# A NEW GERRHONOTINE LIZARD FROM COSTA RICA.

By Leonhard Stejneger,

*Curator, Division of Reptiles and Batrachians, U. S. National Museum.*

Prof. A. Alfaro, the distinguished director of the National Museum in San José, Costa Rica, has sent me from time to time specimens of reptiles for identification, and among them is a *Gerrhonotus* which appears to be new, and which I take pleasure in naming after him.

### GERRHONOTUS ALFAROI, new species.

*Diagnosis.*—An unpaired prefrontal shield laterally inclosed by two pairs of prefrontals, and narrowly in contact with frontal; dorsal scales not larger than ventrals; nuchal scales in 8 rows; lateral dorsal scales smooth; dorsal scales in 16 rows, the 6 median rows strongly keeled; 2 pairs of internasals; nasal not in contact with rostral; no projecting scales above the ear; ventrals in 12 rows. Color above black, sprinkled with numerous bluish (greenish?) specks.

*Habitat.*—Costa Rica.

*Type.*—Cat. No. 37342, U.S.N.M.; Santa Maria, northeast Laguna, Costa Rica, 2,000 meters altitude; January, 1907; collector, J. F. Tristan; original No. 223.

*Description of type-specimen.*—Head very distinct from neck; head shields smooth; 2 pairs of internasals behind the rostral; 5 prefrontals, 2 smaller ones on each side of a large, unpaired, hexagonal shield, the latter narrowly in contact with the frontal; nasal separated from rostral; 2 small supranasals; 1 postnasal, much higher than broad; 2 superposed loreals, upper largest, extending to the upper surface; 4 smaller outer supraoculars, anterior largest, and 4 larger inner ones, anterior 2 in contact with frontal; frontal broadly in contact with interparietal; 1 pair of fronto-parietals and 2 pairs of parietals, the anterior pair larger and separated by interparietal, the posterior by the occipital; 9 supralabials, the last largest and larger than temporals; sides of neck widely granular; lateral fold strong, with a granular zone; nuchal scales smooth, in 8 rows; dorsals not

larger than ventrals, in 16 rows, the 6 median rows strongly keeled, the next row on each side feebly keeled, the others smooth; 46 transverse dorsal rows between occiput and level of vent; ventrals in 12 longitudial rows; limbs scarcely meeting when pressed against the side. Color (in alcohol) above shiny black, with a purplish mother-of-pearl gloss in a certain light, densely speckled with minute spots of a pale greenish blue, 2 or more spots on each scale and shield; underneath bluish gray, densely spotted with black.

| *Dimensions.* | *mm.* |
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| Total length | 201 |
| Snout to ear-opening | 17 |
| Snout to posterior end of occipital | 15 |
| Greatest width of head | 12 |
| Snout to vent | 82 |
| Vent to tip of tail | 119 |
| Axilla to groin | 48 |
| Fore leg | 21 |
| Hind leg | 27 |

*Remarks.*—This new species in style of coloration strongly suggests *Barissia imbricata*, but has otherwise nothing in common with it. Its relationship is rather with *Gerrhonotus moreletii* and *G. monticolus*, but it differs from both in many important particulars besides the coloration. The latter species, of which I have the type specimen before me (Cat. No. 30591, U.S.N.M.), is easily distinguished by its nearly smooth dorsal scales, only those on the lower back being obscurely keeled. *G. moreletii* appears to differ in the smaller dorsals which form several more rows, both longitudinal and transverse, in the greater number of labials, and in the lesser extent of the granular space on the side of the neck.