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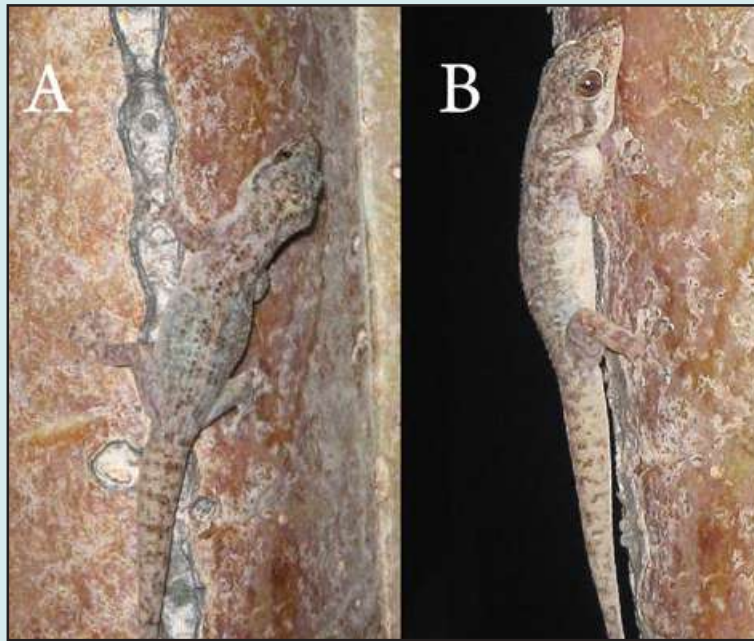
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***Phyllodactylus xanti*. Thermoregulatory activity.** In ectotherms like lizards, thermoregulation is key to performing biological and social functions (Hertz et al., 1993). A plethora of thermoregulatory studies are available for diurnal lizards (Sinervo et al., 2010), but those for nocturnal lizards are less abundant (Lara-Resendiz et al., 2013). Moreover, little information is available on the natural history of some Mexican endemic nocturnal lizards. Such is the case with *Phyllodactylus xanti*, as information on thermoregulatory activity along its distribution in the Baja California Peninsula and the islands of Gulf of California, Mexico, remains unavailable. Moreover, lizards of the genus *Phyllodactylus* have shown a tendency for high levels of genetic divergence in nearby regions (Blair et al., 2013) tropical dry forests (TDF, and in *P. xanthi* insular populations might represent a different species from those on the mainland. Here we present new data on thermoregulatory activity in *P. xanti* from Isla San Esteban, in the Gulf of Baja California.

During fieldwork in 2005 (7–11 September) we captured and released 15 *P. xanti* at night. We recorded the time of capture and perch site, as well as the body temperature (*T<sub>b</sub>*) of the individuals via the cloaca, the substrate temperature (*T<sub>s</sub>*), and the air temperature (*T<sub>a</sub>*: 2 cm above the site perch) using a Miller & Weber quick reading thermometer. We encountered the geckos from 1700 to 2259 h. The mean *T<sub>b</sub>* for all the lizards was  $31.6 \pm 0.41$ , and the *T<sub>s</sub>* and *T<sub>a</sub>* were  $29.05 \pm 0.74$  and  $29.57 \pm 0.75$ , respectively. The *T<sub>b</sub>* showed a positive relationship with *T<sub>a</sub>* ( $r = 0.57$ ;  $P < 0.05$ ) and *T<sub>s</sub>* ( $r = 0.56$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ); nevertheless both environmental temperatures explain the same proportion of variance ( $r^2 = 0.32$ ). Of the total number of collected geckos, 12 (80%) were found in rocks and 3(20)% in vegetation (on columnar cacti: *Pachycereus pringlei* (Fig. 1A, B).

In general, members of the genus *Phyllodactylus* are active at night, perhaps because of the high daytime temperatures in the regions they inhabit (tropical dry forest and desert scrub; Dixon, 1964). On Isla San Esteban, *P. xanti* shows such nocturnal activity. Regarding its habitat use, *P. xanti* is a saxicolous species (Grismer, 2002), although our data suggests arboreal perching for conducting thermoregulatory activities, foraging, camouflage, and presumably for finding refuges on the crevices. Additional information on the natural history of *P. xanti* on the Baja California peninsula and the islands of the Sea of Cortés is necessary to better understand the ecology of this species, as well as its evolutionary patterns and possible risk of extinction associated with climate change.



**Fig. 1.** (A, B) *Phyllodactylus xanti* perching and thermoregulating on a columnar cacti (*Pachycereus pringlei*) in Isla San Esteban, Gulf of Baja California, Mexico. © Rafael A. Lara-Resendiz

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