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Revision of the genus *Lepidoblepharis* (Reptilia: Squamata: Sphaerodactylidae) in Central America, with the description of three new species

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Table of contents

Abstract	188
Introduction	189
Material and methods	189
Results	190
<i>Lepidoblepharis emberawoundule</i> sp. nov.	195
<i>Lepidoblepharis rufigularis</i> sp. nov.	198
<i>Lepidoblepharis victormartinezi</i> sp. nov.	202
Discussion	205
Key to the species of <i>Lepidoblepharis</i> in Panama	213
Acknowledgements	214
References	214
Appendix I	218
Appendix II	219
Appendix III	221
Appendix IV	222
Appendix V	222
Appendix VI	222

Abstract

Based on morphological and molecular data, we describe three new species of the genus *Lepidoblepharis* with granular dorsals from Panama (*Lepidoblepharis emberawoundule* sp. nov., *Lepidoblepharis rufigularis* sp. nov., and *Lepidoblepharis victormartinezi* sp. nov.). The results of our molecular analyses confirm the existence of five deeply differentiated genealogical lineages among Panamanian *Lepidoblepharis*. We present detailed descriptions of their morphology, including some new valuable scalation characters (ventral and subfemoral escutcheon) and hemipenes, as well as comparisons with the other two species of the genus known to occur in Panama (*L. sanctaemartae* and *L. xanthostigma*) and their South American congeners. Last, we provide an updated identification key for the genus *Lepidoblepharis* in Central America.

Key words: Biogeography, Central America, integrative taxonomy, *Lepidoblepharis*, Sphaerodactylidae, new species, Panama, taxonomy