduras.- *Amphib. Rept. Conserv.*, Modesto, California; 3 (1):6-33. WILSON, L. D. & PORRAS, L. & MCCRANIE, J. R. (1986): Distributional and taxonomic comments on some members of the Honduran herpetofauna.- *Milwaukee Publ. Mus. Contrib. Biol. Geol.*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; 66: 1-12.

**KEY WORDS:** Reptilia: Squamata: Anguidae: *Diploglossinae*: *Celestus montanus*, Honduras, Sierra de Omoa, Sierra de Merendon, Guanales camp, Parque Nacional El Cusucu

**SUBMITTED:** October 11, 2004

**AUTHORS:** Josiah H. TOWNSEND, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, and Division of Herpetology, Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, FL, 32611, USA <[jtownsend@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:jtownsend@flmnh.ufl.edu)>; Sara M. HUGHES, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA. <[hughes35@msu.edu](mailto:hughes35@msu.edu)>; Justin J. HINES, The Australian National University, School of Archaeology & Anthropology, AD Hope Building (Bldg 14), Canberra, ACT, 0200, Australia. <[justin.hines@anu.edu.au](mailto:justin.hines@anu.edu.au)>; David J. CARTER, Department of Biology, York College, Tadcaster Road, York, YO24 1UA, UK. <[DCarter@yorkcollege.ac.uk](mailto:DCarter@yorkcollege.ac.uk)>; Germán SANDOVAL, Herbario TEFH, Departamento de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. <[sango54@hotmail.com](mailto:sango54@hotmail.com)>

# ZOBODAT - [www.zobodat.at](http://www.zobodat.at)

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Herpetozoa](#)

Jahr/Year: 2005

Band/Volume: [18\\_1\\_2](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Townsend Josiah H., Hughes Sara M., Hines Justin J., Charter David J., Sandoval German

Artikel/Article: [Notes on a juvenile Celestus montanus SCHMIDT, 1933, a rare lizard from Parque Nacional El Cusuco, Honduras 67-68](#)