

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

WILSON, LARRY DAVID. 1985. *Tantilla annulata*.

Tantilla annulata (Boettger)

Tantilla annulata Boettger, 1892:419. Type-locality, "Nicaragua." Holotype "presumably in the Natur-Museum und Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt am Main (Boettger, 1892), but not listed by Mertens (1967)" (Wilson, 1982).

Homalocranium annulatum: Günther, 1895:150.

Tantilla semicineta: Barbour and Amaral, 1928:100 (in error).

• CONTENT. No subspecies are recognized.

• DEFINITION AND DIAGNOSIS. "A species of *Tantilla* with black-bordered pale crossbars on a dark red ground color. The right and left portions of the pale crossbars are frequently separated and displaced from one another along the long axis of the body. The head pattern consists of a black head cap, covering all of the dorsum of the head except for the internasals and a portion of the prefrontals, with a complete or medially divided pale nuchal collar barely extending onto the posterior portion of the parietals and crossing the last supralabial. The dark head cap extends for a variable distance posterior to the pale nuchal band and may join or not with the black border of the first crossbar on the body to obliterate the first red body blotch. Ventrals and subcaudals range from 138 to 151 and 52 to 65, respectively" (Wilson, 1982). *Tantilla annulata* may be distinguished from all congeners by possession of black-bordered pale crossbands on a dark red (pale brown in preservative) dorsal ground color, a pale snout, dark head cap, pale nuchal collar, 138 to 151 ventrals, and 52 to 65 subcaudals.

• DESCRIPTIONS. The most complete description is that of Wilson (1982).

• ILLUSTRATIONS. Taylor (1951) presented a black-and-white photograph of the whole body and Wilson (1982) provided black-and-white photographs of lateral and dorsal views of the head and anterior body and a pen-and-ink drawing of the dorsal color pattern of this species.

• DISTRIBUTION. *Tantilla annulata* occurs at low and moderate elevations (0–850 m) of the Caribbean versant from extreme south-eastern Nicaragua to central Panama; also on the Pacific versant in Costa Rica, Panama, and Ecuador.

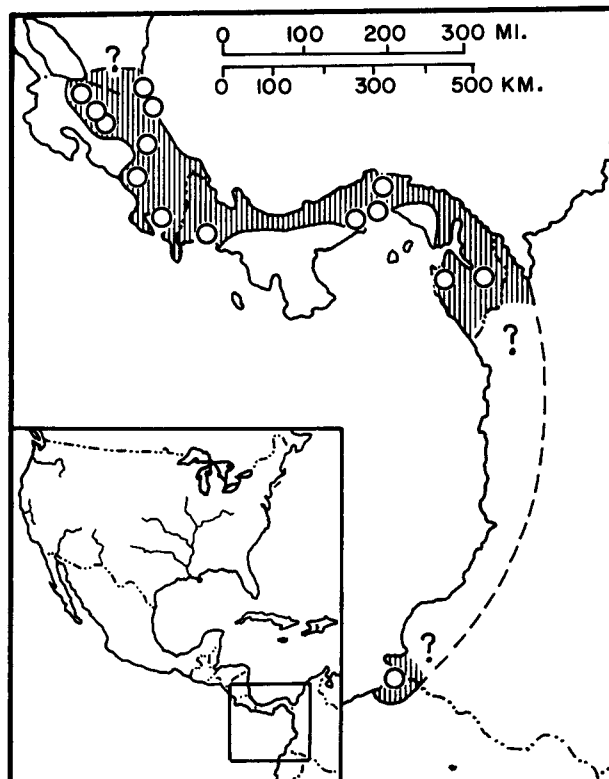
• FOSSIL RECORD. None.

• PERTINENT LITERATURE. Wilson (1982) provided a description of the species based on available material and discussion of geographic and ecological distribution. The remainder of the limited literature on this species, consisting of descriptions of geographically-restricted material and appearance of the name in various lists, may be found by reference to the discussion of this species in Wilson (1982).

• ETYMOLOGY. The name *annulata* is derived from the Latin *annulus*, meaning "a ring," in reference to the dark-bordered pale crossbands on the dorsum characteristic of this species.

LITERATURE CITED

Barbour, Thomas, and Afranio do Amaral. 1928. A new elapid from western Panamá. *Bull. Antivenin Inst. Amer.* 1:100.



MAP. Circles indicate locality records; type-locality too indefinite to plot. Question marks indicate uncertain area of range.

Boettger, Oskar. 1892. Drei neue colubriforme Schlangen. *Zool. Anz.* 15:417–420.

Günther, Albert. 1885–1902 (1895). *Reptilia and Batrachia*, p. xx + 326. In F. D. Godman and O. Salvin, *Biologia Centrali-Americana*. Dulau and Co., London.

Mertens, Robert. 1967. Die herpetologische-Sektion des Natur-Museums und Forschungs-Institutes Senckenberg in Frankfurt a.m. nebst einem Verzeichnis ihrer Typen. *Senckenberg Biol.* 48:1–105.

Taylor, Edward H. 1951. A brief review of the snakes of Costa Rica. *Univ. Kansas Sci. Bull.* 34(1):3–188.

Wilson, Larry David. 1982. A review of the colubrid snakes of the genus *Tantilla* of Central America. *Milwaukee Pub. Mus. Contrib. Biol. Geol.* (52):1–77.

LARRY DAVID WILSON, MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33176.

Primary editor for this account, Stephen G. Tilley.

Published 29 August 1985 and Copyright 1985 by the SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES.