

OCCASIONAL PAPERS OF THE MUSEUM OF  
ZOOLOGY

---

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY

---

DESCRIPTION OF AN APPARENTLY NEW SPECIES  
OF APOSTOLEPIS FROM BOLIVIA

BY ALEXANDER G. RUTHVEN

In a large collection of reptiles and amphibians recently received from José Steinbach, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, there is a single specimen referable to the genus *Apostolepis*, which apparently represents an undescribed species.

*Apostolepis tenuis*, new species

*Diagnosis*: Two upper labials, the 5th and 6th, in contact with the parietals; symphysial scale not in contact with chin-shields; 4 lower labials in contact with chin-shields, the 4th the largest.

*Type Specimen*: Cat. No. 64436, Mus. of Zool., Univ. of Mich.; Buena Vista, Dept. Santa Cruz, Bolivia; collected by José Steinbach.

*Description*: Head relatively broad and flat; snout feebly projecting; eye small. Frontal as long as broad, shorter than its distance from end of snout, half as long as parietals. Nasal separated from preocular by prefrontal. A single post-ocular. Six upper labials, 2d and 3d entering eye; 4th entirely under

post-ocular; 5th and 6th in contact with parietals. The first lower labials in contact behind symphysial; 4 lower labials in contact with chin-shields. Dorsal scale rows 15; ventrals 260; sub-caudals 37; anal plate divided.

Body above with longitudinal blackish and yellow stripes, as follows: 1st and part of 2d scale row yellow; a black stripe involving part of 2d row, all of 3d and 4th rows, and most of 5th row; a yellow stripe encroaching on 5th row and involving all of the 6th and most of the 7th rows; a median black stripe covering the 8th and the scale edges of adjacent rows. End of the tail black above. Belly yellow, with a median series of dusky markings on the tail. Muzzle yellow above; an irregular yellow spot below the eye; head, including 1st row of scales on the occiput, blackish; a yellow nuchal band one scale wide.

*Measurements:* Total length, 308 mm.; tail length, 36 mm.

*Remarks:* This species recalls *A. nigroterminata* and *A. dorbignyi*. From the former it is distinguished by the separation of the anterior chin-shields from the symphysial, and by the larger number of ventral scales. From *dorbignyi*, as described, our specimen differs in the proportions of the frontal plate, and in coloration.



