

## First record of *Lepidodactylus aureolineatus* (Gekkonidae) on Siargao Island, Philippines

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**Observer:** Jake Wilson B. Binaday.  
**Photograph by:** Jake Wilson B. Binaday.  
**Subject identified by:** Emerson Y. Sy.

**Location:** Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte, Philippines.  
**Elevation:** 10 metres ASL.  
**Habitat:** Karst forest.  
**Date and time:** 06 December 2019, 19:00 hrs.

**Identity of subject:** Yellow Smooth-scaled Gecko, *Lepidodactylus aureolineatus* (Reptilia: Squamata: Sauria: Gekkonidae).

**Description of records:** A small greenish-yellow gecko with a completely regrown tail, and approximately 6 cm in total length, was observed on a road railing approximately one metre above ground (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1.

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**Remarks:**

The gecko was identified as *Lepidodactylus aureolineatus* based on (i) greenish-yellow colouration, (ii) small size (approximately 3 cm SVL), (iii) broken white line from snout through eye to forelimb, (iv) a few small black dots on dorsum and base of tail and (v) tail is moderately depressed and gradually tapering (Brown & Alcala, 1978; Taylor, 1922). The species is also known as 'Golden Scaly-toed Gecko'.

*Lepidodactylus aureolineatus* has been previously recorded on the islands of Basilan, Camiguin Sur, Mantigue, Mindanao, and Samar (Brown & Alcala, 1978). A previous study documented only 13 species of herpetofauna on Siargao, but the authors noted that several more species are likely to occur on the Island (Ross & Lazell, 1991). This note provides the first record of *L. aureolineatus* on Siargao Island.

**References:**

Brown, W.C. & Alcala, A.C. (1978). Philippine lizards of the family Gekkonidae. Silliman University Press, Dumaguete City, Philippines. v + 146 pp.

Ross, C.A. & Lazell, J.D., Jr. (1991). Amphibians and reptiles of Dinagat and Siargao Islands, Philippines. Philippine Journal of Science 119(3): 257–286.

Taylor, E.H. (1922). The lizards of the Philippine Islands. Bureau of Science, Manila. 269 pp.