

## Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Wilson, Larry David. 1988. *Tantilla cascadae*.

***Tantilla cascadae* Wilson and Meyer**

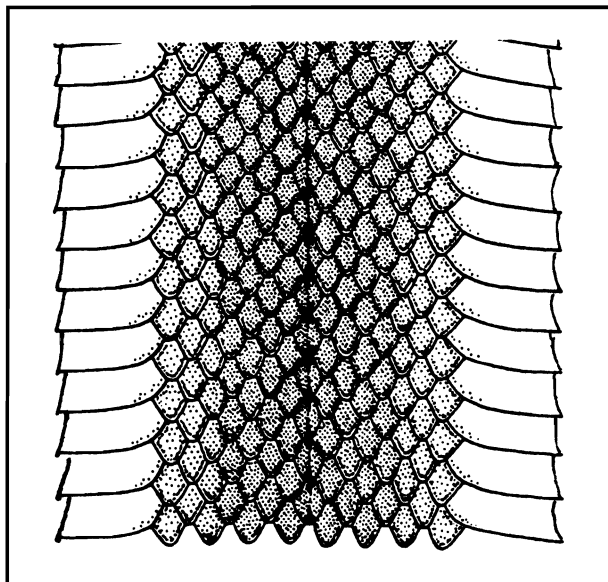
*Tantilla cascadae* Wilson and Meyer, 1981: 13. Type-locality, "Tzaráracua Falls [=Cascada la Tzaráracua], S of Uruapán, [10.5 km S, according to Duellman, 1961], Michoacán, México." Holotype, Amer. Mus. Natur. Hist. 107389, female, collected in June, 1939 by D. F. Brand (examined by author).

• **Content.** No subspecies are recognized.

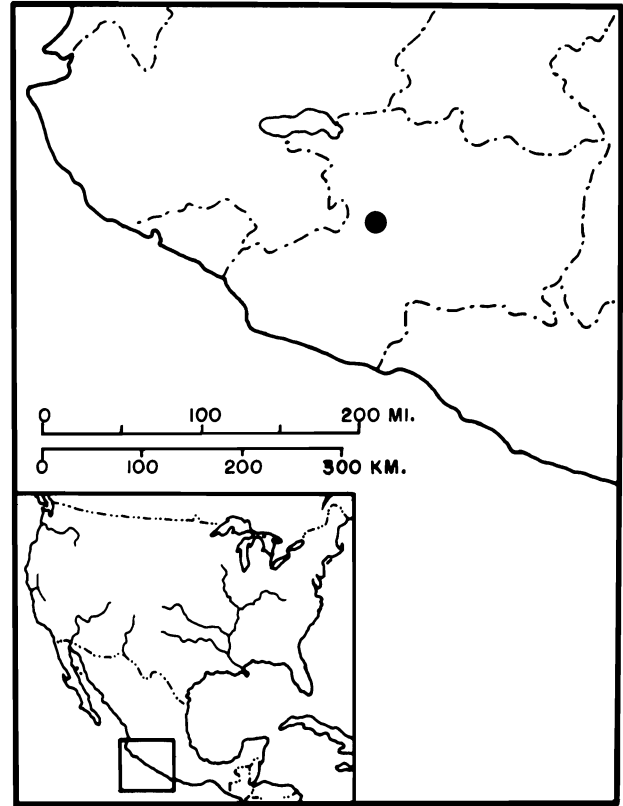
• **Definition and Diagnosis.** A species of *Tantilla* with a dark middorsal stripe occupying the middle of the middorsal scale row. The dark lateral stripe is absent, except on the neck region, where it occupies the adjacent edges of dorsal scale rows 3 and 4. The dorsal ground color is pale brown. The venter is largely cream-colored, "except for a slight amount of brown pigment on the posterolateral edge of each ventral" (Wilson and Meyer 1981). The head pattern consists of "a spatulate dark anterior extension of the middorsal dark stripe flanked by . . . pale narrow longitudinal markings connected to pale postparietal spots" (Wilson and Meyer, 1981). "The spatulate head figure is mottled with ivory, giving the dorsum of the head a lichenous appearance" (Wilson and Meyer, 1981). "The short lateral stripe broadens and continues anteriorly across the parietals and upper portion of the supralabials, around the eye, and onto the preocular and postnasal. The remainder of the supralabials are cream" (Wilson and Meyer, 1981). Ventral and subcaudal counts are 137 and 37, respectively. Supralabials are six and there are two postoculars. *Tantilla cascadae* may be distinguished from all congeners by possession of a dark middorsal stripe confined to the middorsal scale row, no evidence of a dark lateral stripe except on the neck, a pale-outlined dark spatulate head figure followed by pale postparietal spots, 2 postoculars, 6 supralabials, 139 ventrals, and 37 subcaudals.

• **Descriptions.** Only the description in Wilson and Meyer (1981) exists.

• **Illustrations.** Wilson and Meyer (1981) provided a photograph of the head and anterior portion of the body and a pen-and-ink drawing of the dorsal color pattern of the holotype of this species.



**Figure.** Dorsal pattern of *Tantilla cascadae*.



**Map.** Solid symbol marks the type-locality.

• **Distribution.** *Tantilla cascadae* is known only from the type locality at a moderate elevation (ca. 1430 m) on the slopes of the Sierra de los Tarascos on the Pacific versant of the Mexican state of Michoacán.

• **Fossil Record.** None.

• **Pertinent Literature.** The only literature on this species consists of the original description (Wilson and Meyer, 1981) and a listing in a survey of the genus *Tantilla* (Wilson, 1982).

• **Etymology.** The name *cascadae* is a Latinized form of the Spanish word cascada, meaning "waterfall," in reference to the type locality of this species, the Cascada de Tzaráracua.

**Literature Cited.**

- Wilson, Larry David. 1982. *Tantilla*. Cat. Amer. Amph. Rept. 307.1-307.4.  
 —, and John R. Meyer. 1981. Systematics of the *calamarina* group of the colubrid snake genus *Tantilla*. Milwaukee Publ. Mus. Contrib. Biol. Geol. (42):1-25.

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Primary editor for this account, Jaime D. Villa.

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