

ADDITION TO THE HERPETOFAUNA OF PICO BONITO NATIONAL PARK, HONDURAS

ADICIÓN A LA HERPETOFAUNA DEL PARQUE NACIONAL PICO BONITO, HONDURAS

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The Pico Bonito National Park (PNPB) is a Honduras protected area located between the departments of Atlántida and Yoro, with an approximate area of 564.73 km² (Sánchez et al., 2002), and was designated a “Hotspot” (Wilson et al., 2012). To date, the recorded herpetofauna of the park consists of 82 species; McCranie and Castañeda (2005) reported 73 species, later McCranie (2011)

added four species of snakes and finally McCranie and Solis (2013) added one amphibian and four reptiles. Two new records are reported here, increasing the species richness to 84 species, of which 27 are amphibians and 57 are reptiles. The fieldwork was carried out during the period from June to December 2013, as part of the herpetofauna monitoring in the park. The collection

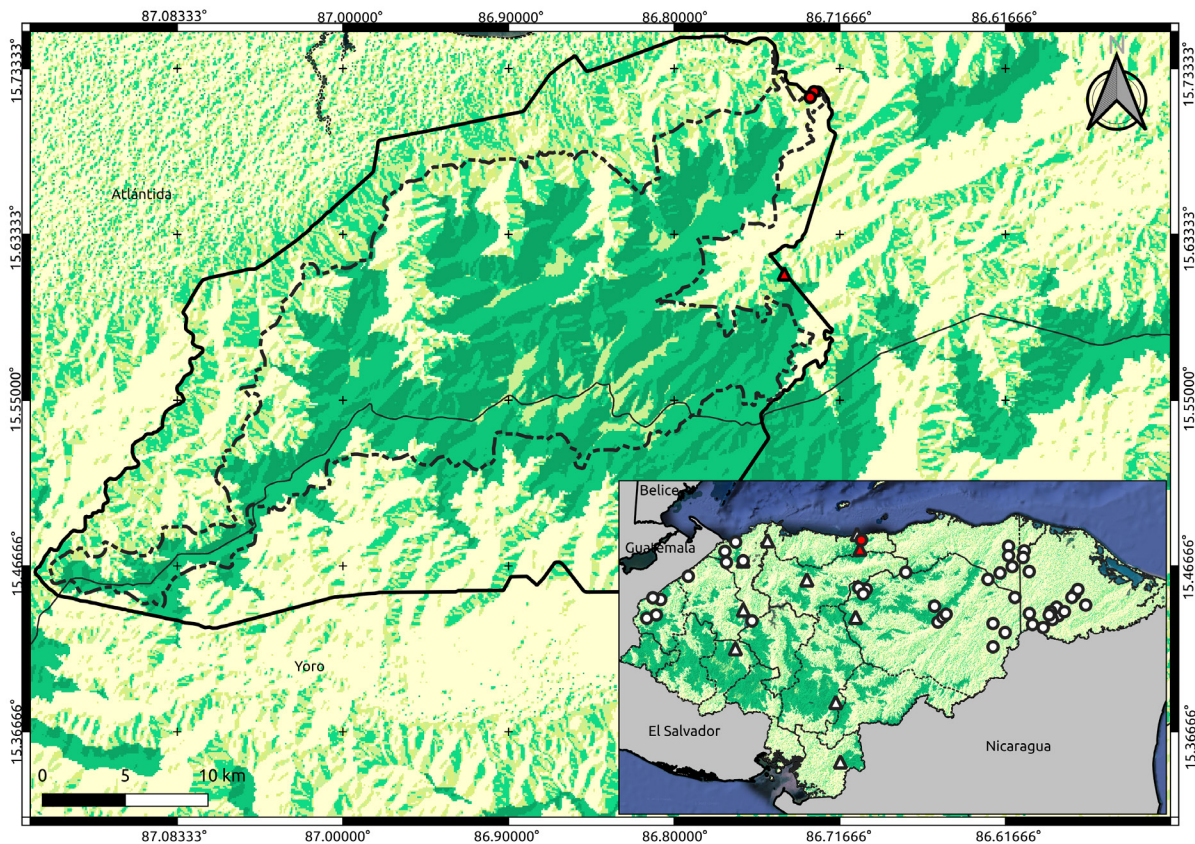


Figura 1. Localización de los registros previos y nuevos; *Leptodymus pulcherrimus* = triángulos (rojo = nuevo registro, blanco = registro previo); *Norops capito* = círculos (rojo = nuevo registro, blanco = registro previo). Línea oscura límite de la zona de amortiguamiento del PNPB, línea punteada límite de la zona núcleo del PNPB.

Figure 1. Location of new and old records; *Leptodymus pulcherrimus* = triangles (red = new record, white = old records); *Norops capito* = circles (red = new record, white = old records). Dark line delimits the buffer zone of the PNPB, dotted line delimits the core zone of the PNPB.

locations were georeferenced using geographic coordinates, WGS 84. The specimens collected were deposited in the Museo de Historia Natural-Ciudad Universitaria (MHN-CU). For lizards, the following measurements (mm) were taken: Snout-Vent Length (SVL), Shank Length (SHL), Head Length (HL) (Köhler, 2014); For the snake, one measurement (mm): Total Length (TL) (McCranie, 2011). Organisms were identified using taxonomy keys (Köhler, 2003; McCranie, 2011; McCranie and Köhler, 2015).

Norops capito (Peters, 1863), is reported from the Las Mangas village area, La Ceiba, Atlántida, Honduras, very close to the PNPB visitor center. Two specimens were collected, the first (UNAH 5687) located at 8.55 Km southeast of La Ceiba (15.72559° N, 86.7344586° W), and the second (UNAH 5688) at 8.67 Km southeast of La Ceiba (15.722555° N, 86.7366114° W), see figure 1.

These two specimens were identified as the species *N. capito*, based on the following characteristic: a broad and robust head, having a longitudinal ratio of the tibia to the length of the head greater than 1.1. Also, a small gular fan is present that does not extend beyond the level of the axilla. The measurements of the first specimen (UNAH 5687) are: SVL 59.05, SHL 18.20, HL 15.60, and for the second (UNAH 5688), SVL 73.04, SHL 20.41, HL 18.

Leptodrymus pulcherrimus (Cope, 1874), (UNAH 5689), collected at 17.6 km south-southeast of the city of La Ceiba in the village of Río Viejo, Atlántida (15.626344° N, 86.751335° W), see figure 1. The specimens were identified as the species *L. pulcherrimus*, based on the following characteristics: a decrease in its dorsal scales along the body, as well as the presence of 17 dorsal scales in the middle of the body, the presence of two anterior temporal scales, and a dorsal pattern composed of two paired dark stripes, and a total length of 349 mm.

With these observations, we add one more species of lizard, *N. capito*, of the family Dactyloidea, to the fauna of the PNPB. This also represents the first record of this species for the department of Atlántida. Additionally, the snake species *L. pulcherrimus*, Colubridae, is added to the fauna of PNPB, representing the third record of this species for the department of Atlántida.

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