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A new species of *Dactyloa* from eastern Panama, with comments on other *Dactyloa* species present in the region

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Abstract

Giant anoles of the genus *Dactyloa* have been considered to be represented in eastern Panama by six species. In this contribution, we describe a seventh species that is restricted to the Majé, San Blas, Darién, and Piedras-Pacora mountain ranges. The new species resembles *D. ibanezi, D. limon,* and *D. purpurescens* in external morphology but differs from these species in dewlap coloration, dorsal color pattern, morphometrics, and scalation. The recognition of the new species is further supported by DNA barcoding (genetic distances >2.7% in 16S and >7.8% in COI between the new species and all other species of *Dactyloa*). We discuss the taxonomic identity of *D. purpurescens,* and, based on morphological evidence, we place *D. chocorum* in the synonymy of the former species. An identification key for all 11 *Dactyloa* species occurring in Panama is provided.

Key words: *Anolis,* barcoding, *Dactyloa*, Eastern Panama, Integrative taxonomy, morphology

Introduction

Ten species of *Dactyloa* Wagler occur in Lower Central America (Köhler 2008; Jaramillo *et al.* 2010; Lotzkat *et al.* 2013; Uetz & Hošek 2014): *Dactyloa casildae* (Arosemena, Ibáñez & de Sousa, 1992), *D. chloris* (Boulenger, 1898), *D. chocorum* (Williams & Duellman, 1967), *D. frenata* (Cope, 1899), *D. ginaelisae* Lotzkat, Hertz, Bienentreu & Köhler, 2013, *D. ibanezi* (Poe, Latella, Ryan & Schaad, 2009), *D. insignis* (Cope, 1871), *D. kunayalae* (Hulebak, Poe, Ibáñez and Williams, 2007), *D. latifrons* (Berthold, 1845), and *D. microtus* (Cope, 1871). The presence of an eleventh species, *D. purpurescens* (Cope, 1899), has been suggested for eastern Panama by Chun (2010), but no voucher specimens with definite locality are available to support this assumption. Recently, a detailed revision of *Dactyloa* from Lower Central America west of the Panama Canal (Lotzkat *et al.* 2013) showed that all ten confirmed species occur in Panama, where they are distributed as follows: three of them (*D. frenata, D. kunayalae, D. insignis*) have wider distributions covering eastern as well as western Panama, another four (*D. casildae, D. ginaelisae, D. ibanezi, D. microtus*) occur in western Panama only, and the last three (*D. chloris, D. chocorum, D. latifrons)* are restricted to the Chocoan biogeographical region (Williams & Duellman 1967; *www.herpnet2.org/*, accessed on August 28th 2014; Torres-Carvajal *et al.* 2014) of eastern Panama (Savage 2002; Köhler 2008; Poe *et al.* 2009; Jaramillo *et al.* 2010; Lotzkat *et al.* 2013). All mentioned species are members of the *Dactyloa latifrons* species group sensu Nicholson *et al.* (2012) and of the *latifrons* series of Castañeda & De Queiroz (2013). Only a few specimens of *Dactyloa chloris, D. kunayalae, D insignis,* and *D. latifrons,* respectively, have been reported from eastern Panama until now.

Recently, *Dactyloa limon* (Velasco & Hurtado-Gómez, 2014) was described as a new species related to *D.*

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