

Bolitoglossa lignicolor (Wood-colored Webfoot Salamander)

Webfoot salamanders are mostly found on broad leaves of bushes and small trees at night. Their diurnal hiding places are presumed to be in bromeliads and among the roots of epiphytes and lianas. *Bolitoglossa lignicolor* has a small distribution and is endemic to the Golfo Dulce region and adjacent western Panama.

Habitat: Primary forest, secondary forest. Arboreal, on bushes and trees.

Activity: Nocturnal. **Diet:** Arthropods.

Reproduction: Direct development,

clutches deposited in moist substrate.

Local abundance: Infrequent. **IUCN:** Vulnerable.

Identification

- Max. 16 cm total length
- Body robust, not elongate*
- < 14 costal folds between legs* [a]
- No fleshy fold between eyes

Bolitoglossa colonnea, not yet reported from La Gamba, has a conspicuous fleshy ridge between the eyes

adult



juvenile



Oedipina alleni (Allen's Worm Salamander)

Worm salamanders are sometimes found on leaves near the ground and on vertical tree trunks at night. During daytime they presumably hide in rotting logs or in leaf litter. Allen's Worm Salamander is endemic to the Pacific lowland rainforest zone of Costa Rica and adjacent western Panama.

Habitat: Primary forest, secondary forest and gardens. Terrestrial to semi-arboreal, in leaf litter, herbaceous vegetation and on tree trunks with dense plant cover. **Activity:** Nocturnal.

Diet: Arthropods. **Reproduction:** Direct development, clutches are deposited in moist substrate. **Local abundance:** Infrequent. **IUCN:** Least Concern.

Identification

- Max. 15 cm total length
- Body elongate, extremities reduced*
- 17 costal folds between legs* [a]
- Often with a light head cap and large white markings on tail



Craugastor crassidigitus (Slim-fingered Rain Frog)

This species occurs in various types of forest, including old secondary forest. Slim-fingered Rain Frogs are either seen during the day when individuals are flushed that were hiding under leaves on trails or on their perch sites on low vegetation at night. It resembles *C. fitzingeri* in general morphology, but can be distinguished by its unspotted posterior thighs.

Habitat: Primary forest, secondary forest. Terrestrial, arboreal, in leaf litter, on low vegetation. **Activity:** Nocturnal.

Diet: Arthropods. **Reproduction:** Direct development, clutches deposited in moist substrate. **Local abundance:** Usual. **IUCN:** Least Concern.

Identification

- Max. 4.8 cm total length
- Posterior thighs uniform brown* [a]
- Substantial webbing between toes II-III-IV, webbing between toes III & IV reaching a point between 4th and 3rd subarticular tubercles of toe IV* [b]
- Tips of fingers and toes expanded [c]



Craugastor fitzingeri (Common Rain Frog, Fitzinger's Rain Frog)

One of the most common frog species in the area of La Gamba. Common Rain Frogs can be seen in a wide variety of habitats, which include mature forests, thickets at forest edges and gardens. Individuals are commonly seen along trails on low vegetation at night. This species is highly variable and can easily be confused with the less common *Craugastor crassidigitus*.

Habitat: Primary forest, secondary forest, gardens. Terrestrial, arboreal, in leaf litter, on low vegetation. **Activity:**

Nocturnal. **Diet:** Arthropods. **Reproduction:** Direct development, clutches deposited in moist substrate. **Local abundance:** Common. **IUCN:** Least Concern.

Identification

- Max. 5.3 cm total length
- Posterior thighs spotted* [a]
- Moderate webbing between toes II-III -IV, webbing between toes III & IV only reaching level of 4th subarticular tubercle of toe IV* [b]
- Tips of fingers and toes expanded [c]



Leptophis ahaetulla (Giant Parrotsnake)

This is a highly arboreal snake that can be found in closed-canopy forest and in semi-open habitats. It is often seen in the garden of the Field Station where specimens were observed to prey during noontime (e.g., on adults of *Boana rosenbergi*). Threat behavior includes raising of the anterior body, exposing the inner lining of the mouth and biting.

Habitat: Primary forest, secondary forest, gardens. Arboreal, on bushes and trees. **Activity:** Diurnal. **Diet:** Frogs, lizards, grasshoppers, birds, bird eggs.

Reproduction: Oviparous. **Local abundance:** Usual. **IUCN:** Not evaluated.

Identification

- Max. 2.25 m total length
- Dorsal coloration uniformly green
- No keels on first dorsal scale rows [a]
- Loreal scale absent [b]

L. depressirostris, another uniformly green species, not yet recorded from La Gamba, has a loreal scale and keels only on paravertebral dorsal scale rows



Oxybelis aeneus (Brown Vinesnake)

The Brown Vinesnake can be found in a wide range of habitats, including fully shaded forest and sun-exposed thickets. It is also regularly spotted in the garden of the Field Station. Resting individuals of this diurnal species are sometimes observed on vegetation at night. Threat behavior includes exposing of the black inner lining of the mouth and a motionless protrusion of the tongue. The species has grooved rear fangs and its bite may cause an envenomation.

Habitat: Primary forest, secondary

forest, gardens. Arboreal, on bushes and lower parts of trees. **Activity:** Diurnal. **Diet:** Small vertebrates, especially lizards. **Reproduction:** Oviparous. **Local abundance:** Infrequent. **IUCN:** Not evaluated.

Identification

- Max. 1.7 m total length
- Head strongly elongate, narrow*
- Dorsal coloration almost uniformly brown or gray



threat behavior

