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ISLAND LISTS OF WEST INDIAN AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

Robert Powell and Robert W. Henderson, Editors

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ISLAND LISTS OF WEST INDIAN AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

Robert Powell¹ and Robert W. Henderson², Editors

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CAYMAN ISLANDS

ARTHUR C. ECHTERNACHT¹

The Cayman Islands consist of four islands that support fully terrestrial vegetation: Grand Cayman (maximum elevation 18 m), Cayman Brac (43 m), Little Cayman (12 m), and Owen Island (~2 m). Owen Island is located inside the barrier reef at the western edge of South Hole Sound off the south coast of Little Cayman, from which it is separated by about 200 m of shallow water. Several small mangrove islands along the western and southwestern edges of North Sound on Grand Cayman are separated from one another or the extensive mainland mangrove forest by deep, narrow channels. Because the substrate in which the island mangroves are rooted is entirely submerged at high tide (F. J. Burton, pers. comm.) and faunal surveys have not been conducted on these islands, they are not included in the checklist.

Twenty-two native species of amphibians and reptiles have been documented for the Cayman Islands. One of these, *Crocodylus rhombifer*, is extinct. *Trachemys decussata angusta* is not included in the total because it is not known whether it is native or introduced. An additional 11 non-native (introduced) species have been reported on Grand Cayman and some of these have become established. In a few cases, species native to one of the islands have been introduced on another. The herpetofauna of the Caymans was reviewed in detail by Grant (1940) and updated by Seidel and Franz (1994) and Echternacht et al. (2011).

GRAND CAYMAN BANKGRAND CAYMAN (19.32°/-81.26°) (197 km²)

Rhinella marina (W)
Eleutherodactylus planirostris
Gastrophryne carolinensis (I)
Osteopilus septentrionalis
Trachemys decussata angusta (I?)
Trachemys scripta elegans (I)
Anolis carolinensis (W)
Anolis conspersus conspersus
Anolis equestris ssp. (W?)

Anolis garmani (W)
Anolis sagrei (I)
Aristelliger praesignis praesignis
Cyclura lewisi
Cyclura caymanensis (W?)
Gonatodes albogularis (W)
Hemidactylus mabouia (I?)
Iguana iguana (I)
Leiocephalus carinatus varius
Ophisaurus ventralis (W)
Sphaerodactylus argivus lewisi
Cubophis caymanus
Diadophis punctatus (W)
Pantherophis guttatus (I)
Ramphotyphlops braminus (I)
Tretanorhinus variabilis lewisi
Tropidophis caymanensis
Typhlops caymanensis
Crocodylus acutus (PX, W, F*)
Crocodylus acutus x *C. rhombifer* (W)
Crocodylus rhombifer (F*, E)

LITTLE CAYMAN BANKLITTLE CAYMAN (19.69°/-80.05°) (28 km²)

Osteopilus septentrionalis
Anolis maynardii
Anolis sagrei sagrei
Aristelliger praesignis praesignis
Celestus maculatus
Cyclura caymanensis
Leiocephalus carinatus granti (I?)
Sphaerodactylus argivus bartschi
Cubophis ruttii
Tropidophis parkeri
Crocodylus acutus (PX)

Owen Island (19.66°/-80.06°) (< 0.005 km²)

Aristelliger praesignis praesignis
Sphaerodactylus argivus bartschi

CAYMAN BRAC BANKCAYMAN BRAC (19.72°/-79.80°) (38 km²)

Eleutherodactylus planirostris
Osteopilus septentrionalis
Anolis conspersus lewisi
Anolis maynardii (I)
Anolis luteosignifer
Aristelliger praesignis praesignis

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Celestus maculatus
Cyclura caymanensis
Leiocephalus carinatus granti
Sphaerodactylus argivus

Cubophis fuscicauda
Tropidophis schwartzi
Typhlops epactius
Crocodylus acutus (PX)

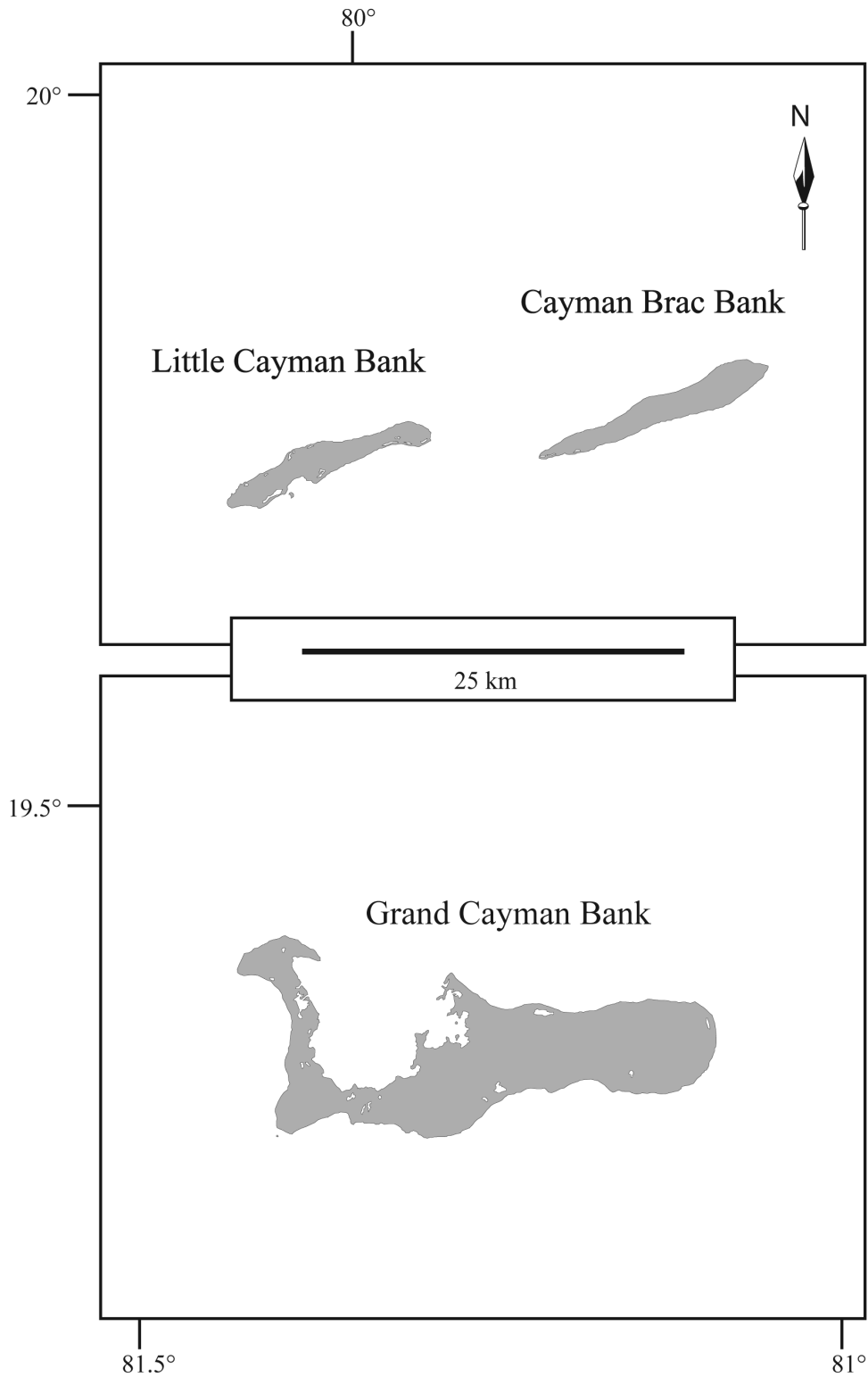


Figure 4. Map of the Cayman Islands. See Figure 5 for location of these islands relative to Cuba.

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