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DESCRIPTION OF AN AMEIVA FROM TESTIGOS
ISLAND, VENEZUELA

BY ALEXANDER G. RUTHVEN

A specimen of *Ameiva*, collected on Testigos Island, was recently sent to the writer for study from the Museum of Comparative Zoology. The specimen differs in several characters from its nearest relative—*A. bifrontata* Cope. The differences are not great, and only one specimen is at hand, but, since the characters are distinct and the genus has apparently not been recorded from the island, it seems proper to describe the form as new.

Ameiva insulana, new species

Diagnosis: Ten longitudinal rows of ventral plates; arrangement of head scales as in *Ameiva bifrontata*; caudal scales straight keeled; enlarged gulars in a band across the throat, last three supraoculars together surrounded by granules; outer toe reaching nearly as far as inner; brachials and antebrachials not continuous; postbrachials slightly enlarged; hind leg reaching to the anterior border of the ear.

Type Specimen: No. 14025, Museum of Comparative Zoology; Testigos Island.

Description of Type Specimen: Nostril between the nasals; five occipitals, the anterior margin of the middle one as wide as or wider than the adjacent ones; frontal divided transversely, with low longitudinal keels; second and third supraoculars large, the first small, the fourth very small, the last three entirely surrounded by granules; six superciliaries; loreal undivided; five and six supralabials to below middle of eye; two pairs of chin shields in contact on the median line; mesoptychial scales about the size of the largest granules. Dorsal scales small; ventrals in ten longitudinal rows; transverse rows about thirty-four; preanal plates small, four subequal scutes in a row posteriorly. One row of large brachial plates not continuous with the antebrachials, which are in one row. A group of slightly enlarged rhomboidal postbrachials. Femoral plates numerous; tibial plates in three rows. Femoral pores fifteen. Tip of longest toe reaching the anterior margin of the ear.

The color is faded but evidently the ground color was olivaceous, and the pattern consisted of light stripes and dark spots arranged as follows: A pale median stripe obsolete on the neck; an upper narrow lateral stripe continuous from the head and extending on the tail; a lower narrow lateral stripe continuous from the ear to the shoulder, broken up into spots behind the shoulder for half the body length, and again continuous from the middle of the body and on the tail; a series of irregular dark spots between the lateral stripes; two rows of regularly triangular and alternately placed spots on the back, separated by the median pale stripe; an irregular yellow stripe on the posterior side of the thighs.

	mm.		mm.
Total length	205	Length of hind leg	47
Length of head	18	Length of tail	144

Remarks: This species is evidently very close to *Ameiva bifrontata* Cope as it exists on Aruba. If the specimen is typical, the principal differences are in the wider median

occipital plate, the smaller postbrachials, the discontinuity between the enlarged brachials and antebrachials, the smaller preanals, and the longer hind leg in the Testigos form. Slight as are the differences, it seems best to give the Testigos *Ameiva* specific rather than subspecific rank because of its isolation.

