

ABRONIA MATUDAI (ANGUIDAE: GERRHONOTINAE) (HARTWEG & TIHEN, 1946)

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Guatemala: Suchitepéquez: Municipality of Santa Bárbara: southern slope of Volcán Atitlán, Reserva Natural Privada “Refugio del Quetzal” of the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (14.551° N, 91.1937° W; WGS84; 1,660 m a.s.l.). 22 October 2022.

The subadult specimen was found active on leaf litter in the middle of a trail at 7:30 am, after having fallen to the ground from an overhanging branch (Fig. 1). The habitat where the specimen was found was well-preserved cloudforest. Our specimen is



Figura 1. *Abronia matudai* observada en la Reserva Natural “Refugio del Quetzal” en la falda sur del Volcán Atitlán, Suchitepéquez, Guatemala a 1,660 m s.n.m. el 22 de octubre de 2022. Foto: Francisco Castillo-Obregón.

Figure 1. *Abronia matudai* observed at Reserva Natural “Refugio del Quetzal” on the southern slope of Atitlán Volcano, Suchitepéquez, Guatemala at 1,660 m a.s.l. on 22 October 2022. Photo: Francisco Castillo-Obregón.

Tabla 1. Localidades con registros de *Abronia matudai* (GBIF, 2023). Los registros de GBIF respaldados solo por datos "oscurecidos" de iNaturalist fueron excluidos por las razones discutidas por Contreras-Díaz et al. (2023).

Table 1. Vouchered localities of *Abronia matudai* (GBIF, 2023). GBIF records supported only by "obscured" iNaturalist data were excluded for reasons discussed by Contreras-Díaz et al. (2023).

Country	Department or State	Locality	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Elevation (m a.s.l.)*	Voucher**
Guatemala	Suchitepéquez	Southern slope of Volcán Atitlán, Reserva Natural Privada "Refugio del Quetzal" of the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Santa Barbara	14.55	-91.19	1,660	UVG F000088, this work
Guatemala	Quetzaltenango	Balneario "Aguas Georginas," Zunil	14.75	-91.48	ca. 2,450	SMF 84613
Guatemala	San Marcos	Esquipulas Palo Gordo	14.95	-91.84	ca. 2,670	UVG R002266
Guatemala	San Marcos	El Rincón, San Marcos	14.97	-91.83	2,690	MVZ Herp 270036
Guatemala	San Marcos	Finca Insula, San Marcos	14.95	-91.87	2,300	MVZ Herp 161022
Mexico	Chiapas	Volcán Tacaná, Cacahoatán	15.11	-92.11	ca. 2,000	UMMZ 88331
Mexico	Chiapas	Colonia Talquian, Cacahoatán	15.13	-92.11	1,950	MVZ Herp 161793
Mexico	Chiapas	Jose Maria Morelos, Huixtla	15.24	-92.46	ca. 1,570	ECOSUR-SC-H0280

* = todas las elevaciones redondeadas a los 10 m más cercanos y las elevaciones precedidas por "ca." son estimaciones aproximadas debido a datos de localidad imprecisos.

* = all elevations rounded to the nearest 10 m, and elevations preceded by "ca." are rough estimates due to imprecise locality data.

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the first record for Suchitepéquez Department (Campbell & Muñoz-Alonso, 2013), and it lies 38 km SW of the nearest known locality at Balneario "Aguas Georginas," Municipality of Zunil, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala (Köhler, 2003; SMF-84613; Table 1; Fig. 2). The specimen had a snout-vent length of 82 mm, a tail length of 140 mm, and a head width of 11 mm.

The taxonomic identity of the species was verified through the presence of the following diagnostic scale characters: the head lacks spinelike supra-auriculars, the large frontonasal lacks

contact with the frontal, the supranasals are expanded, and the parietal contacts the median supraoculars (Campbell & Frost, 1993). The cloudforest at the locality is part of a private natural reserve managed by Universidad del Valle de Guatemala.

Unfortunately, the neighboring lands are undergoing rapid deforestation. This habitat loss will likely isolate the newly discovered population of *A. matudai* in the next decade, unless conservation actions oriented at improving forest protection and connectivity on and near Volcán Atitlán are promoted. Photo



Figura 2. Mapa de distribución de *Abronia matudai*. Los puntos verdes corresponden a las localidades previas conocidas (Campbell & Muñoz-Alonso, 2013). El punto rojo corresponde la nueva localidad registrada para *A. matudai* en la Reserva Natural Privada “Refugio del Quetzal” en la falda sur del Volcán Atitlán, Suchitepéquez, Guatemala. Mapa: Francisco Castillo-Obregón.

Figure 2. Distribution map of *Abronia matudai*. The green dots correspond to the previously known localities (Campbell & Muñoz-Alonso, 2013). The red dot corresponds to the new record locality for *A. matudai* in Reserva Natural Privada “Refugio del Quetzal” on the southern slope of Atitlán Volcano, Suchitepéquez, Guatemala. Map: Francisco Castillo- Obregón.

vouchers for our new record are deposited in the Colecciones Biológicas of the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (UVG F000088).

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