

species ranges from southeastern to central Brazil (Toledo et al. 2010. *Zootaxa* 2418:50–60). On 4 June 2020, in the Municipality of São José do Calçado, Espírito Santo, Brazil (21.00074°S, 41.6457°W; WGS 84), we collected a juvenile *E. cesarii* during fieldwork. We placed the *E. cesarii* in a plastic container with soil obtained from the locality where it was found (Fig. 1A). The specimen was left undisturbed in the container and after a few seconds it exhibited snout-head-first burrowing behavior (Fig. 1B). The individual placed its head down into the soil, raised its body by stretching the rear limbs, and pushed its body downwards with help of the hind limbs until it was completely covered with soil. This is the second species in the genus known to perform this burrowing behavior, previously described only for *E. bicolor* (Nomura et al. 2009. *J. Ethol.* 27:195–201).

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ELEUTHERODACTYLUS NITIDUS (Shiny Peeping Frog). HABITAT and NESTING. *Eleutherodactylus nitidus* is a small frog endemic to Mexico. It ranges from Oaxaca to Sonora through the Sierra Madre Occidental and into the states of México, Puebla, Morelos, Tlaxcala, and Hidalgo in central Mexico (García-Vázquez and Trujano-Ortega 2012. *Rev. Mex. Biodivers.* 83:856–858; Lemos-Espinal and Dixon 2016. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Hidalgo.* CONABIO, Tlalpan, Ciudad de México. 80 pp.). According to vulnerability established through the Environmental Vulnerability Score (EVS), *E. nitidus* classifies as a species with medium vulnerability (Wilson et al. 2013. *Amphib. Rept. Conserv.* 7:97–127). The IUCN Red List, however, classifies this frog as a species of Least Concern. *Eleutherodactylus nitidus* has been observed inhabiting rock canyons, forest streams, coastal tropical scrub, under debris and other anthropogenic materials left within rural areas, and even next to a tollbooth in exurban habitats (García-Vázquez and Trujano-Ortega 2012, *op. cit.*; Bolaños-Gutiérrez 2013. Bachelor Thesis, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Los Reyes Iztacala, Mexico. 85 pp.; Lemos-Espinal and Dixon 2016, *op. cit.*). Nevertheless, it has not been observed in habitats highly perturbed by humans.

We present, for the first time, an observation of *E. nitidus* in a city (population: 35,500) during the rainy season and an additional observation of *E. nitidus* within its natural habitat that includes the largest clutch size reported for this species. On 27 May 2016, we found a female (Fig. 1A) in Ixtapan de la Sal, Estado de México, Mexico, within a high-traffic urban landscape (18.84278°N, 99.68083°W; WGS 84; 1800 m elev.; Fig. 2). The urban yard was surrounded by houses with an asphalt road and was composed of grass, limestone bundles, and adorned with ornate shrubs and trees of the genera *Cupressus* and *Jacaranda*. This urban habitat presented several conditions that could affect amphibian survivorship, such as permanent human presence, domestic animals, impervious surfaces, and higher temperatures when compared to neighboring natural habitat. We observed no other species of amphibians in the area, however, other herpetofaunal

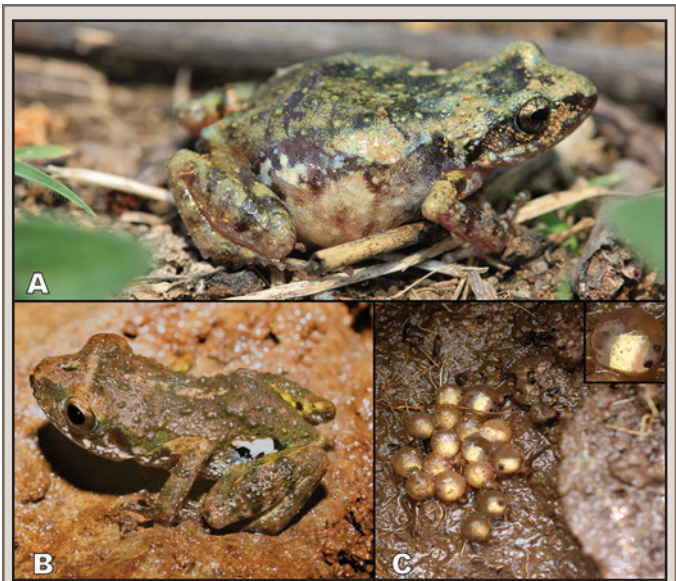


FIG. 1. A) *Eleutherodactylus nitidus* female observed in an urban habitat in the State of México, Mexico. B) Male protecting a nest. Note that the mature male is smaller than the female; C) Nest with 16 eggs on a muddy surface. 1A)

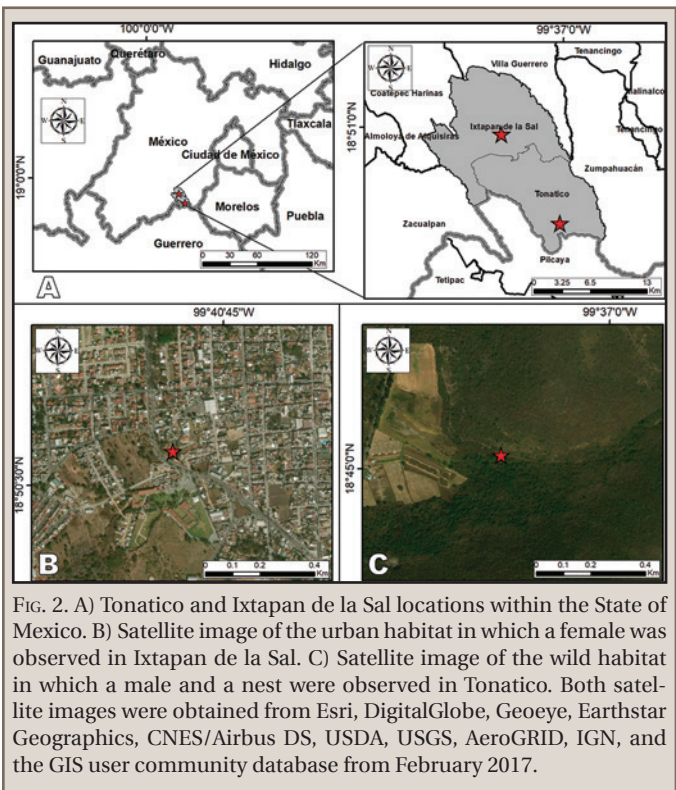


FIG. 2. A) Tonalico and Ixtapan de la Sal locations within the State of Mexico. B) Satellite image of the urban habitat in which a female was observed in Ixtapan de la Sal. C) Satellite image of the wild habitat in which a male and a nest were observed in Tonalico. Both satellite images were obtained from Esri, DigitalGlobe, Geoeye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS user community database from February 2017.

taxa were present (e. g., *Aspidoscelis*, *Sceloporus*, and *Urosaurus*). The behavior of *E. nitidus* within this urban setting was similar to that reported from natural habitats. *Eleutherodactylus nitidus* were located under rocks in both habitats, which is a common behavior for this frog in order to escape detection and avoid desiccation (Canseco-Márquez and Gutiérrez-Mayen 2010. *Anfibios y Reptiles del Valle de Tehuacán-Cuicatlán.* CONABIO, Tlalpan, Ciudad de México. 52 pp.). This finding suggests that *E. nitidus* can inhabit human settlements when cover is available, despite the general rule that urbanization promotes amphibian

species decline due to habitat loss (McKinney 2002. *Bioscience* 52:883–890).

Within the more traditional natural setting, a male protecting a nest was observed beneath a rock (Fig. 1B, C) in a tropical deciduous rainforest at Tonatico, Estado de México, Mexico (18.75044°N, 99.62025°W; WGS 84; 1597 m elev.; Fig. 2A, C) on 22 August 2010. The nest contained 16 eggs (Fig. 1C), which to our knowledge is the largest clutch size reported for this species. The nest characteristics were similar to what has been described in the literature including the location beneath a rock, above wet soil, surrounded by vegetation, and protected by a male (Martín del Campo 1940. *An. Inst. Biol.* 11:745–746; Palacios-Aguilar 2018. *Rev. Lat. Herpetol.* 1:51–53). Finally, we note that in another nest nearby two frogs were observed facing each other with the eggs (N = 13) located between them. Unfortunately, the photograph (not included here) is of poor quality and the sexes of frogs could not be determined. However, we suspect they were males guarding the eggs as previously described by Palacios-Aguilar (2018, *op. cit.*) for *E. nitidus*.

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EUPHLYCTIS CYANOPHLYCTIS (Indian Skipping Frog). DIET. *Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis* is nocturnal and diurnal with a distribution ranging throughout southern Asia. The diet of this species is described as consisting mostly of insects (Ahmed et al. 2009. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Northeast India. A Photographic Guide.* Aaranyak, Guwahati, India. 169 pp.). At 1630 h on 26 May 2020, in

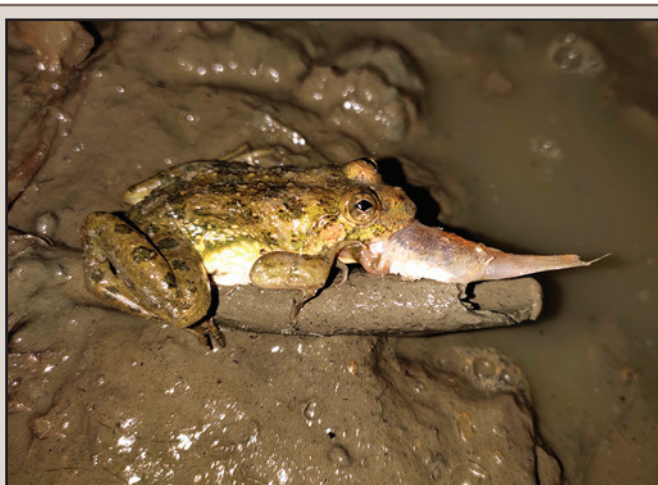


FIG. 1. Adult *Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis* preying on a *Cyprinus carpio* fingerling in Mizoram, India.

a paddy field utilized for agri-aquaculture in Zotlang, Champhai, Mizoram, India (23.45513°N, 93.33320°E; WGS 84; 1300 m elev.), an adult *E. cyanophlyctis* (42.67 mm SVL) was observed preying on a *Cyprinus carpio* (Common Carp) fingerling (ca. 32.48 mm total length). The frog ambushed the fingerling, bit it on the head (Fig. 1) and swallowed it in ca. 2 min. The frog was later dissected, and the gut contained three fresh *Cyprinus carpio* fingerlings. *Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis* is known to feed on other fishes such as *Danio aequipinnatus*, *Garra gotyla stenorhynchus*, *Telapia mossambica*, *Chela maubuka*, *Rasbora daniconius*, and *Amblyphrayngodon mola*. Their diet also includes juvenile anurans (*Duttaphrynus melanostictus* and *Euphlyctis* spp.; Hossain 2015. *J. Asiat. Soc. Bangladesh Sci.* 41:7–17). This is the first report of *E. cyanophlyctis* feeding on *Cyprinus carpio*.

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ISCHNOCNEMA ABDITA. CLUTCH SIZE. The Neotropical brachycephalid genus *Ischnocnema* of ground-dwelling and direct developing anurans is divided into five species series. The *Ischnocnema verrucosa* series is currently composed of eight species: *I. abdita*, *I. bolbodactyla*, *I. juiipoca*, *I. karst*, *I. octavioi*, *I. penaxavantino*, *I. surda*, and *I. verrucosa* (Canedo and Haddad 2012. *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.* 65:610–620). There are few available studies providing information regarding clutch size and amplexus for the *I. verrucosa* species series (e.g., Lirio et al. 2018. *Herpetol. Rev.* 49:302–303). Herein, we provide information on the clutch and the amplexus of *I. abdita*, a leaf litter species that occurs in Espírito Santo and Minas Gerais, Brazil.

Two individuals were found in amplexus on the leaf litter during nocturnal visual encounter surveys in the Monumento Natural Serra das Torres, located in the Municipality of Mimoso do Sul, Espírito Santo, Brazil (21.03391°S, 41.26085°W; WGS 84;



FIG. 1. Female (left) and male (right) *Ischnocnema abdita* after amplexus from Espírito Santo, Brazil.