HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS (SQUAMATA: GEKKONIDAE) IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MÉXICO

Jorge H. Valdez-Villavicencio1*, Clark R. Mahrdt2 & Daniela Castro-Gutiérrez3

1Conservación de Fauna del Noroeste, Ensenada, Baja California, C. P. 22800, México
2Department of Herpetology, San Diego Natural History Museum, San Diego, California, 92102, USA.
3Facultad de Ciencias Marinas, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Ensenada, Baja California, C. P. 22870, México.

Correspondence: j_h_valdez@yahoo.com.mx

Received: 2020-08-10. Accepted: 2021-02-01.

México: Baja California Sur: Municipality of Mulegé: Santa Rosalía (27.32805ºN, 112.25817ºW, 52 m a.s.l.), one individual found (on line record: Naturalista 55555814; Fig. 1) on 3 August 2020, and a second record (on line record: Naturalista 56423518) found on 14 August 2020 by D. Castro (CONABIO, 2020), and verified by Edward L. Ervin. This represents the first record of the Mediterranean House Gecko (Hemidactylus turcicus) in the Municipality of Mulegé, Baja California Sur (Grismer, 2002; Fig. 2), and the second state record of this species. The first record of H. turcicus in Baja California Sur is an unpublished museum specimen from the Museo de Zoología Alfonso L. Herrera (MZFC 6582), at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, collected on 17 May 1994 in Loreto, Municipality of Loreto (GBIF, 2020), ca. 170 km (airline) south of Santa Rosalía. The status of this invasive gecko in Loreto is unknown, but previous records of the Common House Gecko (Hemidactylus frenatus) have been made from this locality (Luja et al., 2011). The adult gecko from Santa Rosalía was found active in a house wall at 21:33 h. The second gecko was a juvenile found at 20:32 h on a building wall in the Port of Santa Rosalía. A population appears to be established at this locality since several other individuals have been seen in the area (D. Castro-Gutiérrez pers. observ.).

CITED LITERATURE


Figura 2. Distribución geográfica de *Hemidactylus turcicus* en Baja California Sur, México. El círculo indica el registro de Santa Rosalía y el cuadro el registro de Loreto.

*Figura 2.* Geographic distribution of *Hemidactylus turcicus* in Baja California Sur, Mexico. The circle indicates the record from Santa Rosalía, and the square the record from Loreto.