

AMPHIBIA: SALIENTIA: LEPTODACTYLIDAE

ELEUTHERODACTYLUS
COUNOUSPEUS

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

SCHWARTZ, ALBERT. 1980. *Eleutherodactylus counouspeus*.

Eleutherodactylus counouspeus Schwartz

Eleutherodactylus counouspeus Schwartz, 1964:2. Type-locality, "Grotte de Counou Bois, 1 mi (1.6 km) southwest of Camp Perrin, Dépt. du Sud, Haiti." Holotype, Mus. Comp. Zool. Harvard University 43199, adult male collected 30 July 1962 by David C. Leber (examined by author).

• CONTENT. No subspecies are recognized.

• DEFINITION. A species of the *ricordi* group of Antillean *Eleutherodactylus* characterized by the combination of large size (males to 48 mm, females to 57 mm snout-vent length), dorsum greenish yellow to tan, with dorsal black markings including a black interocular bar, often followed by a scapular +-shaped blotch; fore- and hindlimbs rather diffusely spotted with dark gray with no apparent banding or barring; concealed surfaces of hindlimbs pale purplish gray, mahogany, or reddish brown, overlaid with brown suffusions; throat yellowish green, heavily mottled with brownish; belly pinkish with admixture of yellow-green, and suffused with brown stippling; underside of crura rather heavily marbled with brown; lores yellow-green and a dark (gray to black) canthal line; iris bronzy with a reddish pupillary ring.

• DESCRIPTIONS. The original description (Schwartz, 1964) is the sole information on the species.

• ILLUSTRATIONS. A drawing of the dorsal view of the male holotype is shown in Schwartz, 1964.

• DESCRIPTION. *Eleutherodactylus counouspeus* is known from the distal portion of the Tiburon Peninsula in Haiti; localities include the type-locality, Duchity, Les Platons, 20 km north of Cavaillon, and near Castillon, on the southern and northern lower slopes of the Massif de la Hotte, and Grotte la Forêt in the north-western Monts Cartaches at the Peninsula's tip. Elevations range from about 1000 to 2500 feet (300-760 m).

• FOSSIL RECORD. None.

• PERTINENT LITERATURE. Other than the original description, the species was briefly mentioned (Schwartz, 1973) in ref-

erence to its geographic and altitudinal distributions with relation to those of other Hispaniolan south island *Eleutherodactylus*; Schwartz and Thomas (1975) and Schwartz et al. (1978) gave details of geographic distribution.

• ETYMOLOGY. The name is a combination of the Creole name of the cave at the type-locality (Grotte de Counou Bois) and *speos*, the Greek for "cave."

COMMENT

Although *Eleutherodactylus counouspeus* was originally assigned to the *ricordi* species group, the presence of a vocal sac in the males suggests that the species is not correctly assigned to that group, other members of which lack vocal sacs.

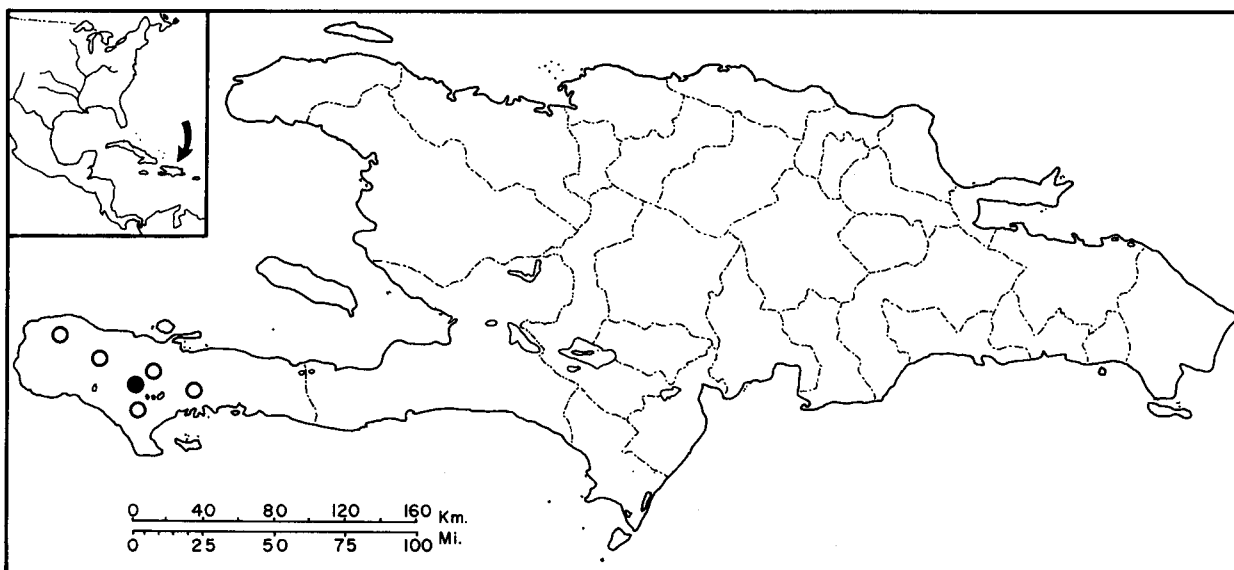
The holotype and a long series from Grotte la Forêt were secured within limestone caverns. Grotte la Forêt is a large sloping cave with a stream running through it. Frogs were found on rocks, in cavities, or on the floor from the twilight zone to well back into the cave 100 feet or more, but still within visibility of the mouth. The cave was visited between 0900 and 1000 hours and many individuals were calling; the call is a single frequently repeated ascending "beep," a strong, clear note. Males call while perched upon rocks or in cavities in the wall. A male from Castillon was taken calling from a rock face with multiple fragments, covered with herbaceous vegetation. The call was an ascending "queenk" with a whistle-like ending. A second Castillon male was taken calling from a limestone crevice along a road cut; other males in this region were in similar situations as well as on horizontal branches close to rock faces. (The foregoing field data were taken by Richard Thomas.) Males encountered north of Cavaillon were calling from deep in the interstices in boulder and rocky limestone jumbles on a montane slope.

Specimens from Les Platons are much paler dorsally and less darkly marked (markings gray rather than black) than frogs from north of the Massif de la Hotte, and may well represent an undescribed southern subspecies.

Specimens and data utilized in this account were taken in part while the author was sponsored by National Science Foundation grants G-7977 and B-023603.

LITERATURE CITED

Schwartz, Albert. 1964. Three new species of frogs (Leptodactylidae, *Eleutherodactylus*) from Hispaniola. *Breviora* (208):1-15.



MAP. Distribution of *Eleutherodactylus counouspeus* on Hispaniola. Solid circle marks type-locality; open circles indicate other localities.

- 1973. Six new species of *Eleutherodactylus* (Anura, Lep-
todactylidae) from Hispaniola. *J. Herpetol.* 7(3):249-273.
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