NOTA DE DISTRIBUCIÓN
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XANTUSIA JAYCOLEI (SQUAMATA: XANTUSIIDAE)

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Xantusia jaycolei Bezy, Bezy & Bolles, 2008 is a rare small-sized lizard, with nocturnal habits endemic to the state of Sonora, Mexico known only from the coast of Sonora in the vicinity of Outlet the Rio San Ignacio, 7.5 km south and 6.4 km east of the main town of the Comca’ac (Seri) (Bezy et al., 2008). This species is currently not listed under any category by The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN, 2022) and NOM-059-SEMARNAT-2010 (DOF, 2019), but is considered as highly vulnerable according to the Environmental Vulnerability Score (EVS of 16) by Wilson et al. (2013). Because the EVS is composed of three scales (geographic distribution, ecological distribution and human persecution), when added together, the EVS is obtained. In this case, with the X. jaycolei we obtain an example of a highly vulnerable species due to its geographic and ecological distribution.

According to Bezy et al. (2008) Xantusia jaycolei differs from all other species of the genus except X. henshawi, X. gracilis, X. arizonae, and X. bezyi in that the females lack well-developed

Figure 1. Specimen of Xantusia jaycolei from the locality of Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico. Photo: Leonardo D. Ponce-Rosales.

Figure 2. Burrow of Neotoma sp. about 1 meter high built under a Mezquite tree (Prosopis glandulosa). Photo: Leonardo D. Ponce-Rosales.
femoral pores (pores absent or marked by shallow depressions versus a conspicuous glandular pore; It differs from X. riversiana, X. henshawi, X. gracilis, and X. bolsonae in having fewer longitudinal rows of ventral scales at midbody (12 vs. 14–16); from X. arizonae, X. bezyi, and X. sierrae in having fewer dorsal scales around midbody (36–39 vs. 40–49); from X. sanchezi in having more scales around the second caudal whorl (32 – 36 vs. 25 – 28); and from X. gilberti in having small scales bordering the labium behind the fifth infralabial.

**Mexico, Sonora: Municipality of Puerto Peñasco:** 31.31 km West (W) from Puerto Peñasco (31.32608° N, 113.203114° W; WGS 84, 38 m a.s.l.). On December 19, 2022, at 10:25 a.m. Vicente De Luna-Morelos collected an adult male (snout-vent length = 350 mm, Fig. 1) X. jaycolei inside a rodent burrow belonging to the genus Neotoma sp. (Cricetidae), which was built by organic matter, under a Mesquite tree (Prosopis glandulosa, Fig. 2) in microphyllous desert scrub ecosystem. The organism was captured to take measurements and the photograph of the specimen (MZFC-IMG79) was deposited in the National Collection of Amphibians and Reptiles (NCAR) of the Institute of Biology, UNAM. Robert L. Bezy corroborated taxonomic identity.

To our knowledge, this record is the first for the municipality of Puerto Peñasco, Sonora and is located 216.04 km in a straight line to the North-Northwest (NNW) of the type locality: vicinity of Outlet the Río San Ignacio Sonora, México (29.504537° N, 112.393438° W, approximately elevation of 38 m a.s.l.; Bezy et al., 2008, 2017; Fig. 3). The report of X. jaycolei for Puerto Peñasco, Sonora could indicate that its distribution is greater than reported, reaching a large part of the Sonora coast. The scarcity of information about the Cole’s Night Lizard could be due to its nocturnal habits and its small size, which complicates its visualization. Our observation also provides information for the refuge sites occupied by X. jaycolei, since it had been reported

![Mapa de distribución de Xantusia jaycolei](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

**Figura 3.** Mapa de distribución de Xantusia jaycolei. / **Figure 3.** Distribution map of Xantusia jaycolei.
that these lizards occur in dry rather than moist decaying cacti (*Pachycereus pringlei*), frequently between the bark and the central vascular cylinder (Felger, 1965; Bezy et al., 2008). Due to the low abundance of cacti in the area, *Neotoma* sp. burrows turn out to be one of the few refuge sites available.

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**CITED LITERATURE**


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