

REPTILIA: SQUAMATA: POLYCHROTIDAE

ANOLIS COELESTINUS

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Ramos, Y.M. and R. Powell. 2001. *Anolis coelestinus*.

Anolis coelestinus Cope

Anolis (Ctenocercus) coelestinus Cope 1862:177. Type locality, "Near Jérémie [Département de la Grand' Anse Haïti]." Syntype, Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ-R) 3347 (but see Remarks), sex unknown, collected by Dr. Weinland, date of collection unknown (not examined by authors).

Anolis chlorocyanus: Barbour 1914:295 (part).

Anolis latirostris Schmidt 1919:521. Type-locality, "Navassa Island." Holotype, American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) 12598, male, collected by R.H. Beck July 13–19, 1919 (not examined by authors). See Remarks.

- **CONTENT.** Three subspecies are recognized: *coelestinus*, *demissus*, and *pecuaricus*, but see Remarks.

- **DEFINITION.** *Anolis coelestinus* is a medium-sized green anole (maximum SVL in males to 84 mm, to 60 mm in females). Typical of a trunk-crown ecomorph (e.g., Williams 1983), the head and body are elongated and legs are short. The head scalation consists of (Schwartz and Henderson 1991): 4–7 rows of loreals, 1–3 scales between supraorbital semicircles, 2–6 scales between interparietal and supraorbital semicircles, 5 postrostrals, and 4 postmentals. The subocular scales are in contact with supralabials. The scales behind the interparietal grade gradually into dorsal scales. Dewlap scales are about the same size as ventrals. Supradigital scales multicarinate. The dorsal and flank scales are small, granular, subequal, and they become bigger middorsally. Ventral scales are hexagonal to square, subimbricate or juxtaposed, and smooth to slightly keeled. The tail is round and verticillate with 4–5 caudal scales verticillated dorsally. Ventral caudal scales are large and strongly keeled.

Dorsal color is pale or bright green, or yellow-green to brown or olive-brown. Ventral color is pale yellow-green, or pale greenish gray to brown. The eye skin is sooty black at times and the eye-ring is pale blue or yellowish. A black to dark blue postocular spot and a gray-green shoulder spot are present. The sides of the neck and body have many vertical reticulations and spots that differ between populations. A wide white or tan stripe, present or absent by subspecies, runs from below the eye under the auricular opening and over the shoulder to the axilla. The throat skin is very bright yellow-green. Dewlap color is variable and can be dark yellowish brown, gray, dark gray, greenish gray, blue-gray, pale bluish, brown, yellowish green, or greenish yellow. Dewlap scales are bright yellow to pale yellow or whitish.

- **DESCRIPTIONS.** In addition to the original descriptions by Cope (1862) and Schwartz (1969), detailed descriptions may be found in Cochran (1941), Williams (1965), and Schwartz and Henderson (1991). Gorman et al. (1967) described the karyotype ($2N = 36$; 12 macrochromosomes and 24 microchromosomes).

- **ILLUSTRATIONS.** Illustrations are in Schmidt (1921, top of head; as *Anolis latirostris*), Cochran (1941, head, tail, and middorsal scales), Williams (1965, dewlap scales and top of head), Schwartz and Henderson (1985, colored drawings of head and extended dewlap in *A. c. coelestinus* and *A. c. pecuaricus*), and Olson (1990, three views of the head, skull, and toe).



FIGURE 1. Adult male *Anolis coelestinus coelestinus* from Barahona (top; photograph courtesy of Donald D. Smith) and from Loma Remigio in the Sierra de Baoruco Oriental. Both localities are in the Provincia de Barahona, República Dominicana.

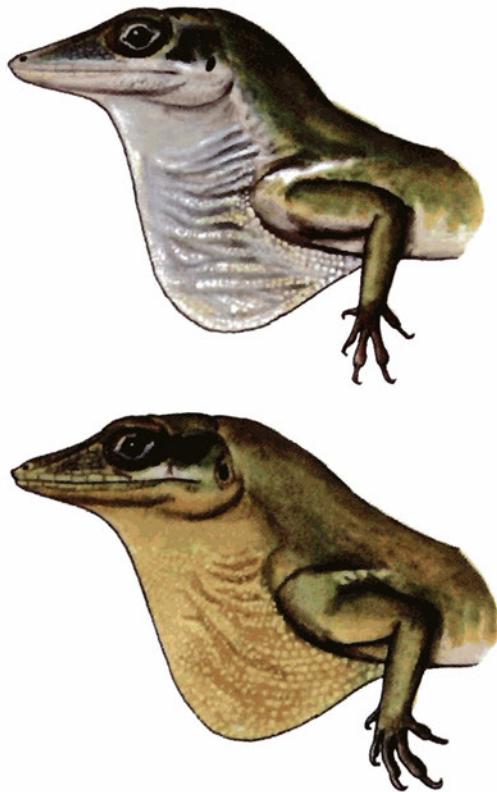


FIGURE 2. Adult male *Anolis coelestinus coelestinus* (top) from "Haiti: l'Ouest: Morne Calvaire, 1 mi. SW Pétionville (ASFS X1281)" and an adult male *A. c. pecuaricus* from "Haiti: Ile-à-Vache, western end (ASFS X3724)" (from Schwartz and Henderson 1985).

• **DISTRIBUTION.** A Hispaniolan endemic, the species is found in a variety of mesic to moderately xeric habitats throughout the South Paleoisland and on Île Grande Cayemite and Île-à-Vache. Although native to the South Paleoisland (Schwartz 1980, Powell et al. 1999), it is sympatric with its North Island counterpart, *A. chlorocyanus*, in at least two locations (Williams 1965; Schwartz 1969, 1980; Powell et al. 1991; Garcia et al. 1994). The Hispaniolan range was previously illustrated by Williams (1965) and Schwartz and Henderson (1991).

• **FOSSIL RECORD.** Two fossil specimens found in Hispaniolan amber are thought to belong to the *Anolis chlorocyanus* species group of which *A. coelestinus* is a member (Rieppel 1980, de Queiroz et al. 1998). One of the specimens, *A. dominicanus*, appears to be closely related to *A. coelestinus*.

• **PERTINENT LITERATURE.** References to *Anolis coelestinus* are arranged by topic: **behavior** (Mertens 1946; Garcea and Gorman 1968; Carpenter and Ferguson 1977; Milton and Janssen 1979; Moermond 1979a, b, 1981; Greene 1988; Gerber 1999; Schneider et al. 2000), **comparative morphology** (general: Williams 1960, 1965; body size: Schoener 1969, 1970, 1988; Fitch 1981; pterygoid teeth: Williams and Rand 1969; neural spines: Forsgaard 1983; rectus abdominis muscle complex: Moody 1983; subdigital lamellae: Glossip and Losos 1997), **ecomorphology** (Williams 1983, Moermond 1986, Schoener 1988, Irschick et al. 1997, Jackman et al. 1997, Losos

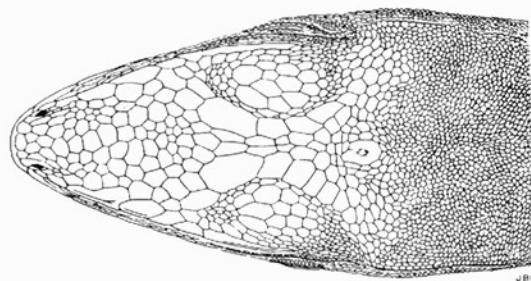
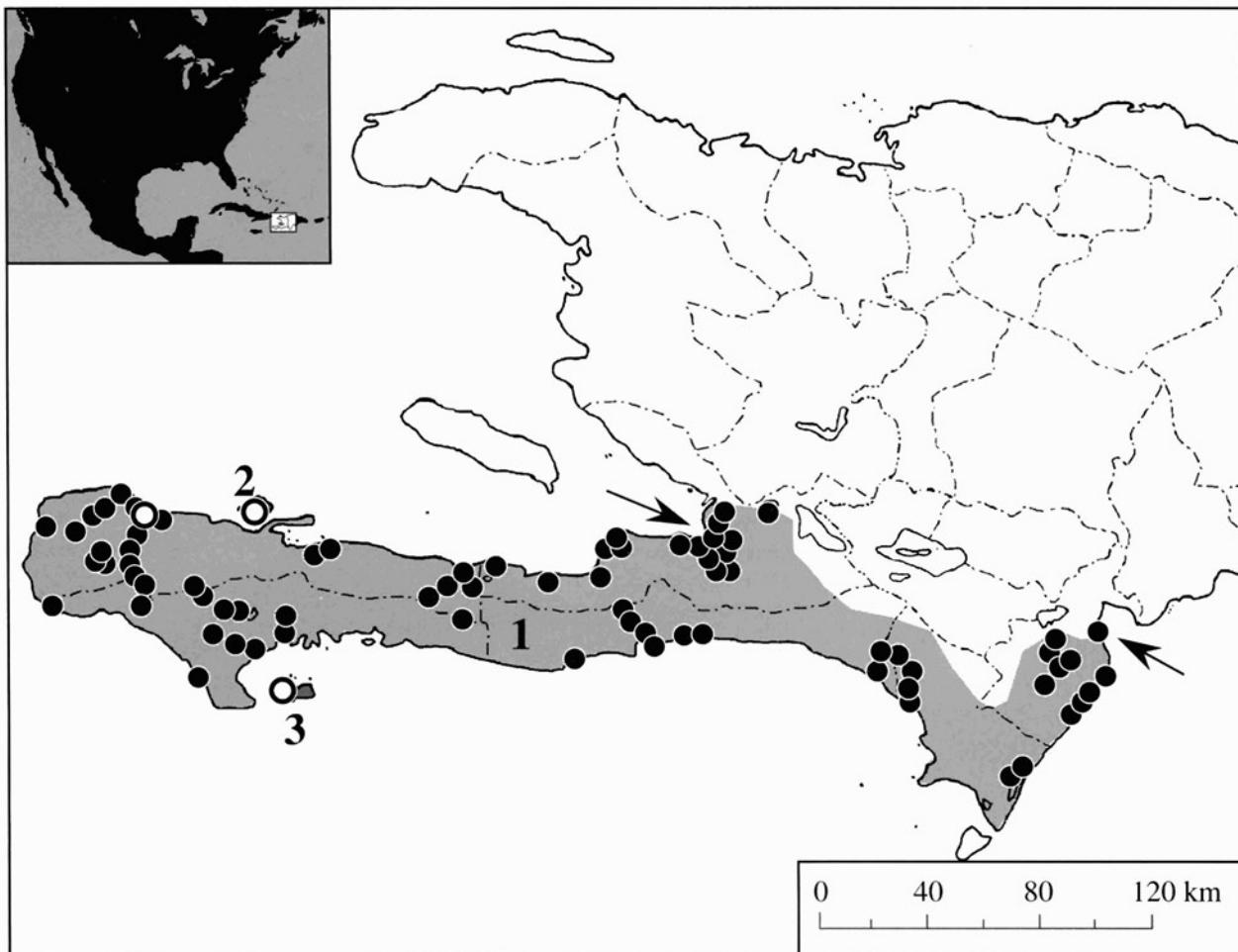


FIGURE 3. Adult male *Anolis coelestinus* (MCZ 74708) from Pourcine, Massif de la Hotte, Haiti (from Williams 1965).

and de Queiroz 1997, Beutell and Losos 1999), **habitat** (Williams 1972, SEA/DVS 1990, Lenart and Sowell 1996, Lenart et al. 1997), **husbandry** (Fläschendräger and Wijffels 1996), **hybridization with *A. chlorocyanus*** (Garcia et al. 1994; also see **Comment**), **natural history** (Moermond 1983, Bowersox et al. 1994, Howard et al. 1999, Cast et al. 2000, Henderson and Powell 2001, Sifers et al. 2001), **parapatry with *A. chlorocyanus*** (Williams 1972), **parasites** (lack of saurian malaria: Telford 1975; helminths: Goldberg et al. 1996; mites: Zippel et al. 1996), **predation** (Henderson et al. 1987, 1988), **reproduction** (Smith et al. 1972 [1973]), **sexual size dimorphism and habitat** (Butler et al. 2000), **sympathy with *A. chlorocyanus*** (Williams 1965; Schwartz 1969, 1980; Powell



MAP. Distribution of *Anolis coelestinus* (modified from Schwartz and Henderson, 1991). Large circles mark the type localities, dots indicate other records (many representing multiple specimens and several proximate localities), and the arrows denote areas of sympathy with *A. chlorocyanus* (see **Distribution**).

et al. 1991; Garcia et al. 1994), **systematics** (Etheridge 1960; Williams 1965, 1976; Burnell and Hedges 1990; Poe 1998, 1999; Jackman et al. 1997, 1999).

This species is included in **guides, checklists, and notes** (some of which may include brief descriptions) by Cope (1879), Garman (1887 [1888]), Barbour (1914, 1930a, b, 1935, 1937), Schmidt (1921, as *Anolis latirostris*), Barbour and Loveridge (1929), Cochran (1928, 1934, 1941), Mertens (1939, 1946), Williams (1960, 1963, 1969, 1976, 1977), Williams and Rand (1969), Schwartz and Thomas (1975), MacLean et al. (1977), Moermond (1978), Schwartz (1980), Henderson and Schwartz (1984), Henderson et al. (1984), Schwartz and Henderson (1985, 1988), Fitch and Henderson (1987), O'Hare and Williams (1994, see also Williams et al. 1995), Olson (1990), SEA/DVS (1990, 1992), Frank and Ramus (1995), Fläschendräger and Wijffels (1996), Irschick and Losos (1996), Irschick et al. (1997), Powell (1999), and Powell et al. (1996, 1999).

- **REMARKS.** Cope (1862) listed MCZ 1500 as the holotype, but Schwartz and Thomas (1975) and others have noted correctly that the "syntype" was MCZ 3347 and that others could not be found. José Rosado (in litt., 24.IV.00) described "a cryptic note in EEW's [E.E. Williams'] hand noting that it [MCZ-R 3347] cannot be a syntype since it was received after Cope's description." However, because no collection dates are entered, a syntype certainly could have been received after its description.

The name *Anolis latirostris* was based on a single damaged specimen. Thomas (1966) concluded that the specimen was an *A. coelestinus*, most likely collected in the region of Les Cayes, Haiti, and mistakenly labeled as being from Navassa Island.

Etheridge (1960) recognized an *A. coelestinus* series distinct from the *A. carolinensis* series in which *A. coelestinus* is generally placed. His *A. coelestinus* series consisted solely of *A. coelestinus* and *A. latirostris*.

Powell (1993) included both satellite island forms, *Anolis coelestinus demissus* and *A. c. pecuarius*, among Hispaniolan subspecies that might warrant recognition as full species.

- **ETYMOLOGY.** The name *coelestinus* is derived from the Greek *koilos*, meaning hollow, and the Greek *steinos*, meaning narrow, presumably in reference to the small concavity of the front of the head. The name *demissus* is derived from the Latin, meaning depressed or low, probably in reference to the fact that the type locality is near sea level (R. Thomas, in litt., 08.X.99). The name *pecuarius* is derived from the Latin *pecus*, meaning cow, and *arius*, meaning pertaining to, in reference to the distribution on Île-à-Vache.

- **COMMENT.** In the area of hybridization with *Anolis chlorocyanus* in Barahona, República Dominicana, males and females of both species responded with equal alacrity to the proximity of members of either species. Also, despite expectations that character displacement should enhance differences in display patterns, distinctions noted by Garcea and Gorman (1968) were, if anything, less obvious than was indicated in their preliminary study (R. Garcia, unpubl. data).

1. *Anolis coelestinus coelestinus* Cope

Anolis (Ctenocercus) coelestinus Cope 1862:177. See species synonymy.

Anolis chlorocyanus: Barbour 1914:295 (part). See species synonymy.

Anolis latirostris Schmidt 1919:521. See species synonymy; also see **Remarks**.

Anolis coelestinus coelestinus Schwartz 1969:34. First use of trinomial.



FIGURE 4. Copulating *Anolis coelestinus coelestinus* from Barahona, Provincia de Barahona, República Dominicana (photograph courtesy of Alejandro Queral).

- **DIAGNOSIS.** This subspecies is defined by the following combination of characters: white labial to shoulder stripe present; dewlap skin gray, blue, or greenish yellow; and vertical white lateral bars or vermiculations on the lower sides.

2. *Anolis coelestinus demissus* Schwartz

Anolis coelestinus demissus Schwartz 1969:35. Type locality, "vicinity of Pointe Sable, Ile Grande Cayemite, Haiti." Holotype, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University (MCZ) 92049, an adult male, collected 18 March 1966 by R. Thomas (not examined by authors).

- **DIAGNOSIS.** This subspecies is defined by the following combination of characters: white labial to shoulder stripe absent, dewlap dark gray to greenish gray, and no lateral body pattern.

3. *Anolis coelestinus pecuarius* Schwartz

Anolis coelestinus pecuarius Schwartz 1969:34. Type locality, "western end, Ile- à-Vache, Haiti." Holotype, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University (MCZ) 81141, an adult male, collected 6 August 1962 by R.F. Klinikowski (not examined by authors).

- **DIAGNOSIS.** This subspecies is defined by the following combination of characters: white labial to shoulder stripe absent, dewlap skin yellowish brown, and no lateral body pattern.

- **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.** José Rosado, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, helped clarify the confusion over the holotype of *Anolis coelestinus*. Kraig Adler graciously provided access to his extensive library, and Robert W. Henderson helped secure some difficult references.

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