

Anolis leachii

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Reptilia		Polychrotidae

Common name Warwick lizard (English), Antigua anole (English), panther anole (English), Barbuda Bank tree anole (English)

Synonym *Anolis leachii* , Boulenger, 1885
Anolis bimaculatus leachi , Lazell, 1972
Anolis leachi , Burnell & Hedges, 1990
Anolis leachi , Powell & Henderson, 2001

Similar species

Summary The Barbuda Bank tree anole, *Anolis leachii* was accidentally introduced to Bermuda along with the Barbados anole (*A. extremus*) probably in the early 1940's. In Bermuda, *A. leachii* successfully competes with the longer established and also introduced Graham's anole (*Norops grahami*), altering its microhabitat distribution. Introduced anole lizards including *A. leachii* (but mainly *N. grahami*) on Bermuda were shown to predate heavily on beetle species introduced for the biological control of introduced scale insects.



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Species Description

Anolis leachii is a large anole with a mean snout to vent length of 102 mm for males (Losos, 1996).

Notes

Anolis leachii is one of three introduced anole species present on Bermuda, along with Graham's anole (see *Norops grahami*) and the Barbados anole (see *A. extremus*) (Wingate, 1965). The effects of these lizards, particularly *N. grahami* led to the introduction of the great kiskadee (see *Pitangus sulphuratus*) as a biocontrol agent in 1957. However, this biocontrol attempt was a failure, with *P. sulphuratus* playing a significant role in the population declines of native insect, bird and reptile species on Bermuda (Cheesman & Clubbe, 2007; Davenport *et al.*, 2008).

Nutrition

The diet of *Anolis leachii* is similar and widely overlapping with that of *Norops grahami* (Wingate, 1965). Simmonds (1958) found the following insects in order of abundance from a stomach content analysis of 57 individuals: Hymenoptera, mainly *Iridomyrmex*; Diptera, various species, particularly *Hippelates*; Coleoptera, various species particularly *Lindorus* (Coccinellidae); Lepidoptera, various species, adults and larvae; Orthoptera, *Periplaneta* (Blattidae). Insects of the orders Coleoptera, Diptera, and Hymenoptera were nearly all of species larger than taken by *N. grahami* and the proportion of cockroaches eaten was much larger (Simmonds, 1958).

General Impacts

Anolis leachii affects the microhabitat distribution of the also introduced *Norops grahami* on Bermuda through competition, forcing *N. grahami* to use lower (Schoener, 1975) or peripheral (Losos, 1996) perches. Both species, but especially *N. grahami* were shown to predate heavily on beneficial insect species such as the Coccinellids *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* and *Chilocorus cacti* introduced to control scale insects such as the long-tailed mealybug *Pseudococcus adonidum* (Simmonds, 1958).

Pathway

Most likely capable of dispersal as a stowaway on cargo ships (Wingate, 1965).

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-06-29

ALIEN RANGE

[1] BERMUDA

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11 references found for *Anolis leachii*

Managment information

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Summary: Available from: http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/ja/ja_horn011.pdf [Accessed 2 July 2010]

IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)., 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

General information

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