

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Liner, E.A. and J.R. Dixon. 1994. *Sceloporus chaneyi*.

***Sceloporus chaneyi* Liner and Dixon**
Chaney's Spiny Lizard

Sceloporus chaneyi Liner and Dixon, 1992:421. Type-locality, "11.1 mi. [17.0 km] SW Zaragoza, at Rancho La Encantada, 9300 feet (2835 meters), Nuevo Leon, Mexico." Holotype, Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection (TCWC, Texas A&M University) 69151, an adult male collected by E.A. Liner and R.M. Johnson on 17 July 1980 (examined by authors).

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

• **Definition.** *Sceloporus chaneyi* is a small species (41-53 mm SVL) of the *Sceloporus scalaris* species complex exhibiting little sexual dimorphism. A single canthal and two gular scales are between the second pair of postmentals. The following meristic characters are based on the type-series of 17 individuals: number of dorsal scales from occiput to rump 40-48 ($x = 42.3$), scales around the middle of the body 37-44 ($x = 40.4$), femoral pores 30-36 ($x = 32.1$), and longitudinal rows of keeled dorsal scales 17-22 ($x = 19.3$). The tibia length/head length ratio varied from 0.622 to 0.790 ($x = 0.674$).

The ventral surfaces in both sexes are smooth, yellowish to cream in color, and lack blue belly patches and gular markings. Males have brick red sides. A lateral cream stripe frequently extends uninterrupted for the length of the body. Both sexes have black humeral patches with blue-green centers. A series of dorsolateral dark blotches, edged with dark brown or black and indented posteriorly, extend longitudinally on either side of the body. Most blotches are longer than wide, occasionally square. These blotches are fused anterior to the shoulder in both sexes, and this fusion occasionally extends posteriorly one-third to three-quarters of the body. A broad, median brownish tan stripe, relatively uniform in width, is scalloped laterally and posteriorly. A median dark brown line, wider anteriorly, begins at or near the interparietal and extends posteriorly 2-12 scales.

• **Diagnosis.** *Sceloporus chaneyi* differs from all other members of the *S. scalaris* species group in the absence of blue belly patches and distinct bars or streaks on the throat of males, and in the possession by both sexes of dorsal blotches which coalesce to form a brown line from the rear of the head to or near the shoulder medial to the cream dorsolateral line.

• **Descriptions.** A detailed description was given by Liner and Dixon (1992).

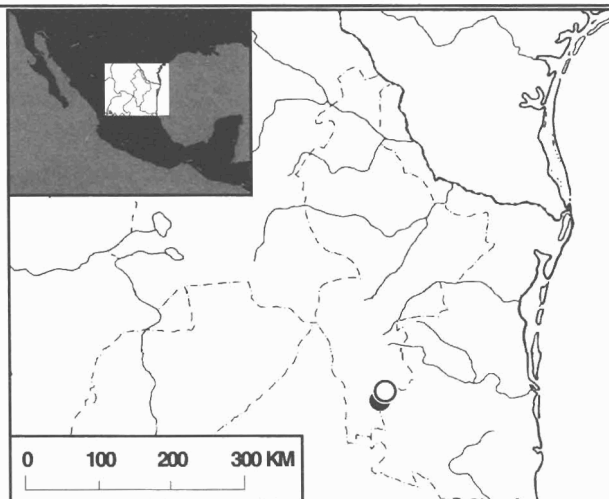
• **Illustrations.** Liner and Dixon (1992) furnished a black and white photograph of the holotype.

• **Distribution.** *Sceloporus chaneyi* is known only from the type-locality and from 19.6 km NE San Antonio de Pena Nevada, Nuevo Leon, México. The species occurs in rocky *Agave*-grassland vegetative communities between 2683 and 2835 m.

• **Fossil Record.** None.



Figure. The holotype of *Sceloporus chaneyi* (TCWC 69151), an adult male from 17 km SW Zaragoza, 2835 m, Nuevo Leon (left); an adult female paratype (EAL 5034) collected on 22 July 1985 from Puerto de Pena Nevada, 19.6 km (by road) NE San Antonio de Pena Nevada, 2683 m, Nuevo Leon. Photographs by E.A. Liner.



Map. Distribution of *Sceloporus chaneyi* in Nuevo Leon, México. The circle marks the type-locality; the dot indicates the only other known locality.

• **Pertinent Literature.** The original description (Liner and Dixon, 1992) and the reference to *Sceloporus scalaris* (= *S. chaneyi*) in Rossman et al. (1989) constitute the entire literature on this species.

• **Remark.** Liner and Dixon (1992) listed amphibian and reptile species associated with *Sceloporus chaneyi*, and postulated *Barisia imbricata ciliaris* as a predator of this species.

• **Etymology.** The name *chaneyi* is a patronym honoring Dr. Allan H. Chaney of Texas A&I University (now a part of the Texas A&M system), Kingsville, Texas, a long-time associate of both authors and participant in many collecting trips to México, including those during which a portion of the type-series was obtained.

Literature Cited

- Liner, E.A. and J.R. Dixon. 1992. A new species of the *Sceloporus scalaris* group from Cerro Pena Nevada, Nuevo Leon, Mexico (Sauria: Iguanidae). *Texas J. Sci.* 44:421-427.
- Rossman, D.A., E.A. Liner, C.H. Trevino, and A.H. Chaney. 1989. Re-description of the garter snake *Thamnophis exsul* Rossman, 1969 (Serpentes: Colubridae). *Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington* 102: 507-514.

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