

Anolis garmani

System: Terrestrial

| Kingdom | Phylum | Class | Order | Family |
|----------|----------|----------|-------|---------------|
| Animalia | Chordata | Reptilia | | Polychrotidae |

Common name Jamaican anole (English), Jamaica giant anole (English), large green anole (English, South Florida), iguana (English, South Florida), iguanito (English, South Florida)

Synonym *Lacerta bullaris* , Linnaeus, 1758
Anolis bimaculatus , Daudin, 1802
Anolis edwardsii , Griffith & Pidgeon, 1831
Anolis equestris , De la Sagra, 1838
Dactyloa edwardsii , Gray, 1840
Ctenonotus edwardsii , Fitzinger, 1843
Eupristis edwardsii , Cope, 1861
Norops garmani , Savage & Guyer, 1991

Similar species

Summary The Jamaica giant anole, *Anolis garmani* is a large arboreal lizard that is used in the pet trade. It is reported to be present in southeastern Florida and is likely to have established on Grand Cayman Island. *A. garmani* is known to predate on other lizards as well as large insects in its native range however there have been no reports of negative impacts on native biodiversity in its introduced range.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Species Description

Anolis garmani is a large lizard with snout to vent length up to 131 mm for males and 80 mm for females (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991). It has 2 -3 scales between supraorbitals; 2 - 4 between the interparietal and supraorbital semicircles; 6 postrostrals; 4 postmentals; and suboculars in contact with suoralabials (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991).

Dorsals and lateral scales are swollen, keeled and either no smaller or a little smaller than ventrals. A distinct dorsal crest is present in males with high, pointed scales. Females lack this crest but have one or more rows of middorsals almost always distinctly elongate, often with raised keels, especially in the nuchal region (Schwarz & Henderson, 1991). Ventrals are not or very slightly keeled and smooth, nonimbricating, arranged in transverse rows that tend to continue onto sides. Supradigital scales are usually smooth but can be vaguely keeled or wrinkled on rare occasion (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991). Tail is verticillate with 3 dorsal and 3 ventral scales/verticil; tail dorsals have strongly raised keels that continue along dorsal body crest onto tail (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991).

Dorsum is bright emerald-green, but in the intermediate phase of metachrosis may have oblique, straw-coloured bars or spots on the sides. In the dark phase of metachrosis, colour is uniform and very dark brown or black. The dewlap in *A. garmani* is orange with a greenish yellow border (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991). The emerald green to black coloration, and orange and green dewlap pattern are what distinguishes the Jamaican giant anole from the other Jamaican anoles (Reptiles Database 2010).

Notes

Large green anole lizard species introduced to South Florida such as *Anolis garmani* and *A. equestris* are commonly mistakenly called iguanas or iguanitos due to their resemblance to the common green iguana, *Iguana iguana* (Kern, 2009).

Uses

Used in the exotic pet trade in Florida, USA (Kern, 2009).

Habitat Description

Anolis garmani is known to be mesophilic and arboreal, associated only with large trees or bamboo clumps at lower elevations and fairly numerous in montane forests at moderate altitude (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991). If disturbed, *A. garmani* may descend from a tree to hide in rocks, but otherwise is often found on the same tree day after day (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991).

Nutrition

Anolis garmani feed on insects and other lizards (including male *A. lineatopus* on Jamaica) and "apparently" vegetal matter (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991). It is known to descend to ground level to feed on large crickets and cockroaches (Schwartz & Henderson, 1991).

Pathway

Anolis garmani is noted as a species established in Florida due to escapes or intentional releases from the exotic pet trade (Kern, 2009).

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: 2010-07-07

ALIEN RANGE

[2] CAYMAN ISLANDS

[1] UNITED STATES

BIBLIOGRAPHY

4 references found for *Anolis garmani*

Management information

Horn, Scott; Hanula, James L. 2006. Burlap bands as a sampling technique for green anoles (*Anolis carolinensis*) and other reptiles commonly found on tree boles. *Herpetological Review*. 37(4). DEC 2006. 427-428

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.

Kern, W. H. Jr. 2009. *Dealing with Iguanas in the South Florida Landscape*. University of Florida IFAS Extension ENY-714

Summary: Available from: <http://if-srvv-edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/IN/IN52800.pdf> [Accessed 22 June 2010]

General information



GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Anolis garmani*

[Reptiles Database, 2010. *Anolis garmani* Stejneger, 1899](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://reptile-database.reptarium.cz/species.php?genus=Anolis&species=garmani> [Accessed September 8 2010]