

op. cit.), that may deter would-be nest predators (Haemig, 2001. Biodiv. Conserv. 10:527–540). Known predators of Baya Weaver nests that occur, or potentially occur, within our study area include macaques (*Macaca* spp.), garden lizards (*Calotes* spp.), monitors (*Varanus* spp.), and snakes (Craig, 2020, *op. cit.*), all of which may be deterred by the presence of crocodiles.

Our work in the Xe Champhone Wetlands is supported by the project “Ecosystem Conservation through Integrated Landscape Management in Lao PDR”, funded jointly by the European Union and the Agence Française de Développement. We thank C. Paul for assistance with locating important literature references and thank L. Medlock for thoughtful comments on an early draft of this manuscript. This paper represents technical contribution number 7368 of the Clemson University Experimental Station.

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SQUAMATA — AMPHISBAENIANS

LEPOSTERNON MICROCEPHALUM (Small-head Worm Lizard). **PREDATION.** *Leposternon microcephalum* is a terrestrial amphisbaenid found in open and semi-open habitats in Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil (Pérez and Ribeiro 2008. Check List 4:291–294). They are reported to be common prey for snakes (e.g., Marques and Sazima 1997. Herpetol. Nat. Hist. 5:88–93; Caramaschi and Niemeyer 2012. Herpetol. Notes 5:429–430) and a wide variety of raptors and wading birds such as *Amadonastur lacernulatus* (Rajão et al. 2013. Herpetol. Rev. 44:509–510), *Cariama cristata* (Folly et al. 2015. Herpetol. Notes 8:465–466), and most recently, *Guirā guirā* (Pimentel et al. 2023. Herpetol. Rev. 54:289–290). Here, we report a new bird predator, the Red-billed Curassow (*Crax blumenbachii*), preying on *L. microcephalum* from southeastern Brazil.

At 0913 h on 22 September 2019, we observed a pair of Red-billed Curassows (*Crax blumenbachii*) feeding on an adult *L.*

microcephalum (ca. 35 cm total length) in the Reserva Particular do Patrimônio Natural (RPPN) Fazenda Macedônia, Ipaba Municipality, Minas Gerais, Brazil (19.3601°S, 42.39309°W; WGS 84; 232 m elev.). The birds were foraging along the banks of the Rio Doce, and the male held the lizard in its bill and repeatedly struck it against the ground for ca. 1 min until it appeared dead. Before the birds had a chance to eat the lizard, a group of people arrived nearby, and the pair abandoned their prey and flew 20 m away from the lizard. After 35 min the people left, and the pair returned, and the male swallowed the lizard whole (Fig. 1).

To our knowledge this is the first report of Red-billed Curassows, an endangered and endemic species of the Brazilian Atlantic Forest, foraging and feeding on *L. microcephalum*. The known diet of Red-billed Curassows primarily consists of fruits, invertebrates, and leaves (Muñoz and Kattan 2007. Ornitol. Neotrop. 18:21–36), although other curassow species are known to feed on vertebrates (e.g., Santamaría and Franco 2000. Wilson Bull. 112:473–481; Muñoz and Kattan 2007, *op. cit.*), including one case of *Amphisbaena alba* (Costa and Santana 2024. Reptil. Amphib. 31:e21734). Since curassows mainly forage on the ground, they likely consume fossorial amphisbaenids more frequently than has previously been reported.

HSGF thanks the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET) for financial support.

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SQUAMATA — LIZARDS

ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS (Green Anole). **HABITAT USE.** *Anolis carolinensis* is a trunk-crown ecomorph that is commonly found perched as high as 2.5 m on tree trunks, branches, stems, shrubs, grasses, and other perch types (Jenssen et al. 1995. Herpetol. Monogr. 9:41–62; Irschick et al. 2005. Biol. J. Linn. Soc. 85:223–234). Both males and females spend most of their time on the elevated perches, however, they occasionally forage on the ground or use it to escape from predators (Jenssen et al. 1995, *op. cit.*; Schaeffer et al. 2016. Southeast. Nat. 15:134–150). Additionally, females use the ground for egg laying (Propper et al. 1991. J. Herpetol. 484–486). Here, we report an unusual observation of an *A. carolinensis* using a crayfish burrow during a crayfish survey in east Texas, USA.

On 30 October 2024 we observed a young male *A. carolinensis* (ca. 7 cm SVL) protruding from a crayfish burrow under the Mud Creek bridge west of Reklaw, Cherokee County, Texas (31.8561°N, 94.9960°W; WGS 84; 79 m elev.). The burrow chimney had a height of ca. 10 cm, the upper opening had a diameter of ca. 3 cm, and the burrow was located ca. 4 m from the creek's shoreline and 0.5 m from the bridge pier. From our standing position ca. 1 m away, we could see the lizard's head, upper back, and front limb sticking from the burrow's chimney in a steady position (Fig. 1; INHS 2024-b), but as we moved to ca. 40 cm closer, the lizard fully retreated into the burrow. We then removed the columnar mud chimney to capture the lizard but did not excavate the burrow to determine the presence, or identification, of the crayfish; however, *Procambarus clarkii* (Red Swamp Crayfish) and *Lacunicambarus ludovicianus* (Painted Devil Crayfish)



FIG. 1. Adult male *Crax blumenbachii* preying on a *Leposternon microcephalum* in the RPPN Fazenda Macedônia, Ipaba Municipality, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

PHOTO BY ENRIQUE SANTOYO-BRITO



FIG. 1. Young *Anolis carolinensis* protruding from a crayfish burrow located near the creek shoreline of Mud Creek bridge in Cherokee County, Texas, USA.

are native and known from the area. Over the course of the 5-d crayfish survey, we saw ca. 100 other crayfish chimneys in the region and observed at least four other *A. carolinensis* in crayfish habitat. However, all four lizards were perched on more typical low vegetation or other shrub-like plants (e.g., Jenssen et al. 1995, *op. cit.*; Schaeffer et al. 2016, *op. cit.*).

To our knowledge, this is the first record of *A. carolinensis* using a crayfish burrow, or any other burrow, as a refuge. Records of amphibians and snakes found seeking refuge or hibernating in crayfish burrows are not uncommon (Carpenter 1953. Ecology 34:74–80; Biggler et al. 2023. A Guide to Missouri's Salamanders. The Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson, Missouri. 32 pp.). However, reports of lizard–crayfish burrow associations are rare, and we know of only two other instances: an *Ophisaurus ventralis* inside a crayfish burrow in a roadside ditch near the Alabama state line (Adams et al. 2021. Herpetol. Rev. 51:602) and an Australian water skink (Turner 2015. Vic. Nat. 131:72–83). It's not clear how common this behavior is in *A. carolinensis* or if this lizard was using the crayfish burrow to escape a predator or as a hibernacula.

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ANOLIS EQUESTRIS (Knight Anole). PREDATION. *Anolis equestris* is native to Cuba and has become established and widespread in southern Florida, USA, after first being reported in the state in 1952 (Camposano et al. 2008. Iguana 15:213–219; Krysko et al. 2019. Amphibians and Reptiles of Florida. University of Florida Press, Gainesville, Florida. 706 pp.). These large anoles reach up to 50 cm in total length and as crown-giant ecomorphs are typically found ≥ 3 m above the ground in trees and tree canopies,

PHOTO BY Y. VILLALTA



FIG. 1. *Elanoides forficatus* (Swallow-tailed Kite) carrying *Anolis equestris* on the Florida Gulf Coast University campus, Lee County, Florida, USA.

where they are vulnerable to bird predation (Henderson and Powell 2009. Natural History of West Indian Amphibians and Reptiles. University Press of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. 520 pp.). Known bird predators on *A. equestris* include *Saunderothra merlini* (Great Lizard-Cuckoo; Fernández Méndez and Manso Valdés 1998. Flora Fauna 2:43–45), *Falco sparverius* (American Kestrel; Ševčík 1990. Datz 43:156–158), and *Turdus plumbeus* (Red-legged Thrush; Rodríguez Schettino 1999. The Iguanid Lizards of Cuba. University of Florida Press, Gainesville, Florida. 448 pp.). Here, we report predation of *A. equestris* by a novel bird predator, *Elanoides forficatus* (Swallow-tailed Kite), from Florida.

At ca. 1130 h on 5 Mar 2024, we observed an *E. forficatus* in flight carrying an *A. equestris* in its bill (Fig. 1) on Florida Gulf Coast University campus, Lee County, Florida (26.4597°N, 81.7803°W; WGS 84; 6 m elev.). The kite flew to a nearby perch, where it transferred the lizard to its talons. It then took off again and circled, although consumption was not observed before it left the area. To our knowledge this is the first report of *E. forficatus* preying on *A. equestris*. Kites are well-known predators of small lizards, especially *Anolis*, captured from tree canopies while they are on the wing. Three diet studies in Florida, all during the kite's nesting season (April–June), found that *Anolis* spp. (not identified to species but referred to as “chameleons” or “anole lizards”, assumed to be *A. carolinensis* or *A. sagrei*) composed 3–40% of prey brought to nests (Sutton 1955. Everglades Nat. Hist. 3:72–84; Snyder 1974. Living Bird 13:73–97; Meyer and Collopy 1990. Status, distribution, and habitat requirements of the American swallow-tailed kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) in Florida. Report to Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida). One non-breeding study also reported *A. carolinensis* in the diet of adult kites (Lee and Clark 1993. Brimleyana 19:185–203).

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ANOLIS LIVIDUS (Plymouth Anole). NECTIVORY. Lizard-plant interactions that include pollination and lizard nectivory occur more often on islands than on the mainland and are frequently associated with isolation (Olesen and Valido 2003. Trends Ecol. Evol. 18:177–181). Nectivory has been reported for numerous West Indian and Lesser Antilles *Anolis* (Cooper and Vitt 2002.