

Range expansion of the invasive Tropical House Gecko, *Hemidactylus mabouia* (Squamata: Gekkonidae), in South America

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Abstract.—This report presents new and updated distributional data of the Tropical House Gecko, *Hemidactylus mabouia*, in South America, based on 17 specimens collected between 2008 and 2019 at several localities in Peru. The updated distributional data presented here, based on georeferenced records, suggests that *H. mabouia* has experienced a geographic range expansion in northwestern South America. Additionally, we infer the origin of one of the recently established populations in central Peru by comparing mitochondrial DNA sequences with sequences from individuals of *H. mabouia* collected within the native range of the species.

Keywords. Biological invasion, Hemidactylus frenatus, mitochondrial DNA sequences, Peru, Reptilia

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Introduction

The genus Hemidactylus (Squamata: Gekkonidae) contains several species of widely distributed geckos that have invaded tropical and subtropical regions in the Americas over the past century (Carranza and Arnold 2006). Of these, the Tropical House Gecko, Hemidactylus mabouia, occurs in 12 South American countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela), while the Asian House Gecko, *Hemidactylus* frenatus, only occurs in three South American countries (Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela) (Baldo et al. 2008; Rödder et al. 2008; Carvajal-Campos and Torres-Carvajal 2010; Torres-Carvajal 2015; Scrocchi et al. 2019). Updated distributional data from Ecuador and Colombia suggest that H. frenatus has experienced a recent range expansion in northwestern South America (Torres-Carvajal 2015). Additionally, new reports from Argentina suggest that H. mabouia has expanded its distribution into the dry Chaco (a biogeographic region that is part of the Gran Chaco Sudamericano) in recent decades (Torres et al. 2018). However, knowledge of the distribution of *H. mabouia* in the western portion of South America remains limited. The establishment of *H. mabouia* in new areas may pose a threat to the long-term survival of native species of geckos. For example, recent studies in the Caribbean islands of Curaçao and Bonaire indicate that *H. mabouia* can effectively displace native gecko populations (*Phyllodactylus martini* and *Gonatodes antillensis*; Hughes et al. 2015).

Here, we present new and updated distributional data of *H. mabouia* in western South America, based on voucher specimens collected at several localities in Peru. All records were opportunistic and the survey effort varied across areas. All specimens were collected in human-made structures located in different settings, ranging from urban to rural to remote environments. Additionally, we infer the origin of one of the recently established populations in central Peru by comparing mitochondrial DNA sequences with sequences from individuals of *H. mabouia* collected within the native range of the species.

Materials and Methods

Specimens. This report is based on 17 specimens of *H. mabouia* collected between 2008 and 2019 at several

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Hemidactylus mabouia in South America

Table 1. Voucher numbers, measurements, age/sex, locality, and elevation data for 17 specimens of *Hemidactylus mabouia* collected between 2008 and 2019 in Peru. SVL = Snout-Vent Length; TL = Tail Length. Latitude and longitude (in decimal degrees) and additional locality data are provided in Appendix I.

Voucher number	SVL (mm)	TL (mm)	Age/sex	Elevation (m)	Locality (all in Peru)	Year	
CORBIDI 1161	31.39	29.98	Juvenile	160	San Jacinto, Loreto	2008	
CORBIDI 1825	41.44	-	Juvenile	1,000	Santa Rosa de la Yunga, Cajamarca	2008	
CORBIDI 3436	62.24	72.37	Male	844	Bajo Naranjillo, San Martín	2008	
CORBIDI 3437	59.18	62.62	Male	844	Bajo Naranjillo, San Martín	2008	
CORBIDI 3438	58.78	56.87	Female	844	Bajo Naranjillo, San Martín	2008	
CORBIDI 3439	59.91	63.56	Male	844	Bajo Naranjillo, San Martín	2008	
CORBIDI 3440	57.59	67.77	Female	844	Bajo Naranjillo, San Martín	2008	
CORBIDI 6276	67.01	84.31	Male	140	Jenaro Herrera, Loreto	2008	
CORBIDI 9030	54.29	48.66	Male	764	Tingo María, Huánuco	2011	
CORBIDI 9031	55.64	72.11	Male	764	Tingo María, Huánuco	2011	
MUSM 33241	55.41	69.8	Female	830	Chanchamayo, Junín	2014	
CORBIDI 15363	40.31	46.25	Juvenile	123	Surquillo, Lima	2015	
CORBIDI 19897	25.27	29.02	Juvenile	183	Puerto Maldonado, Madre de Dios	2016	
CORBIDI 19899	21.82	16.71	Juvenile	890	Portillo Alto, Satipo, Junín	2016	
CORBIDI 18738	50.29	65.11	Female	704	Chaclacayo, Lima	2018	
CORBIDI 19274	62.13	60.73	Female	350	Tambopata, Madre de Dios	2018	
CORBIDI 21678	63.01	-	Male	1,332	San Antonio, Satipo, Junín	2019	

localities in Peru (Table 1). To verify the identity of these specimens, they were compared with specimens of both *H. mabouia* and *H. frenatus* collected within their native range and deposited in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (MVZ) at the University of California, Berkeley. Additionally, we photographed an adult female *H. frenatus* (MVZ 73664) collected in Bataan Province, Philippines, and one specimen of *H. mabouia* collected in Chanchamayo Province, central Peru (MUSM 33241), to illustrate differences in the external morphology between the two species. Images of live individuals in the field are provided to further illustrate these differences.

Genetic data. The genetic similarity between the specimen collected in central Peru and specimens collected in other regions were also examined. This analysis included comparing the 16S rRNA mitochondrial fragment of our sample with the sequences from other species of *Hemidactylus* (Table 2). To select sequences for comparison, we conducted a BLAST search for the 16S rRNA fragment and retrieved additional sequences from GenBank based on recent studies focusing on *Hemidactylus* geckos (Rocha et al. 2005; Carranza and Arnold 2006; Rocha et al. 2010; Rato et al. 2012; Torres-Carvajal 2015). The DNA from one specimen of *H. mabouia* from central Peru (MUSM 33241) was amplified and a phylogenetic analysis was conducted to verify its species identity.

To amplify the 16S mitochondrial fragment, the 16SA (= MVZ117; forward) primer (5'-3' sequence: CGCCTGTTTATCAAAAACAT) and the 16SB (=

MVZ98; reverse) primer (5'-3' sequence: CCGGTCTG-AACTCAGATCACGT) (Palumbi et al. 1991) were used, with the following thermocycling conditions for the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR): 1 cycle of 96 °C for 3 min; 35 cycles of 95 °C for 30 s, 55 °C for 45 s, 72 °C for 1.5 min; and 1 cycle of 72 °C for 7 min. The cycle sequencing reactions were completed by using the corresponding PCR primers and the BigDye Terminator 3.1 (Applied Biosystems), and sequence data were obtained by running the purified reaction products in an ABI 3730 Sequence Analyzer (Applied Biosystems). The newly obtained sequence was deposited in GenBank (Table 2). Geneious R6, version 6.1.8 (Biomatters 2013; http://www.geneious.com/) was used to align the sequences using the Geneious multiple alignment program for nucleotide (consensus) sequences and to obtain a Neighbor Joining tree.

A Bayesian approach was applied to infer the relatedness between our sample and those from other regions. For this purpose, MrBayes, version 3.2.0 (Ronquist and Huelsenbeck 2003) was used to infer a molecular phylogeny. The analysis included 45 terminals and a 474 bp alignment. *Tarentola angustimentalis* was used as outgroup following previous analyses focusing on *Hemidactylus* (Carranza and Arnold 2006). Before conducting the phylogenetic analysis, PartitionFinder, version 1.1.1 (Lanfear et al. 2012) was used to select the appropriate models of nucleotide evolution, and the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) was used to determine the best substitution model. The GTR + Γ model of nucleotide substitution (as suggested by

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Species	16S Accession	Voucher	Locality	Reference
H. frenatus	AY517564	MVTIC-k27	India: Port Blair, Andaman Islands	Vences et al. 2004
H. frenatus	AY517561	Masc.33	Mascarenes: Cotton Bay	Rocha et al. 2005
H. frenatus	HM192642	MA13	Seychelles: Mahe Island, Beau Vallon	Rocha et al. 2010
H. frenatus	HM192643	38722	Seychelles: Mahe Island, Mont Fleuri	Rocha et al. 2010
H. frenatus	HM192674	DR6	Seychelles: Amirantes, Descroches	Rocha et al. 2010
H. frenatus	HM192677	GC1	Grand Comore: Moroni	Rocha et al. 2010
H. frenatus	HM192679	CAS232885	Myanmar	Rocha et al. 2010
H. frenatus	HM192680	CAS235221	Myanmar	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	OL958452	MUSM-33241	Peru: Junín, Chanchamayo	This study
H. mabouia	HM192552	SA31	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192553	SA32	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192554	SA33	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192555	SA30	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192557	Z1	Tanzania: Zanzibar Inland, Stone Town	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192558	Z40	Tanzania: Zanzibar Inland, Upenja	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192559	PB5	Tanzania: Pemba Inland, Mkoani	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192560	TZ6	Tanzania: Dar Es Salaam	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192561	Z19	Tanzania: Zanzibar Inland, Chwaka	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192601	SA21	South Africa: Durban	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192602	SA22	South Africa: Durban	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192603	SA18	South Africa: Durban	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192604	SA34	South Africa: Port Elizabeth	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192605	SA19	South Africa: Durban	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192606	SA23	South Africa: Durban	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192607	SA27	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192608	SA28	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	HM192609	SA29	South Africa: Port Shepstone	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	JF329705	3MA39	Seychelles: Mahe Island, Baie Lazare	Rocha et al. 2010
H. mabouia	JF329706	3MA41	Seychelles: Mahe Island, Baie Lazare	Rocha et al. 2010
H. platycephalus	AY517571	GC33	Grand Comore: Itsoundzou	Vences et al. 2004
H. platycephalus	AY517572	Mozamb_e01	Mozambique: Zambezia	Vences et al. 2004
H. platycephalus	AY517573	MtSambaro_2000e64_k44	Mayotte: Chissioua Mtsamboro	Vences et al. 2004
H. platycephalus	AY517574	NB_2000c22_k40	Madagascar: Nosy Be	Vences et al. 2004
Tarentola angustimentalis	JQ301000	DB1402	Spain: Lanzarote	Rato et al. 2012
Tarentola boehmei	JQ300878	DB241	Morocco: Akka Ighane	Rato et al. 2012

Table 2. GenBank accession numbers for taxa sampled in this study. The GenBank accession code of the new sequence is highlighted in bold font.

PartitionFinder) was used to perform an MCMC Bayesian analysis that consisted of two simultaneous runs of 8,000,000 generations, and the sampling rate was set to once every 1,000 generations. Each run had three heated chains and one "cold" chain, and the burn-in was set to discard the first 25% samples from the cold chain. At the end of the run, the average standard deviation of split frequencies was 0.004405. Following the completion of the analysis, Tracer 1.6 (Rambaut and Drummond 2003) was used to verify convergence. Subsequently, FigTree (http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/) was used to visualize the majority-rule consensus tree and the posterior probability values to assess node support.

Additionally, the R package APE (Paradis et al. 2004) was used to estimate uncorrected *p*-distances (i.e., the proportion of nucleotide sites at which any two sequences are different).

Mapping. The occurrence of *H. mabouia* in South America was mapped using georeferenced data from previous studies (Kluge 1969; Dirksen and De la Riva 1999; Lehr 2001; Baldo et al. 2008; Rödder et al. 2008; Carvajal-Campos and Torres-Carvajal 2010; Diele-Viegas et al. 2018; Torres et al. 2018; Caicedo-Portilla 2019; Scrocchi et al. 2019) and this study. Additionally, 656 georeferenced records available in

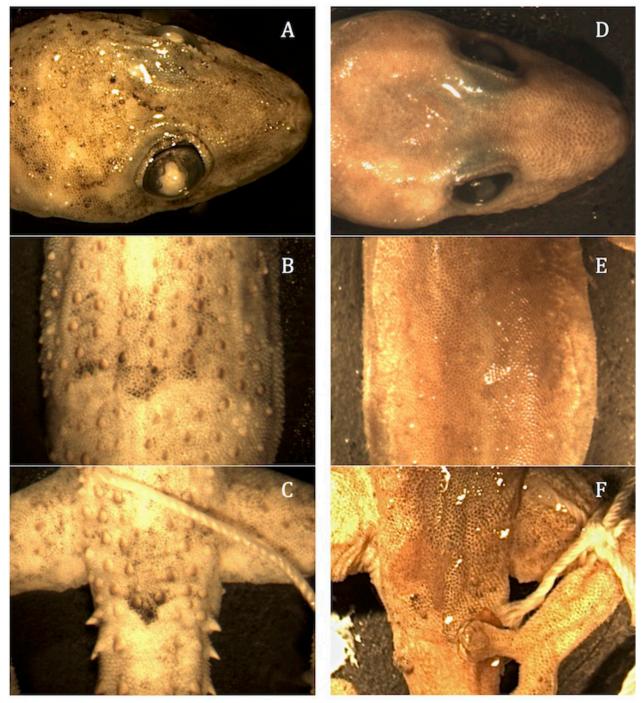


Fig. 1. Dorsal views of head (A), midbody (B), and tail (C) of adult female of *Hemidactylus mabouia* (MUSM 33241; Field Nbr. RvM64–14) collected in Chanchamayo, Peru. Dorsal views of head (D), midbody (E), and tail (F) of adult female *Hemidactylus frenatus* (MVZ 73664) collected in Bataan Province, Philippines. *Photographs by Rudolf von May*.

the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF; https://www.gbif.org) were included. Only those GBIF records with voucher specimen data were included and those that lacked specimen data (e.g., iNaturalist photo records) or had inaccurate coordinate data (i.e., coordinate uncertainty > 3,000 m) were excluded. The R package maptools (Bivand and Lewin-Koh 2014) was used to produce a map depicting the known occurrence points of *H. mabouia*. A layer depicting the Global Biomes according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) classification, obtained from the Terrestrial Ecoregions of the World dataset (WWF 2008), was also incorporated to determine the primary ecoregions used by this species.

Results

The morphology of all specimens listed in Table 1 closely matches *H. mabouia* and differs from *H. frenatus* (Figs. 1–2). Dorsal conical tubercles are higher in our specimens as well as *H. mabouia* from Africa. This

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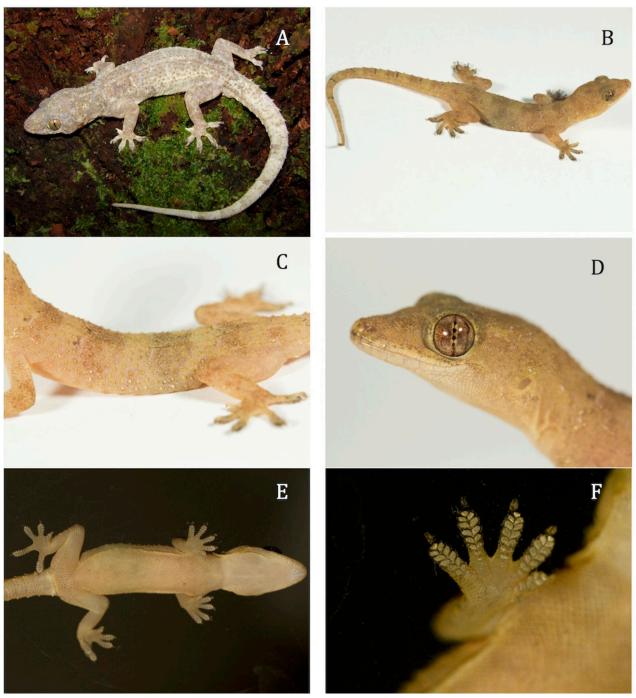


Fig. 2. Dorsal views of adult male *Hemidactylus mabouia* (CORBIDI 6276) collected in Loreto (Genaro Herrera, Requena Province), Peru (A). Dorsal view of juvenile *Hemidactylus mabouia* (CORBIDI 15363) collected in Lima (Surquillo, Lima Province), Peru (B). Lateral view of body (C) and head (D), ventral view of head and body (E), and ventral view of right hand (F) of the same individual (CORBIDI 15363). *Photographs by Pablo Venegas (A) and Germán Chávez (B–F)*.

character is notoriously different in *H. frenatus* (lower dorsal tubercles), which is also evident in Figs. 1–3. The specimens reported here were collected in seven regions in Peru (from north to south): Loreto, Cajamarca, San Martín, Huánuco, Junín, Lima, and Madre de Dios. One of the specimens collected in Lima (CORBIDI 15363) was found in a house wall close to a city park in Surquillo district, a dense urban area, at 123 m elevation. The other specimen collected in Lima (CORBIDI 18738) was found

in a backyard in Chaclacayo district, an urban area, at an elevation of 704 m. This specimen was captured on a wall with a small collection of orchids brought from Tarapoto and Moyobamba. One of the specimens found in Madre de Dios (CORBIDI 19274) was captured on a wooden wall at the Tambopata Research Center, a research station and ecotourism lodge located in the Tambopata National Reserve. All other specimens (including the specimen from Lima) were collected outside of natural



Fig. 3. Dorsolateral views of adult *Hemidactylus frenatus* from Aur Island, Malaysia (A), Nam Du Island, Vietnam (B), and Villavicencio, Meta, Colombia (C–D). *Photographs by L. Lee Grismer (A–B) and Juan D. Vásquez-Restrepo (C–D)*.

protected areas. The phylogenetic analysis focusing on the 16S rRNA gene (Fig. 4) indicated that the haplotype of the specimen collected in Junín region, central Peru, is identical to the haplotype of specimens of *H. mabouia* from Annodon Island, West Africa, and the Republic of South Africa. Uncorrected *p*-distances are shown in Appendix II. Although several terminals in the *H. mabouia* clade are labeled as *H. mercatorius*, we believe they represent *H. mabouia*. This apparent discrepancy appears because we retained the original species assignment provided in GenBank.

The geographic distribution of *H. mabouia* in South America includes 12 countries (Fig. 5). The new records from Peru are based on field observations and voucher specimens collected between 2008 and 2019 (Table 1). Other relatively recent records in Peru (1989–1999) are from San Martin (KU 212605–212609; https://www.gbif.org) and Huánuco regions (SMF 80088; Lehr 2001). Our records from Lima are among the first observations of *H. mabouia* west of the Andes, in addition to recent records from coastal Ecuador (Carvajal-Campos and Torres-Carvajal 2010).

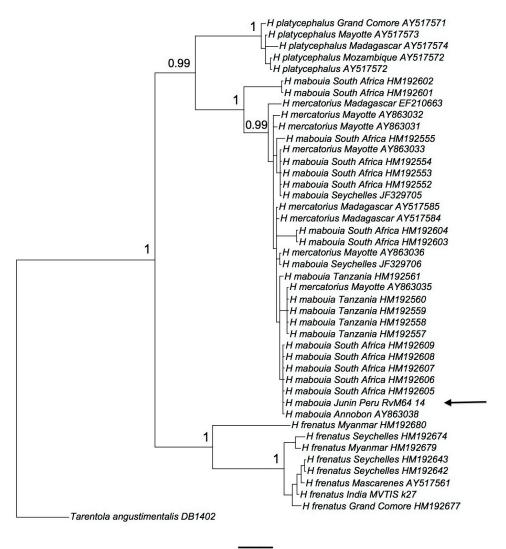
Discussion

The findings of this study suggest that *H. mabouia* has recently expanded its geographic distribution in western South America. Previous studies had documented the presence of *H. mabouia* in western Ecuador and

Colombia (Rödder et al. 2008; Carvajal-Campos and Torres-Carvajal 2010; Caicedo-Portilla 2019), and previous records from Peru were obtained in lowland Amazonian sites located at or below 200 m of elevation (Kluge 1969; Carrillo and Icochea 1995; Lehr 2001; Rödder et al. 2008; Cossios 2010). Our locality data represent a notable extension (> 330 km to the west and > 600 km to the southeast) of the known geographic range of H. mabouia in Peru. Additionally, our data suggest that there has been a recent expansion of H. mabouia into tropical montane forests in Peru. Hemidactylus mabouia was found at lowland sites close to the Peruvian Andes in 1989 and 1999 (Fig. 5), and it was first noticed in montane forest (Chanchamayo, Selva Central) in 2005 (R. von May, Pers. Obs.). Subsequently, specimens were collected at six montane forest sites in both central and northern Peru between 2008 and 2019 (Table 1). These records extend the elevational distribution in Peru by over 1,100 m. As a result, the elevational distribution of H. mabouia in Peru ranges from 140 to 1,332 m.

The phylogenetic analysis focusing on the 16S rRNA gene (Fig. 5, Table 4) indicated that the haplotype of one population of *H. mabouia* surveyed in central Peru is identical to that of populations of *H. mabouia* from São Tomé and Príncipe Island and Annodon Island (Gulf of Guinea, West Africa), as well as populations from the Republic of South Africa (Rocha et al. 2005; Rocha et al. 2010). When considering the high similarity between *H. mabouia* and *H. mercatorius*, Rocha et al.

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0.3

Fig. 4. A consensus Bayesian phylogeny based on 474 bp of aligned mitochondrial sequences (16s rRNA gene). Posterior probability values are shown on nodes. The arrow indicates the specimen from central Peru (MUSM 33241; Field Nbr. RvM64–14).

(2005) mentioned the possibility of a "species complex" encompassing taxa currently identified under either of these two names. Vences et al. (2004) also proposed that the Malagasy populations of *H. mabouia* should be recognized as H. mercatorius. Furthermore, Rocha et al. (2010) identified multiple cryptic lineages within this H. mercatorius-mabouia species complex and proposed that insular populations of *H. mabouia* off the coasts of western and eastern Africa (Gulf of Guinea, Comoros, Madagascar, and Seychelles) should be recognized as H. mercatorius, while the status of continental populations required further studies. Accordingly, recent IUCN conservation status assessments followed Rocha et al. (2010) and restricted the name H. mercatorius to island populations within the H. mercatorius-mabouia clade (Vences and Hawlitschek 2011). As a result, the continental populations will continue to be recognized as H. mabouia until the taxonomy of this species complex

is resolved. Thus, given that the specimen we collected in central Peru has mitochondrial sequences that are identical to *H. mabouia* from the Republic of South Africa, we consider that this and all other (morphologically similar) specimens collected in Peru represent *H. mabouia*.

The specimens of *H. mabouia* collected in Lima are noteworthy because they represent the first records of this species in the Pacific coastal desert, the driest ecoregion in Peru (Brack 1986). These records are among the first observations of *H. mabouia* west of the Andes, in addition to records from coastal Ecuador (Carvajal-Campos and Torres-Carvajal 2010). How this species arrived in Lima remains unknown, but its arrival on the Peruvian coast might have occurred as a stowaway through the Pacific Ocean or via terrestrial or aerial domestic journeys. Lima is located near Callao, the main maritime port in the country, and it is also the main hub for bus routes and both domestic and international flights. Human-mediated

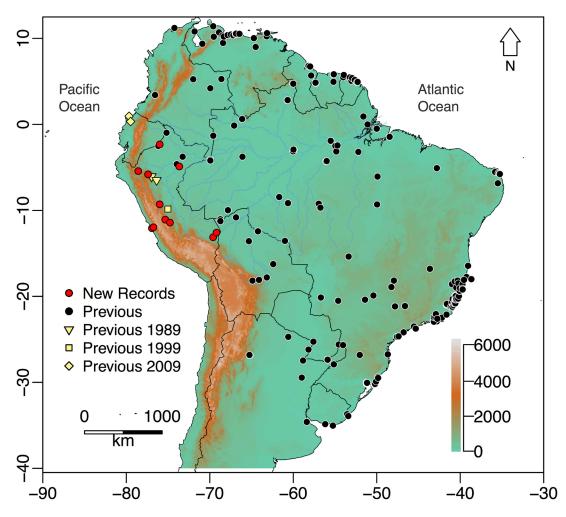


Fig. 5. Known distribution of *Hemidactylus mabouia* in South America. Black circles represent literature data (most previous records) and red circles indicate the location of new records in Peru (2008–2019). Other relatively recent records in Peru (1989–1999) are from the San Martin and Huánuco regions (yellow triangle and square). Recent records from coastal Ecuador are indicated with yellow diamonds. The color scheme of the map represents the elevation in m asl (see legend on the right).

dispersal in combination with favorable anthropogenic habitats will facilitate the establishment of this gecko in Lima and other cities along the west coast of tropical South America (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and northern Chile).

Our finding of H. mabouia at the Tambopata Research Center (Madre de Dios region) represents the first record of this invasive species in a natural protected area in Peru, the Tambopata National Reserve. As for the other specimens reported here, the occurrence of this population might be restricted to human-made buildings, but not forests. Our survey efforts (~7 person-days) did not yield any records of this species in the lowland rainforest surrounding the station. In contrast, we were able to observe several individuals on walls or behind furniture of the Tambopata Research Center. Boats transporting people and supplies from Puerto Maldonado, the nearest city (where we also recorded H. mabouia; Table 1), frequently arrive at this and other lodges and hotels located in the reserve. Thus, given that boats are the primary transportation method to these lodges and considering that this gecko can easily

travel as a stowaway in boats, it is likely that *H. mabouia* is currently present in many other lowland rainforest sites with human-made buildings. Yet, the impact of *H. mabouia* on the native fauna remains unclear. For example, the nocturnal gecko *Thecadactylus solimoensis* is also present in the region (Doan and Arizabal Arriaga 2002; von May et al. 2009), occasionally uses the same type of habitats and may compete for resources such as food, retreat, and nesting sites.

We believe that the new data presented here lend support to the hypothesis that *H. mabouia* has recently expanded its geographic distribution in western South America. This is because *H. mabouia* had not previously been recorded at sites that were subject to intensive herpetological surveys in previous decades (e.g., Tambopata Research Center; Doan and Arizabal Arriaga 2002) but was recorded in the most recent decade (this study). Likewise, two of the authors (PJV, GC) have worked in Lima and other coastal areas since the late 1990s, but only recently recorded *H. mabouia* on the Peruvian Pacific coast (this study). While some of the sites reported here had been visited multiple times by herpetologists, it is possible that *H. mabouia* is more common than previously thought. Additional surveys will provide relative abundance data for this invasive species, and future studies need to test whether *H. mabouia* can displace native gecko populations.

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Species	Elevation (m)	Latitude	Longitude	Locality	Province	Year observed
H. mabouia	1,000	-5.43645	-78.56963	Santa Rosa de La Yunga	Jaen	2008
H. mabouia	844	-5.81076	-77.38919	Bajo Naranjillo	Rioja	2008
H. mabouia	844	-5.81076	-77.38919	Bajo Naranjillo	Rioja	2008
H. mabouia	844	-5.81076	-77.38919	Bajo Naranjillo	Rioja	2008
H. mabouia	844	-5.81076	-77.38919	Bajo Naranjillo	Rioja	2008
H. mabouia	844	-5.81076	-77.38919	Bajo Naranjillo	Rioja	2008
H. mabouia	123	-12.07814	-76.93644	Surquillo	Lima	2015
H. mabouia	704	-11.97099	-76.75121	Chaclacayo	Lima	2018
H. mabouia	764	-9.29970	-76.00040	Tingo Maria Hotel	Leoncio Prado	2011
H. mabouia	764	-9.29970	-76.00040	Tingo Maria Hotel	Leoncio Prado	2011
H. mabouia	160	-2.33083	-75.99703	San Jacinto	Loreto	2008
H. mabouia	830	-11.07981	-75.32844	Chunchuyacu	Chanchamayo	2014
H. mabouia	140	-4.89911	-73.65000	Jenaro Herrera	Requena	2008
H. mabouia	350	-13.13333	-69.60000	TRC	Tambopata	2018
H. mabouia	183	-12.59090	-69.19630	Puerto Maldonado	Tambopata	2016
H. mabouia	1,332	-11.41932	-74.76582	San Antonio	Satipo	2019

Appendix I. Locality data, including latitude and longitude (in decimal degrees) and collection dates, of specimens reported in this study.

Hemidactylus mabouia in South America

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	H. frenatus Grand Comore HM192677										
2	H. frenatus India MVTIS k27	0.013									
3	H. frenatus Mascarenes AY517561	0.013	0.007								
4	H. frenatus Myanmar HM192679	0.026	0.022	0.029							
5	H. frenatus Myanmar HM192680	0.126	0.128	0.126	0.128						
6	H. frenatus Seychelles HM192642	0.013	0.007	0.004	0.029	0.131					
7	H. frenatus Seychelles HM192643	0.013	0.007	0.004	0.029	0.131	0.000				
8	H. frenatus Seychelles HM192674	0.031	0.027	0.033	0.013	0.142	0.033	0.033			
9	H. mabouia Annobon AY863038	0.203	0.202	0.202	0.205	0.189	0.209	0.209	0.205		
10	<i>H. mabouia</i> Junin Peru RvM64 14	0.206	0.206	0.206	0.208	0.192	0.212	0.212	0.208	0.000	
11	H. mabouia Seychelles JF329705	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.226	0.213	0.227	0.227	0.223	0.012	0.012
12	H. mabouia Seychelles JF329706	0.213	0.212	0.212	0.219	0.209	0.219	0.219	0.215	0.007	0.007
13	H. mabouia South Africa HM192552	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.226	0.213	0.227	0.227	0.223	0.012	0.012
14	H. mabouia South Africa HM192553	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.226	0.213	0.227	0.227	0.223	0.012	0.012
15	H. mabouia South Africa HM192554	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.226	0.213	0.227	0.227	0.223	0.012	0.012
16	H. mabouia South Africa HM192555	0.218	0.218	0.218	0.224	0.216	0.225	0.225	0.221	0.017	0.017
17	H. mabouia South Africa HM192601	0.221	0.221	0.221	0.224	0.201	0.228	0.228	0.220	0.074	0.074
18	H. mabouia South Africa HM192602	0.221	0.221	0.221	0.224	0.201	0.228	0.228	0.220	0.074	0.074
19	H. mabouia South Africa HM192603	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.232	0.210	0.229	0.229	0.225	0.025	0.025
20	H. mabouia South Africa HM192604	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.232	0.210	0.229	0.229	0.225	0.025	0.025
21	H. mabouia South Africa HM192605	0.220	0.219	0.219	0.226	0.209	0.226	0.226	0.222	0.000	0.000
22	H. mabouia South Africa HM192606	0.220	0.219	0.219	0.226	0.209	0.226	0.226	0.222	0.000	0.000
23	H. mabouia South Africa HM192607	0.220	0.219	0.219	0.226	0.209	0.226	0.226	0.222	0.000	0.000
24	H. mabouia South Africa HM192608	0.220	0.219	0.219	0.226	0.209	0.226	0.226	0.222	0.000	0.000
25	H. mabouia South Africa HM192609	0.220	0.219	0.219	0.226	0.209	0.226	0.226	0.222	0.000	0.000
26	H. mabouia Tanzania HM192557	0.219	0.226	0.226	0.225	0.223	0.233	0.233	0.222	0.010	0.010
27	H. mabouia Tanzania HM192558	0.219	0.226	0.226	0.225	0.223	0.233	0.233	0.222	0.010	0.010
28	H. mabouia Tanzania HM192559	0.219	0.226	0.226	0.225	0.223	0.233	0.233	0.222	0.010	0.010
29	H. mabouia Tanzania HM192560	0.219	0.226	0.226	0.225	0.223	0.233	0.233	0.222	0.010	0.010
30	H. mabouia Tanzania HM192561	0.216	0.216	0.216	0.222	0.216	0.223	0.223	0.219	0.005	0.005
31	H. mercatorius Madagascar AY517584	0.203	0.203	0.203	0.205	0.192	0.209	0.209	0.205	0.006	0.006
32	H. mercatorius Madagascar AY517585	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.202	0.192	0.206	0.206	0.202	0.004	0.004
33	H. mercatorius Madagascar EF210663	0.215	0.214	0.214	0.217	0.180	0.221	0.221	0.217	0.022	0.022
34	H. mercatorius Mayotte AY863031	0.206	0.202	0.202	0.205	0.192	0.209	0.209	0.205	0.011	0.011
35	H. mercatorius Mayotte AY863032	0.203	0.203	0.203	0.205	0.186	0.209	0.209	0.205	0.013	0.013
36	H. mercatorius Mayotte AY863033	0.206	0.205	0.205	0.208	0.195	0.212	0.212	0.208	0.011	0.011
37	H. mercatorius Mayotte AY863035	0.205	0.211	0.211	0.207	0.203	0.217	0.217	0.207	0.009	0.009
38	H. mercatorius Mayotte AY863036	0.199	0.199	0.199	0.202	0.192	0.205	0.205	0.202	0.006	0.006
39	H. platycephalus AY517572	0.161	0.161	0.161	0.158	0.174	0.161	0.161	0.155	0.120	0.120
40	<i>H. platycephalus</i> Grand Comore AY517571	0.165	0.162	0.162	0.159	0.175	0.162	0.162	0.156	0.118	0.118
41	H. platycephalus Madagascar AY517574	0.164	0.161	0.161	0.161	0.176	0.162	0.162	0.159	0.127	0.127
42	H. platycephalus Mayotte AY517573	0.167	0.164	0.164	0.158	0.177	0.164	0.164	0.155	0.117	0.117
43	<i>H. platycephalus</i> Mozambique AY 517572	0.161	0.161	0.161	0.158	0.174	0.161	0.161	0.155	0.120	0.120
44	Tarentola angustimentalis DB1402	0.222	0.215	0.222	0.208	0.232	0.221	0.221	0.211	0.214	0.214
45	Tarentola boehmei DB241	0.223	0.219	0.223	0.216	0.229	0.219	0.219	0.216	0.210	0.210

Appendix II. Genetic distances between *H. mabouia* from Central Peru, *H. mabouia* from other regions, and related taxa. Uncorrected *p*-distances of the mitochondrial 16S rRNA gene.