

NOTE

RHADINAEA MYERSI (SQUAMATA: COLUBRIDAE) IN GUERRERO AND OAXACA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT—We report on two specimens of *Rhadinaea myersi* from Mexico. One of these represents a new record for the state of Guerrero, and both extend the known distribution and confirm the presence of the species in southern Oaxaca, where it has not been collected since the 1970s.

RESUMEN—Se reportan dos ejemplares de *Rhadinaea myersi* de México. Uno representa un nuevo registro para el estado de Guerrero, y ambos amplían el rango de distribución conocido para esta especie y confirman su presencia en el sur del estado de Oaxaca, donde no había sido colectada desde la década de 1970.

The genus *Rhadinaea* includes 51 species of snakes (Myers, 1974; Flores-Villela, 1993; Mendelson and Kizirian, 1995; Flores-Villela and Canseco-Márquez, 2004) that are small to medium in size. *Rhadinaea* is distributed in the American mainland between 35°N (Cape Hatteras, North Carolina) and 35°S (east-central Argentina), and occurs from sea level to 3,200 m in elevation (Myers, 1974).

Rhadinaea myersi is a small species known from three specimens from the vicinity of Pluma Hidalgo and La Soledad in the Pacific slopes of the Sierra Madre del Sur in southern Oaxaca, Mexico. The species has been collected in cloud and pine-oak (*Pinus-Quercus*) forests at elevations of 1,400–1,524 m (Myers, 1974). Additionally, eight specimens are in scientific collections (not reviewed by the authors), collected in the Juquila region in southern Oaxaca (University of Kansas 137654, 35.9 km N San Gabriel Mixtepec; Museum of Vertebrate Zoology 161015, 161016, 16017, 18.5 miles [road] S Sola de Vega, Mexico, hwy. 131; University of Colorado Museum 44516, 44518, Juquila, Lachao, Rio Sal; University of Colorado Museum 49353, Santa Rosa, Lachao,

Juquila). The last of these specimens was collected in 1970 and none are reported in the literature.

In July 2006, one *R. myersi* was collected by U. García in pine forest in the Ejido Tres Marías, municipality of Malinaltepec, in the Sierra Madre del Sur, Guerrero (Museo de Zoología Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México 19372). This specimen represents the first record of the species for Guerrero and extends its known range ca. 265 km NW from La Soledad, Oaxaca (Myers, 1974).

Also in July 2006, I. Durán collected a *R. myersi* in pine forest on the road from Cerro de Vidrio to Santa Catarina Juquila, municipality of Santa Catarina Juquila, in the Sierra Madre del Sur, Oaxaca (Museo de Zoología Facultad de Ciencias 19373). This specimen is the first record of the species in Oaxaca in 36 years, and confirms the presence of the species in the Juquila region, extending its range 84 km NW of the closest locality reported in the literature (La Soledad; Myers, 1974).

Both specimens collected in July 2006 are males, 193.45 and 197.19 mm in total length,

lengths of tail 94.16 and 83.98 mm, ventrals 145 and 152, and subcaudals 76 and 86 (Museo de Zoología Facultad de Ciencias 19372 and 19373, respectively). These measurements and counts of scales are similar to those given by Myers (1974) for specimens from Oaxaca, except for number of subcaudals in one specimen (Museo de Zoología Facultad de Ciencias 19373), which is higher than the number (79) reported by Myers (1974) for two males. Both localities in 2006 were in the Sierra Madre del Sur; thus, they suggest that *R. myersi* is distributed on a geographically continuous elevational band on the Pacific slopes of the Sierra Madre del Sur in Guerrero and Oaxaca.

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