Taxonomic corrections of certain verified non-indigenous reptiles from Florida reported by Krysko et al. (2011)

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In a recent issue of Zootaxa, Krysko et al. (2011) compiled and evaluated vouchers (i.e., specimens and photographs), and confirmed three intercepted and 137 introduced species of non-indigenous amphibians and reptiles in Florida from 1863 through 2010. Trying to improve upon previous methodologies of reporting new non-indigenous species, we stressed the importance of providing all known data along with vouchers to help keep numbers of species consistent, accurately identify species, document when and where a particular species is found, and identify the invasion pathway and current invasion stage of each species. High resolution digital images of each of the 83 newly confirmed taxa were registered in MorphoBank (www.morphobank.org; project number p536). Physical voucher specimens are always preferred over photographs, as it can be quite difficult to accurately identify species that are morphologically similar or cryptic, especially in species that we are unfamiliar with or may originate in different countries. In this paper we attempt to correct the species names of four taxa as well as the family and authority names attributed to one species.

GEOEMYDIDAE

UF 121604 (Fig. 25 in Krysko et al. 2011; MorphoBank M88569) was reported as the Tropical Wood Turtle, Rhinoclemmys pulcherrima “(Linnaeus 1758)” (= Linne 1758), and incorrectly cited Rhodin and Carr (2009). However, J. Carr (personal communication) informed us that the family name was misspelled as “Geomydidae” and the correct nomenclature for this species is R. pulcherrima (Gray 1856) (also see Rhodin et al. 2010). Rhodin and Carr (2009) should have been cited in the nomenclatural history and authority for the Spot-legged Turtle, Rhinoclemmys punctulatia (Daudin 1801), another non-indigenous species collected in Florida (Krysko et al. 2011).

LACERTIDAE

UF 157202 (Fig. 59 in Krysko et al. 2011; MorphoBank M88650) was reported as the Japanese Grass Lizard, Takydromus sexlineatus ocellatus (Guérin-Méneville 1829) (see Cowan 1971; Zhao and Adler 1993 for publication history), a morphologically similar lacertid indigenous to a region of southeastern Asia that includes eastern India, southern China (including Hong Kong), eastern Myanmar, Thailand to Vietnam, and southward into the northern Malay peninsula (Zhao and Adler 1993; Manthey and Grossmann 1997), although the exact indigenous distribution of specimens putatively identified as T. sexlineatus, as well as subspecific classification of the species requires further study (Lin et al. 2002; Ota et al. 2002; Bhupathy et al. 2009).