

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Albert C. L. G. Günther

Biologia Centrali-Americana

Reptilia and Batrachia¹

On *Iguana* and *Ctenosaura*

IGUANA

Iguana, Laurenti.

1. *Iguana rhinolophus*.

Iguana rhinolophus, Wiegman. Herp. Mex. p. 44; Dum. & Bibr. Erp. Gén. iv. p. 207; Tyler, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1850, t. 3 (*Metopoceros cornutus*); Cope, Proc. Ac. N. Sc. Phil. 1862, p. 356; Sumichrast, Ann. & Mag. N. H. 1864, xiii. p. 500; Bocourt, Miss. Sc. Mex., Rept. p. 134; Cope, Journ. Ac. N. Sc. Phil. viii. 1876, p. 124.

Hab. MEXICO, Mazatlan and Presidio (*Forrer*), Cordova (*Sallé*), Tehuantepec and Rio Coazacoalcos (*Sumichrast*), Cozumel Island on the coast of Yucatan (*G. F. Gaumer*); GUATEMALA, Chiapam (*Salvin*); COSTA RICA (*Cope*); PANAMA (*Brit. Mus.*), Darien, R. Truando (*Schott*).

“Iguana verde” of the Creoles; “Guchachi-guëla” of the Zapotec Indians.

This is the northern or Central-American race of the South-American *I. tuberculata*; it does not seem to extend southwards beyond the Isthmus of Darien, but occurs also in the island of Santa Lucia and probably other parts of the West Indies.

2. *Iguana tuberculata*.

Iguana tuberculata, Laur. Syn. Rept. p. 49.

Hab. GUATEMALA (*Salvin*); HONDURAS (*Brit. Mus.*); NICARAGUA (*Brit. Mus.*); PANAMA (*Dow*), Darien (*Schott*).—Generally distributed over the northern parts of SOUTH AMERICA and BRAZIL; occurring also in many West-Indian Islands.

CTENOSAURA

Ctenosaura, Wiegmann, Isis, 1828, p. 371.

1. *Ctenosaura acanthura*.

Lacerta acanthura, Shaw, Zool. ii. 1802, p. 216.
Cyclura teres, Harlan, Journ. Ac. Sc. Phil. 1825, p. 246, t. 16.

Ctenosaura cycluroides, Wiegman. Isis, 1828, p. 371; Bocourt, Miss. Sc. Mex., Rept. p. 143 (part.); Sumichrast, Bull. Soc. Zool. Fr. v. 1880, p. 175.

Ctenosaura shawii, Gray, Wiegman.

Cyclura pectinata, Wiegman. Herpet. Mex. p. 42, t. 2; Dum. & Bibr. Erp. Gén. iv. p. 221.

Cyclura denticulata, Wiegman. l. c. p. 43, t. 3.

Cyclura articulata, Wiegman. l. c.

Cyclura acanthura, Sumichrast, Arch. Sc. Phys. et Nat. xix. 1864, p. 49; Ann. & Mag. N. H. 1864, xiii. p. 500.

Ctenosaura acanthura, Gray, Cat. Liz. p. 191; Cope, Proc. Ac. Nat. Sc. Phil. xviii. p. 124; Bocourt, Le Naturaliste, 1882, p. 47; Boul. Cat. Liz. ii. p. 195, varr. A, B, D.

Ctenosaura pectinata, Gray, Cat. Liz. p. 191; ?Cope, Proc. Ac. Nat. Sc. Phil. xviii. p. 124; and Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. xxii. 1885, p. 388; Bocourt, Miss. Sc. Mex., Rept. p. 140, and Le Naturaliste, 1882, p. 47; Sumichrast, Bull. Soc. Zool. v. 1880, p. 174.

Ctenosaura teres, Bocourt, Miss. Sc. Mex., Rept. p. 142, and Le Naturaliste, 1882, p. 47.

Ctenosaura multispinis, *brevirostris*, and *teres*, Cope, Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. 1886, p. 266.

Hab. NORTH AMERICA, California.—MEXICO, Tres Marias Is., Presidio, Mazatlan, Ciudad, and Ventanas (*Forrer*), Tierra Colorado in Guerrero (*H. H. Smith*), Colima (*Dugès*, in *mus. Paris*, *U.S. Nat. Mus.*), Putla (*Boucard*), Tehuantepec (*Sumichrast*), Tampico (*W. B. Richardson*), Vera Cruz (*Sallé*, *Méhédin*, in *mus. Paris*), Yucatan, Cozumel I. (*Cope*).

Editors' Note.—Usually, we have chosen as featured historical works narrative pieces that lend insight into language as well as the state of knowledge applicable when the chosen article was written. The piece featured in this issue is quite different. Instead of a narrative, this piece by Albert Günther is indicative of the sometimes massive works that documented results of extensive expeditions and simultaneously summarized the knowledge available at the time. Although much less interesting to peruse, these types of publications allow us to recreate the historical events that lead to the present day and often include references to the works of authors that might otherwise be overlooked and forgotten.

¹ Reprinted in 1987 by the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (Facsimile Reprints in Herpetology) in cooperation with Comité Herpetológico Nacional (México).