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DERMOPHIS GLANDULOSUS (Glandular Caecilian) DIET

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Natural History Notes

DERMOPHIS GLANDULOSUS (Glandular Caecilian) DIET. As with most caecilians we know little about the biology of *Dermophis glandulosus*, other than its taxonomic status and its distribution from Costa Rica to northern Colombia (Savage & Wake 2001). This species seems to be one of the more rare caecilians for this region with just 10 specimens deposited in the collection of the Museum of Zoology at the University of Costa Rica. Herein we describe the stomach contents of a specimen found dead in the field on the 9 October 2005 near Rio J aris, Canton de Mora, Costa Rica (9.9043 N, 84.3012W; 550 m asl; in tropical humid forest).

The specimen was in good condition when found, however, cause of death could not be determined. Upon examination of its stomach contents we discovered a well-developed egg of an *Anolis* sp. It was identified as an *Anolis* egg as the embryo had well developed lamellae on all of its fingers (Losos, 2009); nevertheless it was impossible to identify the species as the body scales were not yet fully developed. The embryo presented 14 lamellae under the forth toe, which is common for most medium sized anoles in the region (Savage, 2002). The most abundant species in this area are *A. cupreus* and *A. intermedius*. Because *Anolis* eggs are commonly laid above ground or just under a

rock or log (Losos, 2009), this record suggests this species could be actively foraging on the forest floor and not just underground as it is thought of for most caecilians.

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