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The Red Salamander (*Ensatina eschscholtzii* Gray) on Vancouver Island

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THE RED SALAMANDER (*ENSATINA ESCHSCHOLTZII* GRAY) ON VANCOUVER ISLAND.—The red salamander is locally distributed in British Columbia in the lower Fraser Valley of the mainland in the southwestern part of the province, where it is commonly found in damp woods, particularly near logs in advanced stages of decay. Until the present time there has been some doubt as to the presence of this species on Vancouver Island, since the specimen upon which the only record was based (Hardy, G. A., Amphibia of British Columbia, Ann. Rept. Prov. Mus. Nat. Hist., 1926 (1925): C21–C24) has been lost. The occurrence of *Ensatina eschscholtzii* on Vancouver Island has been confirmed, however, by the finding of an adult specimen by Mr. G. C. Boyd, of Lake Cowichan, in a decaying cedar log near the lake shore on August 15, 1939.

This specimen measures as follows:

Snout to anus	58 mm.	Fore limb	18 mm.
Front of anus to end of tail	52	Hind limb	20
Width of head	11	Heel to end of longest toe	9
Snout to fore limb	19	Breadth of foot	4
Axilla to groin	31		

The specimen has been added to the collection of the Provincial Museum, Victoria, British Columbia.—G. CLIFFORD CARL, *Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Cowichan Lake Hatchery, British Columbia.*

*EUMECES* IN THE MIAMI AREA.—For many years it has seemed to the senior author that he never saw but one species of skink in the general region about Miami, Coconut Grove, and Cutler, in Dade County, Florida. In other parts of the state he should say that *Leiolepisma* appeared to be at least as common as *Eumeces* and in most places very much more abundant even though more than one member of the latter genus was to be found.

In 1939, beginning in February, Barbour determined to collect as many skinks as possible from the vicinity of Coconut Grove. The season was an extraordinarily dry one and lizards of all sorts were very scarce until the unusually late spring rains finally came. With the aid of Mr. H. F. Loomis, of the Staff of the Chapman Field Plant Introduction Garden, the word was passed about that a small reward was forthcoming for each skink secured. Loomis continued to preserve specimens after Barbour left for the north, until between us we had one hundred individuals. These are now before us and, as had been surmised, the series runs as uniform as one could possibly imagine. All the specimens are, generally speaking, and with the exception noted below, as alike as peas in a pod and all are unquestionably *Eumeces inexpectatus* Taylor. The head scales vary markedly. The best diagnostic character that Taylor gives seems to be the absence of broadened median sub-caudal scales, which holds consistently throughout the series except where the tail has been broken off and has regenerated. The Miami series shows no differences from specimens from near the type locality, which was Citrus County, Florida.

This species seems to be unquestionably distinct, little as the senior author was inclined to accept it when it was first described. Moreover, it seems to be the only one which has adapted itself to life under the rather specialized environmental conditions existing in its rocky and decidedly tropical habitat. It is one of the very few forms which have established themselves on some of the waterless and poorly vegetated islands on both coasts of the peninsula. *E. inexpectatus* is much less arboreal than either *laticeps* or *fasciatus*. Although it climbs trees when pressed, it is usually found on the ground among leaves or about fallen logs, and particularly about stone walls or old buildings made of cut rock.

One would have expected to find a certain number of individuals of *E. egregius* (Baird), but not a single one appeared in this collection nor have we ever seen one during the innumerable visits made to this part of Florida. Why this should be is difficult to understand inasmuch as conditions on the upper Florida Keys, where *egregius* is common, would not seem to be conspicuously different from those of the mainland, however much this strip of Dade County differs from all the rest of the Peninsula of Florida.—THOMAS BARBOUR, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts*, and A. F. CARR, JR., *University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.*