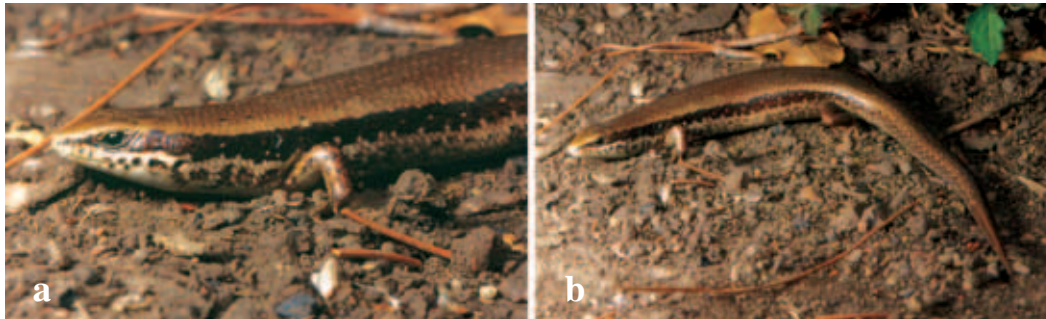


## Short Communications

**NEW RECORDS FOR *SCINCELLA VICTORIANA* (SHREVE, 1940) FROM THE CHIN HILLS, MYANMAR.**— Heretofore *Scincella victoriana* was known from two specimens (Ouboter 1986) (MCZ 44738–44739) from the type locality of “Mt. Victoria, 2800 meters, Pakokku-Chin Hills, Burma” (Shreve 1940). While conducting herpetological surveys in 2001 and 2003 in the Chin Hills of western Myanmar, the California Academy of Sciences (CAS)/Myanmar Forest Department field team collected three additional specimens of *S. victoriana*. These were collected from the following localities (coordinates were taken using a Garmin 12 GPS, Datum WGS84): CAS 220628 (Figs. 1a–b), Myanmar, Chin State, Kan Pet Let Township, Nat Ma Taung National Park, 21°12'46.4"N, 94°00'54.7"E, ca. 2361 m, collected by Htun Win, Thin Thin, Awan Khwi Shein and Hla Tun on 4 March 2001; CAS 220629, Myanmar, Chin State, Kan Pet Let Township, Nat Ma Taung National Park, 21°13'19.7"N, 93°57'19.3"E, ca. 2676 m, collected by Htun Win, Thin Thin, Awan Khwi Shein and Hla Tun on 5 March 2001; and CAS 231488 Myanmar, Chin State, Falam Township, Laiva Forest Reserve, 20°50'35.5"N, 93°31'15.1"E, ca. 1954 m, collected by Htun Win, Kyi Soe Lwin and Awan Khwi Shein on 17 July 2003.



FIGURES 1a–b. *Scincella victoriana* (CAS 220628). a. Closeup of head to show details of pattern of dark and light markings; b. Whole body. Photographs by Hla Tun.

CAS 220628 and 220629 were collected on the slopes of Mount Victoria at a slightly lower elevation than the type locality. CAS 231488 extends the distribution of the species approximately 183 km north of Mount Victoria, suggesting that the species ranges rather widely throughout the Chin Hills. The specimens were collected between 1102 and 1340 hours at air temperatures between 25.6–27.4°C. CAS 220628 and 220629 were collected in pine forest and CAS 231488 was collected in mixed hardwood and pine forest.

Measurements for the paratype and new specimens are given in Table 1. Meristic characters that differ between the paratype and the new specimens are listed in Table 2. Scale counts for nuchals, supraoculars, loreals, supralabials, and midbody scale rows are as described by Shreve (1940). There are 7 supralabials and 6 infralabials on either side of all four specimens.

The coloration in alcohol is similar to Shreve’s description except that CAS 220628 lacks gold spotting forming longitudinal lines on the back.

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TABLE 1. Mensural characters (in mm) for the paratype and the three new specimens of *S. victoriana*.

	MCZ 44739	CAS 220628	CAS 220629	CAS 231488
Snout to vent length	41.4	60.6	76.7	66.6
Axial to anterior insertion of hind limb length	21.1	31.3	44.2	37.4
Hind limb length	14.6	17.4	23.9	21.1
4 <sup>th</sup> finger length	3.2	3.8	3.7	3.7
4 <sup>th</sup> toe length	4.8	6.9	8.0	7.3
Head length	7.8	10.0	11.1	9.7
Head width	6.7	8.1	9.4	8.5
Snout to eye distance	3.7	4.5	5.3	4.7
Nares to orbit distance	2.1	2.5	3.3	2.4
Horizontal eye diameter	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.6
Eye to ear distance	3.3	4.3	4.9	4.3
Palpebral disk horizontal diameter	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5

TABLE 2. Meristic characters differing between the paratype and new specimens of *S. victoriana*.

	MVZ 44739	CAS 220628	CAS 220629	CAS 231488
Supraciliaries (right/left)	7/6	5/5	6/5	?/5
Dorsal scale rows	53	56	57	56
Right 4 <sup>th</sup> finger subdigital lamellae	12	12	11	11
Right 4 <sup>th</sup> toe subdigital lamellae	16	16	15	16

## LITERATURE CITED

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**A NOTE ON AMARANTHUS VIRIDIS IN THE CALIFORNIA FLORA.**— In their annotated checklist of the native and naturalized plants of San Francisco County, Howell et al. (1958) reported several new distribution records for California. One of these, *Amaranthus gracilis* Desf. ex Poir., was noted as a sidewalk weed in the Richmond District of San Francisco. A collection with several duplicates (*Howell 32939* at CAS and DS) was made in 1957 to document the occurrence of this amaranth. Howell identified and annotated the specimens as *A. viridis* L. and sent them to be verified by J. Sauer, an authority on amaranths who was then working on several species of weedy plants in northern California (Tucker and Sauer 1958). Sauer confirmed the identification but noted that the name “*A. viridis* is a *nomen confusum* and must be rejected” (Howell et al. 1958). The next available name for the species was *A. gracilis*, with which name Sauer annotated Howell’s collec-