



Hyla femoralis.

J.H. Richard, del.

F.S. Duval, Lith. Phila.

HYLA FEMORALIS.—*Daudin*.*Plate XXXI.*

CHARACTERS. Head small, somewhat obtuse; body cinereous, marked with darker spots or blotches; a triangular blotch between the eyes; abdomen whitish, granulated; thighs dusky on their posterior part, and marked with seven or eight bright yellow spots, nearly in a line.

SYNONYMES. *Hyla femoralis*, *Daudin*, Hist. Nat. des Rain., &c., p. 19, pl. iii. fig. 1.

Hyla femoralis, *Daudin*, Hist. Nat. des Rept., tom. viii. p. 32.

Hyla femoralis, *Leconte*, Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. N. Y., vol. i. p. 280.

Hyla femoralis, *Harlan*, Med. and Phys. Res., p. 107.

DESCRIPTION. The head is rather small, and somewhat obtuse at the snout, cinereous, with a large triangular dusky spot between the orbits; its apex behind and truncated. The mouth is moderate, and the palate is armed with two groups of minute teeth, placed between the posterior nares. The nostrils are lateral, and nearer the snout than the orbit. The eyes are large and prominent, with a black pupil and a golden iris, finely reticulated with brown. The tympanum is of moderate size, and olive-brown in colour. The body is rather slender, cinereous above, and marked with large dusky blotches, without any constant and determinate form. The abdomen is pale white, and granulated at its posterior part.

The anterior extremities are short, cinereous, with dusky spots above and dirty white below; there are four toes, distinct, each terminating in a bulb.

The posterior extremities are well developed, cinereous above, with dusky transverse bars more or less distinct, and milky-white below. The under surface of the thighs is granulated; the posterior is dusky, and marked with six or eight

sub-triangular spots of brightest yellow, arranged without order, but nearly in a line. There are five toes, semi-palmate, and each terminating in a disk, like the fingers.

DIMENSIONS. Total length, 1 inch 6 lines.

HABITS. This little animal lives in the deep forests of Carolina and Georgia; it chooses trees for its residence, and is sometimes found even thirty feet from the ground, feeding on such insects as choose the same localities.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION. I have never heard of the existence of the *Hyla femoralis* out of Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, though doubtless it may exist along the northern borders of the Gulf of Mexico.

GENERAL REMARKS. Bosc was the first naturalist that observed this little animal, and he sent a very good description of it to Latreille, under the specific name *femoralis*, from the bright yellow spots along the thighs. Daudin next gave a good description but a sorry plate of it in his "Histoire des Rainettes," and Leconte finally gave a more detailed account in the New York Lyceum of Natural History.

Dumeril and Bibron consider this animal as identical with the *Hyla squirella*, from which it is, however, perfectly distinct:

1. It is about two-thirds the size.
2. Its general colour and markings are different; there is no white line along the upper lip, and the yellow spots on the thigh always exist there, and never in the *Hyla femoralis*.
3. It differs in habits—for it is never found near out-houses, or about fences and in old fields.



Holbrook, John Edwards. 1842. "Hyla femoralis – Daudin." *North American herpetology; or, A description of the reptiles inhabiting the United States* 4, 127–128. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.326851>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/24524>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.326851>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/326851>

Holding Institution

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

Sponsored by

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.