

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

MONTANUCCI, RICHARD R. 1976. *Crotaphytus reticulatus*.***Crotaphytus reticulatus* Baird**
Reticulate collared lizard

Crotaphytus reticulatus Baird, 1858:253. Type-locality, "Laredo and Ringgold Barracks, Texas"; here restricted to Fort Ringgold Military Reservation [26° 22' N—98° 48' W] Starr County, Texas (see COMMENT). Lectotype (by present designation) U. S. Nat. Mus. 2692A, adult female, collected by J. H. Clark presumably during the Mexican Boundary Survey of 1852, illustrated by Cope (1900).

• CONTENT. The species is monotypic.

• DEFINITION. A large (maximum snout-vent length 137 mm) species of *Crotaphytus* (*sensu* Montanucci *et al.*, 1975), lacking a postfemoral pocket. Dorsal ground color varies from grayish to yellowish or reddish-brown. Pale, narrow lines form an open network on the back, encircling rounded brown spots. A linear series of rounded or subquadrate black spots is arranged on either side of the middorsal line. Additional series of black spots occur closer to the flanks. Males have black femoral pores, lack distinctly enlarged postanal scales, and have black collar markings (faint or absent in females).

• DESCRIPTIONS. Morphological and color pattern descriptions were given by Baird (1858), Cope (1900), Smith (1946), and Montanucci (1974). Diagnostic characters are noted in keys in Cope (1900), Burt (1935), Smith (1946), and Smith and Taylor (1950a).

• ILLUSTRATIONS. Cope (1900:254) gave line drawings of details of scutellation of the lectotype. The rostral area was illustrated by Burt (1935). Black and white photographs appear in Smith (1946), and Montanucci (1971, 1974). A color illustration is in Conant (1975).

• DISTRIBUTION. *Crotaphytus reticulatus* occurs in the lower Rio Grande Valley of southern Texas and adjacent Mexico. The typical habitat is thorn-scrub vegetation, where populations are usually found on well-drained, rolling terrain composed of shallow gravel, caliche, or sandy soils. Scattered flat rocks below bluff escarpments or isolated rock outcrops among scattered clumps of prickly pear and mesquite are especially frequented locations. Lists of localities, habitat information, or comments on distribution appear in Yarrow (1882), Bailey (1905), Wright (1935), Smith (1938), Smith and Buechner (1947), Smith and Taylor (1950a), Smith and Burger (1950), Blair (1950), Brown (1942, 1950), Olson (1967), Montanucci (1974), and Merckord (1975). An extensive list of localities, including peripheral records and a habitat photograph, was published by Montanucci (1971). Unpublished peripheral localities are: Coahuila, 11.1 mi. (by road) SE Villa Unión (RRM field no. 1695); Texas, Duval Co., 0.5 mi. S road to Seven Sisters on Texas 16; Texas, Webb Co., 2.1 mi. S, 10.8 mi. E Encinal on Texas 44 (Ralph W. Axtell collection).

• FOSSIL RECORD. None.

• PERTINENT LITERATURE. Montanucci (1971) provided data on distribution, habitat, habits, activity, reproduction, growth, food, predators, and parasites. Montanucci (1974) discussed genetic and ecological relationships between *C. reticulatus* and *C. collaris*. Biochemical and morphological evidence was used by Montanucci *et al.* (1975) to elucidate evolutionary relationships among the species of *Crotaphytus* and *Gambelia*. Weiner and Smith (1965) discussed the osteological features of *C. reticulatus* in an analysis of the question of generic separation of *Gambelia* and *Crotaphytus*. Robison and Tanner (1962) dealt with *C. reticulatus* in a comparative osteological and myological study of *Crotaphytus* and *Gambelia*. Montanucci (1969), in discussing the generic status of *Gambelia*, provided additional osteological data on *C. reticulatus*. Axtell (1972) suggested a close relationship between *C. reticulatus* and *C. insularis*. Smith and Tanner (1974) proposed a phylogeny for the species of *Crotaphytus*, tentatively assigning *C. reticulatus* to a primitive position.

Brief comments have been published on feeding habits (Klein, 1951), eggs (Werler, 1951), pterygoid teeth (Taylor, 1940), and the throat fan (Burt, 1931). Recognition characters are noted and the distribution in Texas outlined in Brown (1950), and Raun and Gehlbach (1972).

• ETYMOLOGY. The name *reticulatus* (Latin, net-like) refers to

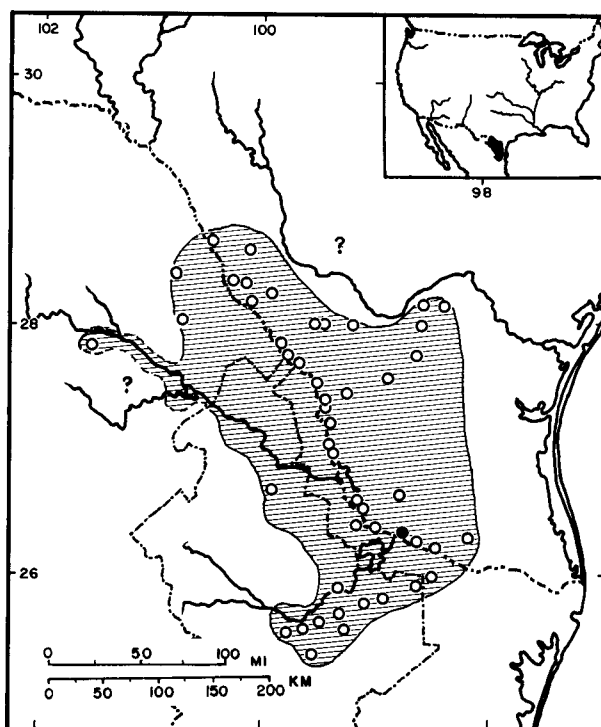
the narrow, white lines forming an open network pattern on the dorsum.

COMMENT

Smith and Taylor (1950b), without explanation, restricted the type-locality of *C. reticulatus* to Laredo, Webb County, Texas, and Cochran (1961) confused Ringgold Barracks with the town of Ringgold, Montague County, in northern Texas. In the original description Baird (1858:253) cited only the syntypes U. S. Nat. Mus. 2692, from Ringgold Barracks, so the type-locality must stand as Fort Ringgold Military Reservation (= Ringgold Barracks), Starr County, Texas. Designation of U. S. Nat. Mus. 2692A as lectotype follows Cope (1900:254, fig. 20), who in effect selected this specimen as lectotype.

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MAP. The solid circle indicates the type-locality; open symbols mark other localities. Question marks and broken line indicate uncertain distributional limits.

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Primary editor for this account, C. J. McCoy.

Published 5 November 1976 by the SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES.