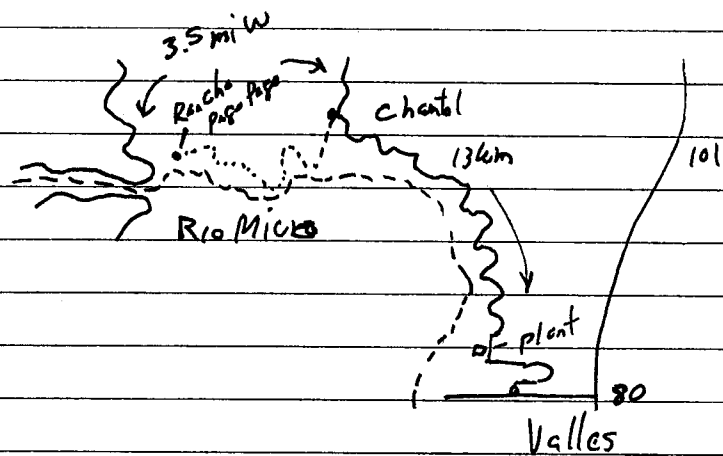


27218 lat
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15 May 1981 LV College Station with J. Johnson + R. Dean (Dean Truck); at 7:50 am; arrive Mathis 12:30 pm for Lunch; arrive McAllen 3:30 pm - For Sanborn's insurance - 368⁰⁰ 6 vehicles; finished business 5: pm; - waited for Schmidtly at IHOP for many hours - they arrived 11:40 pm; issued, + crossed border at 12:30 am (16th); I had received car paper + visa paper blanks at Sanborn's; we filled them out prior to crossing border. - border crossing relatively smooth, crossing took about hour; Rob led way out of Reynosa (Schmidtly forgot how to get out); drove about 23 mi S. Reynosa + spent night in ditch camping about 2 am.

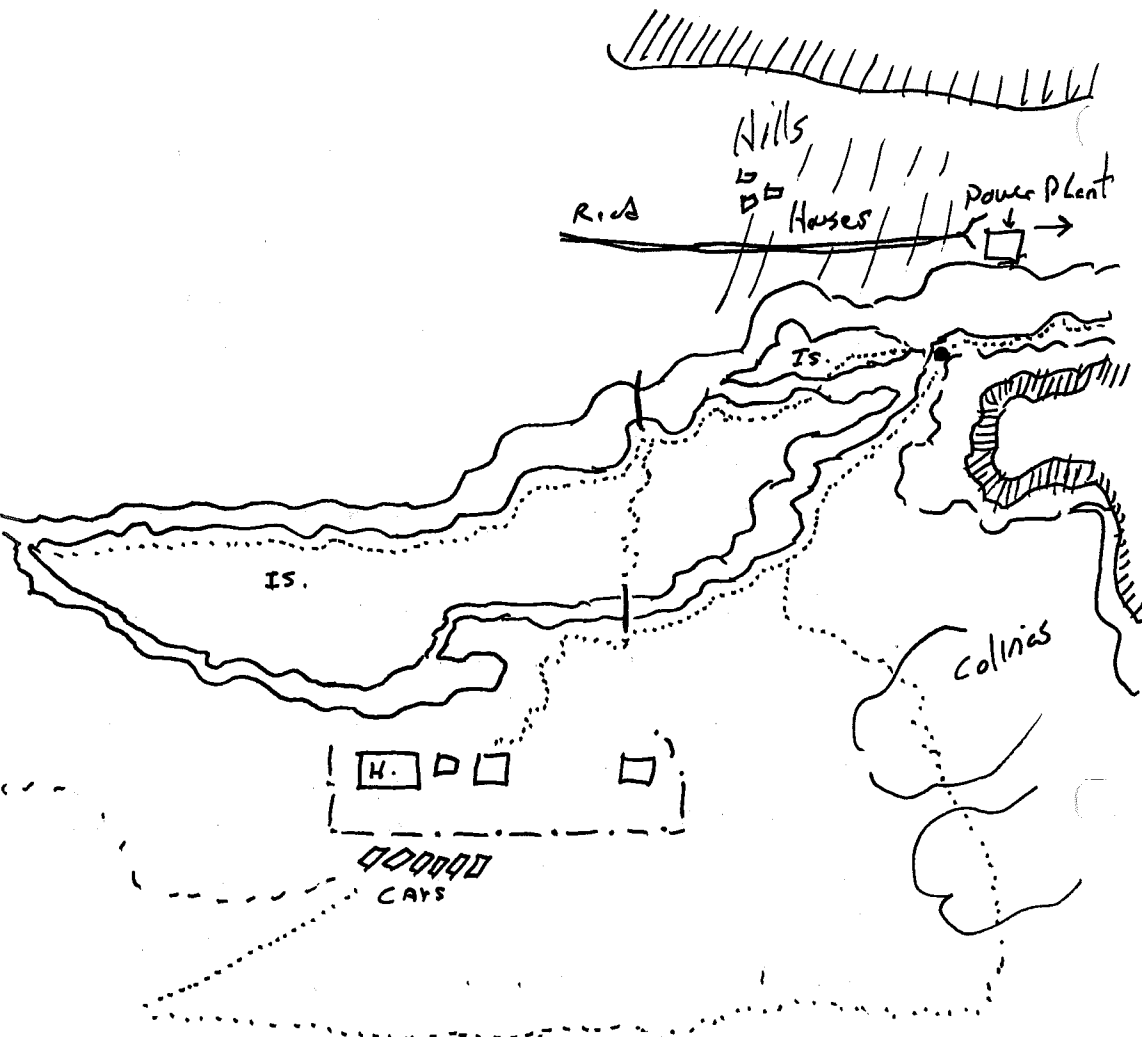
16 May 23 mi S. Reynosa - Rancho Pago Pago -
 up at 6 am; rolls + juice breakfast; drive to E. Victoria for gas 10 am; + drive to Tropic de Cancun for lunch (25 mi S. E. Victoria) + initiated new members to monument - 50 minutes; drive on to Valles + gassed up; 3 pm; + arrived Rancho Pago Pago 3:30 pm. Schmidtly immediately decided to unload; not much ice, wanted to put up nets so I + J. Zapata drove into Valles for ice, eggs etc. - couldn't find ice but bought 6 doz eggs, tomatoes, onions, bananas + returned to Rancho Pago Pago by 5:30 pm. Several bats were collected after dark + several Bufo marinus were seen around Rancho.

16 May (cont.) One Rhadinaea decorata was found by Steve RIFF in drainage ditch. Syrnophus cystipneustes were calling + also Bufo varliceps along River. I turned in at 9pm + slept very sound. - Schmitt, + I sharing room, P. Fryxell + B. Anderson sharing room; all others on screened porch.

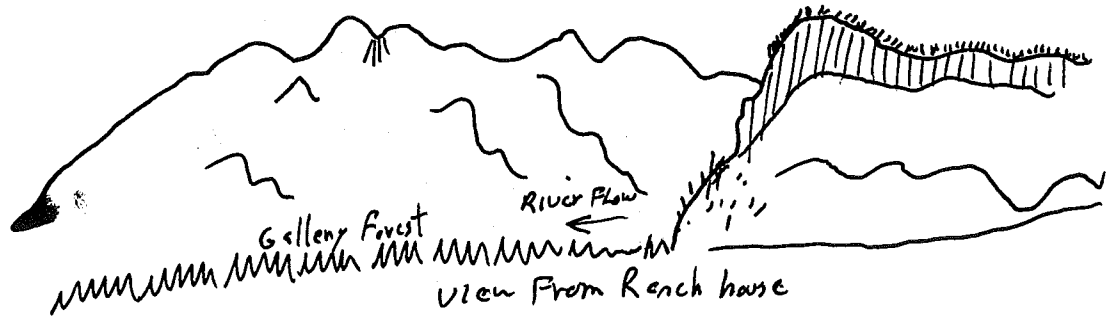


17 May 81 Rancho Pape Pape

Up at 6am, Schmitt + Sondi + J. Zapata LEFT for town at 7:30am; we divided up students into 3 groups, Botanist, Mammals + herps - I had Steve RIFF, Jerry Johnson, Ken King, Wayne Helton + Geo. Ferguson. We walked up river to first power plant, (3km); + tried to go further (2km) but was stopped by CLIFF on right side, climbed up slope for some 300 ft (Elev.) to cliff above river, mucho cacti, mala mujer + loose stones.



17 May cont. - We saw Sceloporus variabilis (common); Found adult ♂, ♀ Amelia undulata, + saw several more; found snake skin (Ken) with smooth 19SR; climbed creek, but no head! Came off hill at 11am; started back; tough climb down; walked loop with Ken to check trails + saw many Cnemidophorus gularis. but did not collect any. back to Rancho by 12 noon in heat exhaustion. Swam for hour to cool off; ate sandwich lunch 2pm; set out 200 ft. of drift fence + 17 pitfall traps on island, but in semi-open + more natural forest. Finished at 4pm - heat exhaustion!! another swim with Steve Rigg + W. Nelson + Jerry Johnson. Temp. reached 23°C ^{73.4} at (9.5) 6am; but by 2pm; it had reached 37.5°C . 20 min to 7 + still struggling hot this pm. ^{shade}
After supper, drove to Rio de los Gatos + heard Smilisca baudini, collected 2 Bufo varilliceps, + saw several Bufo marinus. Returned to pozo near corral + found 1 Rana berlanderi + 2 Leptodactylus fragilis. Returned to Rancho Pago Pago by 10:30pm; later Jerry went back with Schmidy + collected 1 Smilisca baudini at the Poza. Schmidy divided mammal crew into 4 teams to run nets all night. I turned in about 11pm - but couldn't sleep because of the heat inside of room; room temp. 33°C for most of night. Walked 10.8 km this date.



18 May Rancho Pago Pago

1981

Up 6am, outside temp. Low 24°C; breakfast. F
 serial, off with herp crew of C. Alford, K. King,
 W. Helton, G. Ferguson, S. Riff; walked thru "manté"
 for 5.5 km; found Cnemidophorus gularis ♂ ♀;
Sceloporus variegatus juv. ♀; + returned to Ranch
 by 11:30am. - also found Avispas which found
 W. Helton 5-6 times. Ate sandwich lunch; +
 then drove to dipping vat sheds + found
Ctenosaura similis 2 ♀; 1 S. variegatus ♀; 1
Leptotyphlops myopicus (saw another); + Geo.
 Ferguson saw same kind of skink, also
Bufo marinus + Cnem. gularis. Swam + washed,
 + identified some trees with Bill Anderson. - Bigona
 "Copal", = Bursera simaruba (= NAKED Indian); Inpa;
 African Flame Tree; Caiba; Ficus, Cypress; Cordia;
 much open pasture, some grass burned severely;
 hillsides mostly cutover; good gallery Forest on
 river, but that's all. More breeze this pm, hope
 it builds to a rain - its very dry!! - 5pm + still
 95°F. - Herp crew drove to corral + passed ♂
 Ad. C. similis. Very hot evening - in sack by 9pm,
 Ken + Steve checked river for herps 1 Leptotyphlops
myopicus. - Began thundering at 9:30pm, rained 4.6cm
 between 1:30am - 4am; temp dropped to 20.5°C.
 High temp today 37°C. I tried sleeping
 outside in yard, but at 1:30am, forced to
 move inside + house still hot! by 3am,
 house cooled down to reasonable temperature.
 Walked 10.4km this date.

19 May
1981Rancho Pago Pago

up at 6 am; pancake breakfast, Schmidly off to town at 7:30 am to buy ice + groceries. Vicki fell + damaged both ankles during night (she says so) + can't help today. - So out of 3 days in field, she was sick on one, + worked one + "ankles" on one. My crew today consists of L. Snyder, J. Scott, V. Vaughn; J.C. Whitney, D. Chester; N. Hall. - Walked to falls area with 4 inexperienced lizard chasers; returned to Ranch at noon with 8 of 48 lizards seen, 7 S. variabilis, 1 A. undulata; saw 6 Ameliva + 42 Sceloporus. Now 1 pm; + Schmidly has not returned to Ranch. Schmidly returned 2 pm; got parking ticket (1 1/2 hrs); Telephone call (1 hr); Tamuin, ice run, 1 1/2 hrs; groc. rest of time = drove to corral with N. Hall, J.C. Whitney, J. Rice, D. Chester, C. Allred; L. Snyder; collected 3 C. pulchris + 5 S. variabilis; climbed tree for "band" + received 6 ant stings in ankle from torpedo ants + ~~_____~~. Returned to Ranch 5:30 pm; ate spaghetti supper at 6:30; + rain falling about 6:45 pm; light + variable. Showed students how to preserve lizards; hoping rain will continue. Low temp. today 20.5C + high 35.0C. Rained off + on in light showers to 2 am; but no frogs calling. - J.C. Whitney + I sat out in darkness listening for frog calls, but heard none. In sack by 10 pm - Vicki still on sick list with "ankle": taking "pain pills"? I'm very suspicious of this. 8.6 km this date.

Journal
1981

J.R. Dixon

20 May Rancho Papo Papo.

1981

Low temp:
20.5°C

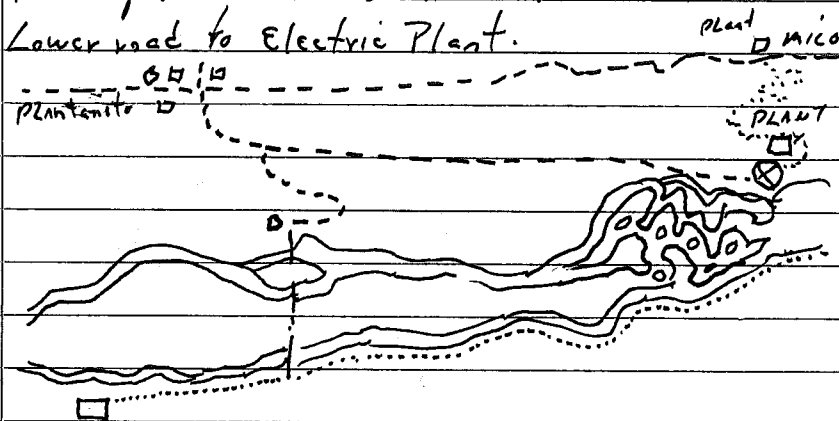
HIGH TEMP.

6:30am; egg breakfast; cleaned up room + swept
out pound of dirt + mud. LEFT with herp crew
[J.C. Whitney, N. Hall, J. Scott, L. Snyder, K. Jez, S. Hurlbert]
& walked thru pastures to "water" well (3.2km) then
to corral, then to river & followed river to Ranch
house, arriving 12:30pm - walked 7.5km & saw
6 Lizards (1 Cnemid., 2 Ameivus, 3 Sceloporus), collected
1 S. ♀ variabilis. The showing was very bad, considering
the number of people. Sled Lunch; finished by
1:30pm; told entire student body that we will read
all notebooks at 5:30pm. Rob Dean, J. Holman,
K. King; D. Gust; & 2 Botanists LEFT at 1:30 for
run to Tamasopo (± 35mi W Valles) to look for
possible camp sites. Jerry Johnson + I are to
set turtle traps at bat net site 1mi W. Chantal
at 4pm Ranch hand brought in Stenosaura similis
he shot from tree. I skinned out the Stenosaura
and waited for supper. Following "Frajitas"
supper; returned to turtle traps & found two
Kinosternon harrisi in middle trap. Botany
crew came in at 7:30pm from Oak Forest
81km W.; Ken brought in Spilotes pullatus
♀; 1108mm LOA; T 440mm; 26 Black + 26 yellow
bands;
taken 25 mi W Valles; Very tired this
pm; in sick by 10:40pm. Low temp. For
this day 23.5°C + the high was 32°C. Light
sprinkles during early evening. 9.4km walked
this day.

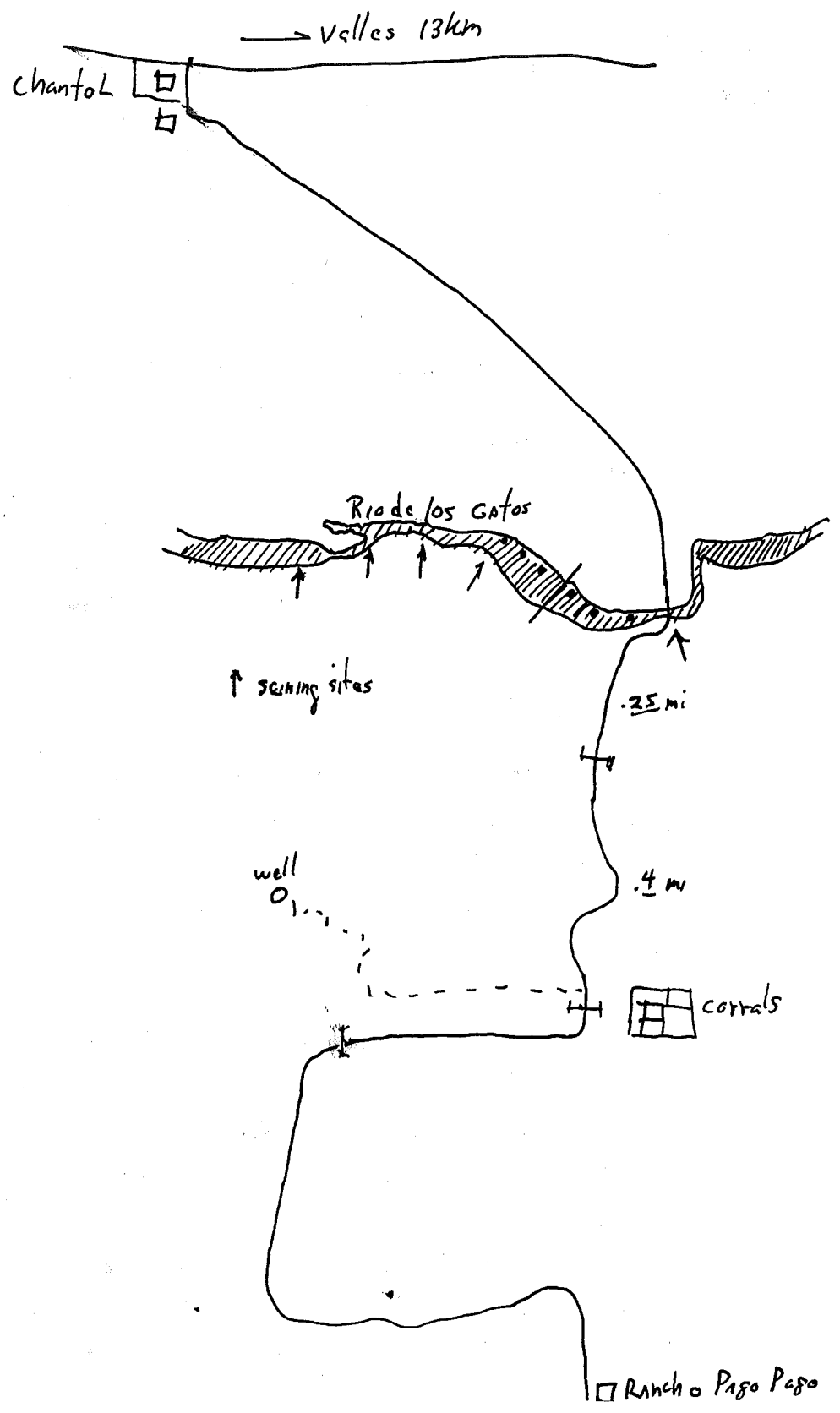
21 May Rancho Pago Pago

1981

Up 6:15 am; ran turtle traps with Rob Dean, K. Jez, + J. Rice; moved all 6 traps to new location; had one large of Leinosternon harrerei. Returned to ranch + ate breakfast, left at 9 am; with Dean, Rice, Jez, Hurlbut + Chester + walked to village of Plantanito, across river, + then up road towards Mico while Dean went lower road to Electric Plant.



Found several S. variabilis, Amaiva, but only 2 Cnemidophorus. Rested back at Ranch 15 min; then Dean, Chester + I walked fence line + pasture to look for Cnemidophorus. Saw several, collected only 1, also 2 S. variabilis; ate sandwich, + then jumped in river for 30 min to cool off - walked 7 1/2 km this am. Low temp this morning was 23.5°C; high temp 30.0°C; Looks like rain for the pm. Schmidly, Zepeta, + Vicki Vaughn went to Vales to have Vicki's ankle examined by Doctor - she says she's in much pain; but hardly any swelling - she wants Doctor to give her pain pills. Botanists drove to 1 1/2 mi N. Chantal to see new vegetation sites; I've been stuck in camp for full week with all students. Schmidly in town four times!! 6 hours + each time.



21 May
(cont.)
1981

4:10pm drove to Rio de los Gatos to check the turtle traps, R. Dean, J. Owens, K. Jez went also; water is about crotch deep, no turtles, bait may be too old. - Returned to ranch in light sprinkle, cets if its really going to rain this pm. now 5:20pm & Schmidly has not returned from Valles. We found 1 ♀ S. variegilis inside of burned Palm Log at turtle site; Schmidly back at 6pm; 8hr trip; Vicki ok with sprained ankle (43° AM; for what we already had known); Schmidly made plans for Goat Barbeque on Tuesday - and invited Doctor who treated Vicki, telephone operator, Ice house messenger; etc. - Sweet Sue for supper - Rob, Jerry, Dennis, John, + George went with me to Rio de los Gatos to seine fish + check turtle traps + open 2 Bat nets 7-8:30pm; collected Poecilia, Astyanax, + Ciclasoma, + 1 Kinosternon harrerei ♂; had one Clay colored robin in net. Upon return, bathed in dark with Rob + Jerry - Rio de los Gatos is stagnant water + smells bad. Schmidly found another ranch to visit S. of Valles by 15 min, 1 mi. N. Cavdanza Hotel + Golf Course = Rancho Tinsja; owned by Dr that treated V. Vaughn. it is supposed to have 3 bat caves on ranch all with some water in caves. All students going except Vicki + Steve Riff, who has bad case of poison ivy in toes, + can't walk well. Walked 3-4 km this pm; total of about 11 km for day - I'm in sick by 9pm!!

22 May

Rancho Pago Pago

1981

5:45 am; up & on way to Rancho Tinaja
[5.4 mi S, 1.1 mi E junction of Hwy 85 + 70 on
south end of Valles, 130m Elev], owned by Dr.
Miguel Olvera Escorcia; bone specialist in Valles.
LEFT with Rob + Jerry, Ran turtle traps & arrived at
9 am; Schmidly to follow after picking up 60
Shermans from cane field. Schmidly showed up late,
± 10 am; had lost 2 students in cane field (John
Zapata + J. Owens), thought they had caught ride
with botanists; I walked on to Ranch formans house
1.1 mi & made arrangements for cave trip while
Schmidly went back to cane field to find
students (1 hr away). Schmidly returned about
11:30 am after finding students. We had walked to
cave + Norton took them down with guide. We
saw several Lepidophyma in limestone cracks
also Elaphe traspis: Cnemidophorus gularis²
+ Sceloporus variabilis⁴ common, but not many
collected. Rob found two Eumeces tetragrammus
(+ 5 eggs in log) + Will found Leptotyphlops
myopicus (lost from bag); Ctenosaurus also seen;
Left at 1:30 pm & drove to Pujal to see someone botanists
talked with about ranch south of Pujal; not home;
drove back to carrels nr. R. Tinaja & collected for
hour; drove to drugstore & bought Poison Ivy medicine
for half of students (12); returned to Pago Pago at
5:10 pm, etc, put up traps & in sack by 9:30 pm; Heavy
rain between 6:30-8 pm. High today of 33.5 C Low 20.0 C
walked 11 km this day.

23 May
1981

Schmidly woke me about 11:30pm; they had tough time coming in from ranch Tinaja. - beat rim on van; changed in mud; took $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs to go $4\frac{1}{2}$ dirt miles. Rained & blew at both places. Jerry got 2 more Lepidophyma, 4 S. variabilis + 1 Elaphe triaspis ♂ (Same one seen earlier). Up at 6:30am; LEFT by 7:45 with botanists, + Dean, Gust, Johnson + I in Rob's truck, Helton, Zepeta + Cohen in Wepp's truck; stuck twice on way out to main road; gassed in Valles + drove to oak forest 82km W. Valles; 4400'; + heaped until 1:30 - collected 2 S. jarrovi, 2 Syrhops guttulatus. Ate sandwich, + then drove to 44km W Valles, (0.4 mi W. Puerto Verde), 3500 ft: where Rob found Elaphe triaspis ♂ resting on rock (Limestone) in forest. LEFT there at 3pm; drove to Chantel; arriving 4:30pm; then to turtle traps (nothing) + on to Rancho Paga Paga by 5:10pm. jumped in keuar + caded off. Schmidly passed us on way in, on way to R. Tinaja to find traps not located last night. Ounas, Scott at trap site at Rio de los Gatos to wash Van + find traps. Poured rain during early evening hours, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by gauge; Schmidly pulled in all nats traps, and crew cleaned gear during evening. Rob, Jerry + I preserved the heaps + let the students watch. Nothing called during evening except Smilisca baudini at corner of house; Doesn't look good for tomorrow, but we will try to get out if we can.

Low temp 19°C, high 33°C.

24 May Rancho Pago Pago:

1981

Laid around ranch from 8am to 1pm, road too muddy to get out. Schmidly took a f[♂] in 2 trucks to set lines up Hwy 70 for 82 km. (4400 ft); we (Johnson, Dean, King, Hall, Holman) drove to Rancho Tinaja to collect Lepidophyma. Collected 2 Cnemidophorus gularis + 10 Lepidophyma. Returned to Ranch by 5:30pm. Vaughn shot Aolis serpens while on her float in river. Students Hall + King collected two Leptodactylus in rainpools last night. Lepidophyma f[♂] at parturition; some young born when grabbed. Low 19.° high 33.° light sprinkle

25 May Rancho Pago Pago:

1981

Drove into town + bought 3500 Pesos of Cowhead, Lettuce, peppers, tomatoes, potatoes, cucardos, poison ivy medicine, soap, paper cups; inner tube, tire repair; etc., returned to camp by 12:30pm. Schmidly in by 2pm; botanists in by 6pm; Schmidly left at 4:45 to set bat nets at R. Tinaja, with 12 students (2 trucks), doesn't expect to return until midnite. Ken + Nadine found Gastrophyscus elegans in rainpool last night. I've done no collecting today - helped start the Barbacoa cookout for tomorrow - 7 cow heads roasted in palm leaves, tongue, eyes, brains, + all!! Rob, Jerry, Will, Ken; dug hole for roasting under cow shed $\frac{1}{2}$ mi from ranch. We will have to watch it all night from what Zapata says; Schmidly has invited many people from what he says - we'll wait + see! chased Frogs to 10pm; 1 Leptodactylus 1 B. marinus, Geo. coll. 1 Ficimia olivacea. Low 22°C, high 33.°C

26 May

Rancho Papa Paga

1981

6 am; French toast?; Schmidtly picking up traps - LEFT at 8 am; Dean, Johnson, Hall, Allred, King, Zapata, Gust, Ferguson, Halman, & myself drive to Rio de los Gatos & then walked & waded upstream for $1\frac{1}{2}$ mi; Jerry found Cumacrus tetragrammus - Golden cream lines on head; dorso-lat. line golden to \pm 10SR anterior to vent.; lat. line pale gold, more distinct to groin; chin pale cream; throat tinged with yellow; belly slaty, turning pinkish bronze to anus; tail rust blue; back dark bronze (brown) lat. stripe bet. light stripes black; area in front of ear pinkish, line around snout golden, thin where it forks around suprasculars; lat. light line begins just in front & below eye, passing thru middle of ear. some indication of a pale mid-dorsal line, but not much lighter than mid-dorsal color. -

returned 12 noon; sandwich lunch; Schmidtly returned 1 pm; prepared mice caught; cleaned house, yard, gear all afternoon while Rob went to town for ice, etc. - truck arrived 4 pm with 2 cases mineral H₂O, 6 cases beer, 4 bottles rum, gift from Jorge Oliva, apple slumet that Schmidtly met at Covadonga restaurant "while running" nets? Schmidtly invited him, found of Chantal for feast of Barbacoa for evening, each hired 3 musicians - Party ended 1 am; especially after I made Schmidtly pay off the musicians, turned off the lanterns & got the locals out of the house! About $\frac{1}{2}$ of kids unhappy with Schmidtly because he did this with their trip money - more later! In sure!
Low 24°, high 33°C.