

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Reptilia, Squamata, Colubridae, *Rhadinaea montecristi*: Distribution extension, geographic distribution map.

Larry David Wilson¹
Josiah H. Townsend^{2,6}
T. Lynette Plenderleith³
Brooke L. Talley⁴
Douglas C. Fraser⁵

¹Department of Biology, Miami Dade College, Kendall Campus, Miami, Florida 33176, USA

²Tropical Conservation and Development Program, Center for Latin American Studies, and Division of Herpetology, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, USA

³18, Northmead, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1BE, United Kingdom

⁴Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences, Howard T. Odum Center for Wetlands, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, USA

⁵No. 6, Braes of Allachy, Aberlour, Banffshire, Scotland, AB38, 9PY

⁶Corresponding author: jtownsend@flmnh.ufl.edu

Rhadinaea montecristi Mertens is a small terrestrial snake that has previously been reported to occur in the highlands of southeastern Guatemala, northwestern El Salvador, and southwestern Honduras (McCranie and Wilson 1991, Smith and Campbell 1994, Campbell 2005) (Figure 1). This snake is found in both disturbed and undisturbed cloud forests in the Lower Montane Moist Forest and Lower Montane Wet Forest formations (after Holdridge 1967) between 1300 and 2620 m elevation (McCranie and Wilson 1991).

On the morning of 18 August 2005, an adult male *Rhadinaea montecristi* (UF 144648; Figure 2) was collected as it crawled on the ground near a campsite (15°30'47"N 88°14'29"W) at 1780 m elevation in the core zone of Parque Nacional El Cusuco, Depto. Cortés, Honduras (Figure 2). This

specimen represents a range extension for this species of approximately 75 km north from the closest known locality, at Quebrada Grande, Depto. Copán (Wilson and Meyer 1985), and represents the first record of this species from Parque Nacional El Cusuco, the Sierra de Omoa, and Depto. Cortés. This specimen agrees with the descriptions of scutellation and color pattern provided by Wilson and Meyer (1985) and McCranie and Wilson (1991), and has 19 scale rows at midbody, 164 ventrals, and 83 subcaudals (247 ventrals + subcaudals).

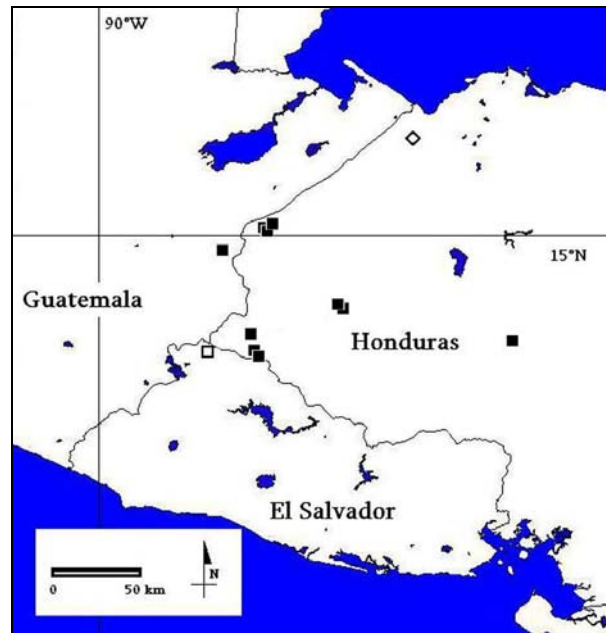


Figure 1. Map showing the known distribution of *Rhadinaea montecristi*. Empty square = type locality; empty diamond = new locality reported in this paper; closed squares = previous records.



Figure 2. *Rhadinaea montecristi* (UF 144648) from Cantiles, Parque Nacional El Cusuco, Depto. Cortés, Honduras (photograph by B.L. Talley).

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