

**ECHINANThERA
CYANOPLÉURA (COPE, 1885),
A NEW RECORD FOR THE
OPHIDIOFAUNA OF
ARGENTINA
(SERPENTES: COLUBRIDAE)**

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Three specimens of *Echinanthera cyanopleura*, which represent the first record for the species in Argentina, have been examined at the Herpetological Collection from the former "Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Iológicas" (CENAI); now in the Division of Herpetology of the "Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales B. Rivadavia" (MACN), Buenos Aires, under numbers ex CENAI 3036, 3037 y 3038. The snakes were collected at Dos de Mayo (27° 00' S - 54° 40' W), Cainguás Department, Misiones Province, Argentina, by Dr. Avelino Barrio in September 1976.

Echinanthera cyanopleura has been largely regarded as synonym of *Leimadophis melanostigma* (Amaral, 1929/30; Peters & Orejas Miranda, 1970; Myers, 1974) until

the revision by Di-Bernardo (1992), which is the main source of information for the range of the species. Prior to this note, the known distribution of the species was eastern and southern Brazil, from the east of Espírito Santo to Rio Grande do Sul, through the states of Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Paraná and Santa Catarina (Di-Bernardo, 1992).

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