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*LEPIDOPHYMA* (REPTILIA:  
XANTUSIIDAE) FROM GUATEMALA

*By* ROBERT L. BEZY

CONTRIBUTIONS IN SCIENCE



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM • LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *LEPIDOPHYMA*  
(REPTILIA: XANTUSIIDAE) FROM GUATEMALA<sup>1</sup>

By ROBERT L. BEZY<sup>2</sup>

ABSTRACT: A new species, *Lepidophyma mayae*, is described from eight specimens from the El Petén-Alta Verapaz lowlands of Guatemala. At its type locality, *L. mayae* is sympatric with *L. flavimaculatum*, from which it differs in several aspects of scalation and color pattern.

Studies of the systematics of the lizards of the genus *Lepidophyma* indicate that eight specimens from the El Petén-Alta Verapaz lowlands of Guatemala represent a previously unnamed species. This new species is described here in advance of the completion of a review of the genus.

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*Lepidophyma mayae*, new species  
Figures 1-3

*Holotype*.—KU 59554, an adult female collected near Chinajá, elev. 140 m, Depto. Alta Verapaz, Guatemala by William E. Duellman and John Wellman on 24 June 1960.

*Paratypes*.—KU 55863, 59556, 59558-9; LACM 75194-5 (formerly KU 59553 and 59557, respectively) all topotypes; MHNB 3751 from "Vera Paz," Guatemala.

*Diagnosis*.—*Lepidophyma mayae* differs from *L. gaigeae*, *radula*, *dontomasi*, and *sylvaticum* (all included by Smith, 1942, in the genus *Gaigeia*) in having conspicuously enlarged tail whorls separated dorsally by 4-5 interwhorls (vs. poorly differentiated tail whorls separated dorsally by 2-3 interwhorls); from

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