

Distribution extension of the endemic lizard *Macropholidus huancabambae* (Reeder, 1996) (Squamata: Gymnophthalmidae)

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The genus *Macropholidus*, Noble 1921 is distributed in the southern portion of the northern Andes of Ecuador and the northern portion of central Andes of Peru, within the Huancabamba depression (Torres-Carvajal and Mafla-Endara, 2013). The genus is currently composed of four species: *Macropholidus annectens* Parker, 1930, known from many localities in Loja, Ecuador (Montanucci, 1973; Torres-Carvajal et al., 2013); *M. ataktolepis* Cadle and Chuna, 1995, only known from the type locality in Bosque de Cachil, approximately 3 km (airline) SE Province of Contumaza, Cajamarca Region (Cadle and Chuna, 1995); *M. huancabambae* Reeder, 1996, known from two localities in the Huancabamba depression, on the Pacific slope of the Cordillera de Huancabamba (Reeder, 1996); and *M. ruthveni* Noble, 1921, a species that occurs both east and west of the continental divide in the Cordillera forming the boundary between Piura and Cajamarca Regions, and the upper Rio Zaña valley (Cadle and Chuna, 1995).

Macropholidus huancabambae was described from 33 km (by road) SW Huancabamba, elevation approximately 2133 m, west of Cruz Blanca; below summit of Cordillera de Huancabamba, Huancabamba Province, Piura Region, Peru (Fig. 1). The species is also known from other two localities in Canchaque, at 1737 and 1850 m (Reeder, 1996).

On 29 July, 2013 an adult male *Macropholidus huancabambae* was collected during an inventory in the montane forest of Ñoma (5°0'43.77"S, 79°49'11.8"W,

2503 m), Morropón Province, Piura Region, Peru (Fig. 1). The specimen is deposited at the herpetological collection of Centro de Ornitología y Biodiversidad (CORBIDI), Lima, Peru (CORBIDI 13322). The collected specimen was found under a rock by day (Fig. 2). This record extends the geographical distribution of *Macropholidus huancabambae* ca. 50 km (airline) northwest from its northernmost record, at its type locality, and the other two close localities from which it is known.

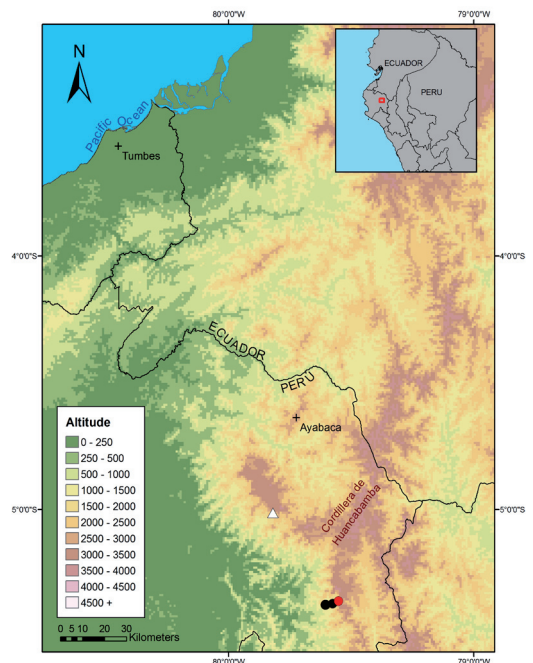


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of *Macropholidus huancabambae*. Circles represent previously known localities (red circle represents type locality) and triangle the new record.



Figure 2. Dorsal and ventral views of *Macropholidus huancabambae* (CORBIDI 13322), adult male specimen, collected at Bosque de Ñoma, Morropón Province, Piura Region, Peru. Photos by Lourdes Y. Echevarría.

Andean gymnophthalmids are commonly known to have restricted distribution ranges (Kizirian et al., 1998; Torres-Carvajal and Mafla-Endara, 2013); therefore, this report represents an important contribution to the knowledge about the distribution of this poorly known lizard endemic to the montane forests of the Cordillera de Huancabamba.

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