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EUTROPIS CARINATA (Common Skink), **EUTROPIS MACULARIA** (Rock Skink). **ENDOPARASITES.** *Eutropis carinata*, a terrestrial, diurnal skink, occurs in a wide variety of habitats in Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, and Nepal (Das and De Silva 2005. A Photographic Guide to Snakes and Other Reptiles of Sri Lanka. Ralph Curtis Publ., Sanibel Island, Florida. 144 pp.). *Eutropis macularia*, a semi-fossorial skink, occurs in Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, east to mainland southeast Asia (Das and de Silva, *op. cit.*). There are, to our knowledge, no published records of helminths from these species. The purpose of this note is to establish the initial helminth lists for *E. carinata* and *E. macularia*.

One male *E. carinata* (SVL = 110 mm, Christopher C. Austin = CCA 2364, collected August 2002 at Buttala, Monaragala District, Central Province, Sri Lanka [6.6813°N, 81.2705°E, datum: WGS84], elev. 125 m) and one female *E. macularia* (SVL = 68 mm, CCA 1771, collected November 2002 at Batamdomba Cave, Rathapura District, Central Province, Sri Lanka [6.7797°N, 80.3969°E, WGS84], elev. 114 m) were examined for helminths. Lizards were sacrificed within 12 h of capture, preserved in 10% formalin and stored in 70% ethanol. The digestive tract was later removed, opened, and searched for helminths under a dissecting microscope. The three female nematodes found in their stomachs (1 in *E. carinata* and 2 in *E. macularia*), were removed, cleared in a drop of glycerol on a glass slide, cover-slipped, studied under a compound microscope and identified as *Physalopteroides dactylurus*. Nematodes were deposited in the United States National Parasite Collection, Bethesda, Maryland, USA as: *E. carinata* (USNPC 101175) and *E. macularia* (USNPC 101176). Lizards were deposited in the herpetology collection of the National Museum of Sri Lanka, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Physalopteroides dactylurus is a member of the Physalopteridae, which utilizes insects as intermediate hosts (Anderson 2000. Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates. Their Development and Transmission. CABI Publishing, Oxford, UK. 650 pp.). *Eutropis* likely become infected through diet. *Eutropis carinata* and *E. macularia* are new host records for *P. dactylurus*, which is also known from *Calotes versicolor*, *Hemidactylus flaviviridis*, both collected in India, and *Eumeces taeniolatus* (currently *Eurylepis taeniolatus*) collected in Turkmenistan (Baker 1987. Synopsis of the Nematoda Parasitic in Amphibians and Reptiles. Memorial University of Newfoundland Occas. Pap. Biol., St. John's Newfoundland, Canada. 325 pp.)

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HELODERMA SUSPECTUM (Gila Monster). **DIET AND PREDATORY BEHAVIOR.** *Heloderma suspectum* is a strict carnivore and nest-raiding specialist that shows geographic variation in its diet. Typical prey selection includes eggs of ground-nesting birds and lizards, as well as small mammals, commonly the neonates of rodents (reviewed by Beck 2005. Biology of Gila Monsters and Beaded Lizards. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles. 247 pp.; Geiger and Tracy 2008. Herpetol. Rev. 39:225–226.).

Here, we provide additional information on the diet and predatory behavior of adult *H. suspectum* from a population in the Sonoran Desert of south-central Arizona, USA. The individuals we discuss herein were subjects of a radio-telemetric study in which various features of their behavior, physiology, and spatial ecology have been investigated since March 2001 (e.g., Kwiatkowski et al. 2008. J. Zool. doi:10.1111/j.1469-7998.2008.00495.x).

The present study site, located in Pinal County, is 40 km SSE of the city of Florence, 8 km W of State Route 79, and encompasses an area of ≈ 3 km² at the extreme western edge of the Suizo Mountains (Iron Mine Hill). The region is ecologically designated as Arizona Upland Desertscrub subdivision (Brown 1994. Biotic Communities of the American Southwest—United States and Mexico. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. 342 pp.). Annual precipitation (chiefly rain) patterns are bimodal, with slight to moderate storms occurring during winter and early spring (December to March), and the strongest activity occurs from mid- to late summer (early July to mid-September), which is termed the North American monsoon (Brown 1994, *op. cit.*; Phillips and Comus 2000. A Natural History of the Sonoran Desert. The University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles. 628 pp.). The area lacks permanent freestanding water, a common feature of the Sonoran Desert; at the present site, collection of rainwater in surface rocks and soil, as a rule, is transitory, and persists for only minutes to several hours. However, artificial alterations of the habitat (e.g., deep tire tracks in narrow dirt roads) occasionally provide a substantive reservoir for the collection and storage of rainwater, but even under these situations it is ephemeral, especially in summer.

On 27 April 2003, at 0923 h, in an area interfacing bajada (Phillips and Comus 2000, *op. cit.*) and desert flats, a female *H. suspectum* (HS-2: SVL = 320 mm; TL = 135 mm; body mass = 573 g) was radio-tracked and located. This individual was originally collected on 1 April 2001, and had been studied regularly since that time. She was found (Site 55, 813 m elev.) beside an active nest of Gambel's Quail; 8 clustered, normal-sized eggs were present (Fig. 1A). The nest was a shallow soil depression, located centrally in a network of Engelmann's Prickly Pear, *Opuntia engelmannii* (200 L × 100 W × 80 H cm). Nearby (3 m diam.