

of eye over tympanum to shoulder; ventral disk plainly marked by dermal folds.

Dimensions.—Tip of snout to vent, 36 mm.; tip of snout to posterior edge of tympanum, 13 mm.; greatest width of head, 13 mm.; fore leg from axilla, 19 mm.; hind leg from vent to heel, 26 mm.; hind leg from vent to tip of fourth toe, 49 mm.

Coloration (in alcohol).—Body dark bluish-gray above, becoming lighter on the sides; the sharp rim on the snout white; the head dark gray with a blackish bar between the eyes; a black band from eye across tympanum to shoulder; arms and legs light with darker bands and markings; a white line on the posterior femur; underside whitish, the throat finely sprinkled with pale gray.

Remarks.—This frog is closely related to *Leptodactylus albilabris* from Porto Rico. The snout is shorter and broader, and the projecting edge on the upper lip is far more pronounced. Then, too, the hind legs are shorter, and the examination of the mouth reveals a deeply incised tongue, while the tongue of *L. albilabris* is only slightly nicked behind.

ZOOLOGY.—A new lizard of the genus *Sceloporus*.¹ DORIS M. COCHRAN, National Museum. (Communicated by Dr. L. STEJNEGER.)

While identifying the lizards collected in Mexico by the Biological Survey and now in the United States National Museum, I came upon a species of *Sceloporus* which seems to be new to science.

***Sceloporus nelsoni* sp. nov.**

Diagnosis.—Lateral scales directed obliquely upwards and backwards, and passing gradually into the dorsals; series of femoral pores widely separated, not meeting on the preanal region; tail strongly compressed; head-shields smooth; two rows of granular scales between supraoculars and supraciliaries; femoral pores 15 to 20.

Type.—U. S. N. M. No. 47676; Plomosas, Sinaloa, Mexico; July 18, 1897; Nelson and Goldman, collectors.

Description.—Head-shields smooth; frontal ridges fairly prominent; frontal transversely divided, in contact with the interparietal, which is a little broader than long; a single large parietal shield on each side of the interparietal; fronto-parietals in contact with last two supraoculars; two canthal scales; five transverse supraoculars, bordered inwards by an incomplete series of small scales, and separated from the supraciliaries by two rows of almost granular scales; five scales, not larger than those before them, form a denticulation on the anterior border of the ear; dorsal scales much larger than ventrals, strongly keeled, mucronate, forming slightly converging series; 35 scales between the interparietal shield and the base of the tail; 9 scales, taken in the middle of the back, correspond to the length of the head; ventral scales small, smooth, bi- or tricuspid; about 36 scales around the middle of the body; the adpressed hind limb reaches between ear and eye; tibia as long as distance between end of snout and ear; the distance between base of

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fifth toe and extremity of fourth exceeds the distance between end of snout and posterior border of ear; 15 femoral pores on each side; tail distinctly compressed; caudal scales larger than dorsals, strongly keeled and mucronate except those on basal third underneath, which are smooth; males with slightly developed post-anal scales.

Coloration (in alcohol).—Bronze-colored above; a broad, dark stripe along each side with a light area above; a black vertical bar in front of the shoulder; head reddish brown spotted with darker; lips with dark vertical bars; a very noticeable black spot encircled with a ring of light yellow on the posterior margin of the parietal shield, not involving the "pineal eye"; throat with oblique bluish bands converging posteriorly; breast yellowish; sides of belly pale green, broadly edged with blackish blue near the median ventral line.

Dimensions.—Snout to vent, 56 mm.; shielded portion of head, 13 mm.; snout to ear, 14 mm.; length of fourth toe, 15 mm.

Remarks.—Although the new species resembles *Sceloporus pyrocephalus* Cope in many of its characters, there are several striking differences which will enable the two species to be distinguished immediately. The black spot on the parietal shield, which in *S. pyrocephalus* encircles the "pineal eye," in *S. nelsoni* is on the extreme posterior border of the parietal, not involving the pineal eye, and is itself encircled by a ring of light color which becomes slightly darker just anterior to the black spot. The snout is quite flat in *S. pyrocephalus*; one row of regular scales separates the supraoculars and the supraciliaries. In the new species the frontal ridges are fairly prominent; there are two irregular rows of small scales separating supraoculars and supraciliaries; the dorsal scales are larger and more spiny, and the femoral pores are more numerous. The ventral coloration of the two species is entirely different—in the males of *S. pyrocephalus* there is a startling black and white herring-bone pattern of convergent stripes, while in the *S. nelsoni* the pale blue areas on the sides are simply edged with black, as in the large majority of the *Scelopori*.

In addition to the type, there are 10 specimens in the National Museum, five from near Mazatlan, one from Culiacan, three from Rosario and one from Barranca Ibarra. The coloration is constant, except that the specimens from near Mazatlan are somewhat lighter. The femoral pores vary in number between 15 and 20.

The new species is named in honor of Dr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the Biological Survey.



Cochran, Doris M. 1923. "A new lizard of the genus *Sceloporus*." *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* 13, 185–186.

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