wooden railing along a path through a woodland fled for cover under a log when I approached. When I pursued the first skink by overturning the log under which it had taken cover, a large number of ants were found swarming beneath it. The same situation arose with another four *P. fasciatus*, each found along the same path. These lizards were also beneath cover objects (debris and leaf litter) housing ants. All five lizards observed appeared to be sub-adults,between ca. 50 and 65 mm SVL. When 25 nearby cover objects—similar to those used by skinks—were randomly sampled, only four housed ants beneath them, and (excepting the five mentioned above) only one had a high density of ants similar to that observed under cover objects utilized for escape by *P. fasciatus*.

Once established, *P. fasciatus* appear to have stable home ranges (Fitch 1954. Univ. Kansas Publ. Mus. Nat. Hist. 8:1–156). Consequently, individuals should be familiar with most possible escape routes within their home range. My observations imply that *P. fasciatus* preferentially flee to ant-associated cover objects during escape attempts. To my knowledge, this behavior is undocumented among lizards. Predators that pursue skinks under cover objects with ants may be deterred by the agitated ants. The smooth scales and associated osteoderms of *Plestiodon* would protect them from ants. Further observations are needed to determine how widespread this behavior is and to test the hypothesis of whether *P. fasciatus* actually exploit ant colonies within their home range for defense.

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PLESTIODON MULTIVIRGATUS EPIPLEUROTUS (Variable Skink). **MATING.** Little is known about reproduction in *Plestiodon multivirgatus epipleurotus* (Degenhardt et al. 1996. Amphibians and Reptiles of New Mexico. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. 431 pp.). Everett (1971. J. Herpetol. 5:189–190) provided details of courtship and mating among captive specimens (two males and one female) from Lamb County, Texas, but mating has not been observed in the field. Hence, we report a field observation of mating in a high altitude population of *P. m. epipleurotus* near the southwestern limit of this taxon's range (Brennan and Holycross 2006. A Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles in Arizona. Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix. 150 pp.).

At ca. 1300 h on 2 May 2007, CBG discovered a mating pair of *P. m. epipleurotus* in a small depression under a piece of particleboard in Fry Canyon, just west of US Hwy 89A, ca. 20 km SSW Flagstaff, Coconino Co., Arizona (35.0637833°N, 111.73315ºW, datum: WGS84; 2003 m elev.). Ambient temperature was 18.3°C and the sky was mostly overcast. A considerably smaller male (ca. 50 mm SVL) was in copula with a larger female (ca. 70 mm SVL), biting the left side of her neck and oriented on her left side. The lizards were apparently not disturbed, as they remained in copula after they were uncovered until the board was quickly (<10 sec) returned to its original position.

Timing of this mating event appears consistent with the seasonal appearance of eggs and hatchlings among other high-elevation populations of this taxon. Gehlbach (1956. Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci. 59:364–373) found hatchlings on 29 July at 2060 m elevation in McKinley Co., New Mexico. He also discovered a clutch of eggs on 28 June and hatchlings on 29 July and 17 August in the Zuni Mountains (2215 m), Cibola Co., New Mexico (Gehlbach 1965. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 116:243–332). Similarly, Maslin (1957. Herpetologica 13:87–90) reported 4 egg clutches found 7 June on the Upper Colorado Plateau (2555 m) in San Juan Co., Utah. Our observation of an early May mating implies that egg development likely requires 5–7 weeks before the onset of oviposition.

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PLICA PLICA (NCN). **REPRODUCTION.** The scansorial arboreal tropidurid *Plica plica* is widespread in Amazonia (Vitt 1990. Can. J. Zool. 69:504–511). Reproduction in *P. plica* has been studied (Vitt, *op. cit.*), but data are lacking on the incubation interval. Here, we provide preliminary data on the incubation interval for *P. plica*.

On 4 March 2005, the day after the capture of a gravid female (145 mm SVL, 80 g) at Floresta Nacional de Carajás, Estado do Pará, Brazil (06.30°S, 50.20°W; elev. 500 m), she laid a clutch of five eggs in laboratory. The clutch was maintained in a plastic tub with moist sand and litter, at a constant 24°C. Placed near a glass window, the tub received indirect ambient light throughout incubation, but light regime was not rigorously controlled. One egg spoiled the week after oviposition and was discarded. The remaining four eggs hatched in 122 days (on 4 July 2005). Hatching from the first three eggs was almost simultaneous (at 1340, 1345 and 1346 h), but the fourth hatchling emerged almost two hours later (1538 h). Table 1 provides measurements of hatchlings. Simultaneous hatching of the first 3 eggs agrees with Vitt (*op. cit.*), who described synchronous hatching of *P. plica* eggs after disturbance.

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TABLE 1. Measurements of four *Plica plica* hatchlings from Estado do Pará, Brazil.

Individual	Snout–vent length (mm)	Tail length (mm)	Mass (g)
1	40.8	77.0	3.0
2	41.5	77.0	3.0
3	41.0	74.0	3.0
4	39.6	72.0	2.9

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