

ANOLIS NITENS CHRYSOLEPIS (Goldenscale Anole). **PRE-DATION.** *Anolis nitens chrysolepis* is a medium-sized lizard of the family Polychrotidae, reaching 75 mm SVL. This diurnal, non-heliophilic and terrestrial lizard is an inhabitant of the forests of NE South America

On 20 November 1996 at 0930 h, while searching for amphibians in the region of Saul in French Guiana, ca. 8 km from the village, not far from "Montagne Belvédère" (3°36'N, 53°10'W), we observed a whip spider, *Heterophrynus longicornis* Butler (Arachnida, Amblypigi), eating a juvenile *Anolis nitens chrysolepis* (preserved, IRSNB n° 14576) headfirst. Measurement of the remainder of the lizard's body suggested a SVL of ca. 35 mm. The *Heterophrynus* and its prey were in a vertical, rotting stump 30 cm above the ground, in primary forest near a small stream. The weather was dry; the temperature and relative humidity in the stump were 29°C and 87%, respectively

Known predators of *A. nitens* include the snakes *Oxybelis aeneus*, *O. argenteus*, and *O. fulgidus* (Avila-Pires 1995. Lizards of Brazilian Amazonia, Zoologische Verhandelingen 299:86-87, Leiden). Whip spiders are nocturnal and are known to prey on invertebrates (we observed specimens eating small crickets at night). We believe that this is the first observation of predation on a lizard. It is interesting to note that males of *Gonatodes annularis* (Gekkonidae) often are encountered in stumps or tree trunks inhabited by whip spiders, and that they often have scars. It is possible that *Heterophrynus longicornis* also prey on this and other small lizard species.

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