

entire mouth was full of white “fluff” as it tried to bite. The turtle specimen had fur filling the buccal cavity, coming out the corners of the mouth, and little pieces stuck in scattered spots on the side of the head and forelimbs (Fig. 1A). We began a search to find what it had been eating and soon found a mammal body nearby. The body was up against and partly under a section of fallen tree trunk—about half the body under the log and half out, with a blow to the skull. The dead body was that of a male *Chironectes minimus* (Water Opossum or chucha de agua; Emmons and Feer 1990. Neotropical Rainforest Mammals: A Field Guide. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 281 pp.), a semi-aquatic opossum common on the island. There was an area at the front of the body where there was fur scattered about, and at least one hind leg had all the fur removed down to muscle (Fig. 1B). The straight-line distance from the water’s edge to the *Chironectes* body was 3.80 m, but the over the surface distance would have been greater for the turtle to traverse because of the slope and its convexity.

The turtle was retained overnight in a container without access to water and was found to have swallowed the majority of the fur in the buccal cavity 9–10 h later. Generally speaking, aquatic and semi-aquatic turtles are restricted to feeding in the water (Bels et al. 2008. In Wyneken et al. [eds.], *Biology of Turtles*, pp. 187–212. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida), or returning to water to swallow after ingesting an item on land (Carr 2008. *Southeast. Nat.* 7:748–752; Winokur 1988. *J. Morphol.* 196:33–52). Our observations provide evidence that *R. nasuta* will feed on carrion, and that this feeding behavior may occur at night on land. It is not only capable of ingesting the food on land, but also swallowing while out of water.

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CROCODYLIA – CROCODILIANS

CAIMAN CROCODILUS (Spectacled Caiman). **PREY.** *Caiman crocodilus* is native to southeastern Chiapas, Mexico south to the coastal plain of Ecuador on the Pacific versant, and from northeastern Honduras to the southern edge of the Amazon Basin on the Atlantic versant (Savage 2002. *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica: A Herpetofauna Between Two Continents, Between Two Seas.* University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. xx + 934 pp.). This species has been introduced on Isla de Juventud, Cuba, Puerto Rico (Schwartz and Henderson 1991. *Amphibians and Reptiles of the West Indies: Descriptions, Distributions, and Natural History.* University of Florida Press, Gainesville, Florida. xvi + 720 pp.), and in seven states of the United States, but is established only in Florida (Crother 2008. *Scientific and Standard*



FIG. 1. *In situ* photograph of dissected Spectacled Caiman (*Caiman crocodilus*) with Walking Catfish (*Clarius batrachus*) lodged in throat.



FIG. 2. Walking Catfish (*Clarius batrachus*) removed from throat of Spectacled Caiman (*Caiman crocodilus*) for size comparison.

English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America. SSAR Herpetological Circular 37. 84 pp.). Little is known about the natural history of *C. crocodilus* in its introduced Florida range. With regards to diet, Ellis (1980. *Copeia* 1980:152–154) examined stomach contents of 30 *C. crocodilus* representing all age and size classes from Homestead Air Force Base, Miami-Dade Co., Florida, and recorded unidentified invertebrates and mammal hair, a Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*), Southern Leopard Frogs and its tadpoles (*Lithobates sphenoccephalus*), and fishes (native: *Centropomus undecimalis*, *Gambusia holbrooki*, *Ictalurus nebulosus*, *Lepomis macrochirus*, *Megalops atlanticus*, and *Poecilia latipinna*; nonindigenous: *Tilapia mariae*). Herein, we augment Ellis’ diet data and report *C. crocodilus* preying upon the nonindigenous Walking Catfish (*Clarius batrachus*) in Florida.

On 4 February 2009 at 1500 h, an adult (94.8 cm SVL, 174 cm total length [TL]) *Caiman crocodilus* was observed basking on horizontally matted down Jamaica Swamp Sawgrass (*Cladium jamaicense*) in ca. 0.3 m water at the Frog City boat ramp, 7.6 mi W CR 997, Everglades National Park, Miami-Dade County (25.75976513°N, 80.59881673°W; datum: WGS84, elev. <1 m). This species is typically alert and “quite violent during initial capture” (Hertner 2006:267. *Wilderness Environ. Med.* 17:267–

270), however it allowed us to approach on an airboat and slip a noose around its head. The crocodylian's behavior was quite docile and allowed us to easily hoist it aboard and secure it for exotics removal from the park. The animal was later deposited in the Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida (UF 154567). While being dissected for diet contents and reproductive status, we found that the animal had a nonindigenous adult (25 cm TL) Walking Catfish (*Clarius batrachus*) lodged in its throat with both of the fish's pectoral fins (9.5 cm extended) penetrating through the esophagus. Page and Robins (2006. Raffles Bull. Zool. 54:455–457) classified this type of deleterious effect of an introduced species (i.e., catfish) as environmental degradation or ecological disruption. In Puerto Rico, at least 20 endangered Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) have been killed while attempting to prey on the nonindigenous Sailfin Catfish (*Pterygoplichthys multiradiatus*) (Bunkley-Williams et al. 1994. Carrib. J. Sci. 30:90–94). The observed atypical behavior of our *C. crocodylus* suggests that it may have been affected by the catfish lodged in its throat. This is the first record of this nonindigenous crocodylian preying upon a nonindigenous catfish in Florida.

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SQUAMATA – LIZARDS

ANOLIS GARMANI (Jamaican Giant Anole). **NEMATODE PARASITE.** Little is known about the parasites of *Anolis garmani*. Bundy et al. (1987. J. Helminthol. 61:77–83) reported encapsulated juvenile acanthocephalans (*Centrorhynchus spinosus?*) and an atractid nematode (*Cyrtosomum longicaudatum*) from *A. garmani* collected in Jamaica. We report a new host and distributional record for a second nematode parasite of *A. garmani* from Jamaica.

A single wild born adult *A. garmani* from an unknown locale in Jamaica was obtained on 18 November 1988 from a reptile dealer at Pet Farm in Miami, Florida, and housed at the Houston Zoological Gardens, Houston, Texas, where it remained until it died on 30 April 1989. A midventral incision was made to expose the entire length of the digestive tract. Four female nematodes were recovered from the stomach, cleared on glass slide with undiluted glycerol and identified with the use of a compound microscope as *Physaloptera squamatae*. These nematodes are deposited in the United States Parasite Collection (USNPC), Beltsville, Maryland as USNPC 85444; host was not accessioned.

McAllister and Bursey (2007. Proc. Oklahoma Acad. Sci. 87:65–67) provided a summary of the hosts and localities of *P. squamatae*, which has been previously reported to infect 17 species of lizards in the families Phrynosomatidae, Polychrotidae, Scincidae, Teiidae, and Tropiduridae, and a snake species in the family Viperidae. Localities of *P. squamatae* include the United States (Florida, Hawaii, Oklahoma, and Texas) and the Caribbean (Anguilla, Bahamas, Caicos Islands, Cayman Islands, and Cuba) (McAllister and Bursey, *op. cit.*). *Anolis garmani* represents a new host record for *P. squamatae*; Jamaica is a new locality record.

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ARTHROSAURA RETICULATA (Yellow-bellied Arthrosaura). **ENDOPARASITES.** *Arthrosaura reticulata* (Gymnophthalmidae) is known from the Amazonian regions of Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, and Suriname (Avila-Pires 1995. Zool. Verh., Leiden 299:1–706). It is an inhabitant of leaf litter on the forest floor (Duellman 1978. Univ. Kansas Mus. Nat. Hist. Misc. Pub. 65:1–352). To our knowledge there are no reports of helminths from *A. reticulata*. The purpose of this note is to establish the initial helminth list for *A. reticulata*.

Twelve *A. reticulata* (4 female, 8 male, mean SVL = 47.5 mm ± 10.9 SD, range = 31–65 mm) from Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, Estación Biología da Universidad Católica (Quito) (0°S, 76.1166667°W; WGS 84, elev. 260 m) Sucumbios State, Ecuador collected March–April 1994 by LJV and deposited in the herpetology collection of the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman, Oklahoma as OMNH 36443–36454 were examined for endoparasites.

The body cavities were opened and the intestines removed and examined under a dissecting microscope. These specimens had been used previously for an ecological study (Vitt and Zani 1996. Can. J. Zool. 74:1313–1335); the stomachs were not available for examination. All endoparasites were found in the small intestines. Trematodes were regressively stained in haematoxylin and mounted in balsam. Nematodes were cleared in glycerol on a microscope slide. All were studied under a compound microscope. We found *Mesocoelium monas* (Trematoda), *Cosmocerca vrcibradici* (Nematoda) and *Oswaldocruzia vitti* (Nematoda). Two individuals of *M. monas* (prevalence [number infected/number examined × 100] = 8%, mean intensity [average number of parasites per infected lizard] = 2), 7 (1 male, 6 female) individuals of *C. vrcibradici* (prevalence = 42%, mean intensity = 1.4 ± 0.5 SD, range = 1–2), and 20 (5 male, 15 female) individuals of *O. vitti* (prevalence = 50%, mean intensity = 3.3 ± 2.9 SD, range = 1–7) were in the sample. Helminths were deposited in the United States National Parasite Collection, Beltsville, Maryland USA as: *Mesocoelium monas* (USNPC 102886), *Cosmocerca vrcibradici* (USNPC 102887), *Oswaldocruzia vitti* (USNPC 102888).