Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

Hedges, S.B. and R. Powell. 1998. *Eleutherodactylus thorectes*.

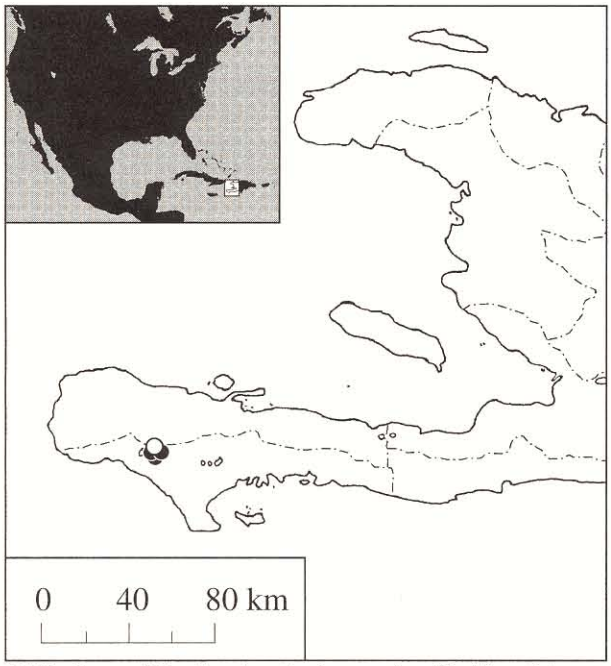
Eleutherodactylus thorectes Hedges

Eleutherodactylus thorectes Hedges 1988:636. Type locality, "the crest and peak of Morne Macaya, Dépt. du Sud [= Dépt. de la Grande'Anse], Haiti (18°22'53" N, 74°01'29" W], 2200–2340 m." Holotype, University of Florida (UF) 64545, adult female, one of a series collected 6–7 February 1984, by Richard Franz (examined by SBH).

• **CONTENT.** No subspecies are recognized.

• **DEFINITION.** *Eleutherodactylus thorectes* is a very small (mean SVL 12.2 mm in males, 14.5 mm in females), but stocky member of the *bakeri* series of the subgenus *Euhyas*. Middorsal skin is smooth (although 1–2 pairs of tubercles may be present) grading to tuberculate and rugose dorsolaterally and ventrally (a few individuals may have smooth venters). Supratympanic and dorsolateral ridges are absent. Supraaxillary, inguinal, and postfemoral glands are usually present. Digital pads slightly to moderately enlarged, with the largest finger pad 1/3–1/2 the longitudinal diameter of the tympanum. Vocal slits and, presumably, vocal sacs are absent.

Dorsal ground color (in preservative) ranges from tan to dark brown. Dorsal pattern elements are variable, but usually with indistinct dark mottling or blotches, an interocular bar or triangle, and often with at least traces of a scapular X. Other elements may include broad or narrow middorsal stripes, long or short dorsolateral stripes, an eyestripe (consisting of a canthal bar and a supratympanic bar extending to just above the forelimb insertion), and reverse parentheses. Lips may or may not be marked. Upper surfaces of forelimbs are typically mottled, but only rarely crossbanded. Thighs usually have one or more distinct transverse bars. The ventral ground color is variable, ranging from yellow or gray to brown or dark brown, with varying degrees of mottling. A distinct, dark-edged, light thoracic spot, however, is nearly always present, although variously and often irregularly shaped. Glandular areas often orange or yellow. The testicular peritoneum is dark brown or black.



MAP. Range of *Eleutherodactylus thorectes* (modified from Schwartz and Henderson 1991). The circle marks the type locality and dots indicate other known records.

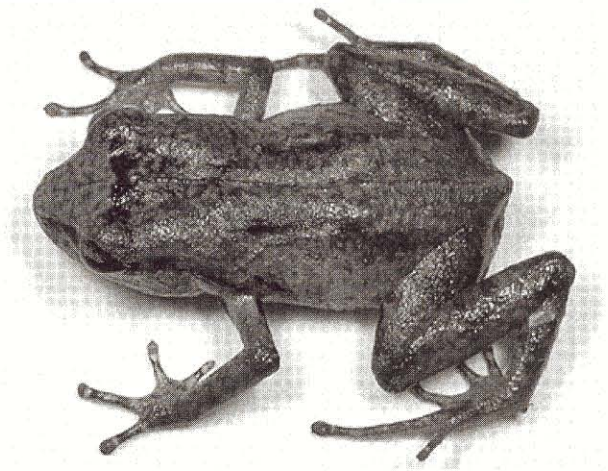


FIGURE 1. An adult *Eleutherodactylus thorectes* from Peak Formon, Dept. du Sud, Haiti.

• **DIAGNOSIS.** *Eleutherodactylus thorectes* may be distinguished from all other congeners found in the Massif de la Hotte by its very small size and the presence of a thoracic spot.

• **DESCRIPTIONS.** In addition to the original by Hedges (1988), a briefer description may be found in Schwartz and Henderson (1991).

• **ILLUSTRATIONS.** Black and white photographs illustrating dorsal and ventral views of the holotype are in Hedges (1988).

• **DISTRIBUTION.** A Hispaniolan South Island endemic (Powell et al. 1998), the species is known only from the vicinity of the type locality in the highest elevations of the Massif de la Hotte, Haiti. These frogs are found under logs and debris on the ground during the day, and on the leaves of ferns and small plants at night. The range was illustrated by Schwartz and Henderson (1991).

• **FOSSIL RECORD.** None.

• **PERTINENT LITERATURE.** Hedges (1988, 1989) described the species and assigned it to the *bakeri* series in the subgenus *Euhyas*. Duellman (1993) concurred with that subgeneric assignment, but Lynch and Duellman (1997) disagreed, and placed this species in their newly created *abbotti* group, *abbotti* series, subgenus *Eleutherodactylus*. Hedges (1988) described some aspects of this species' natural history and compared *E. thorectes* to other South Island species.

The species is listed in checklists by Hedges and Thomas (1989), Powell et al. (1996), and Hedges (1999). Frank and Ramus (1995) provided an erroneous common name, Morne Macay [*sic*] Robber Frog.

• **ETYMOLOGY.** The name *thorectes* is from the Greek *thorektes* (= warrior armed with a breastplate), in reference to the thoracic spot present on most individuals of this species.

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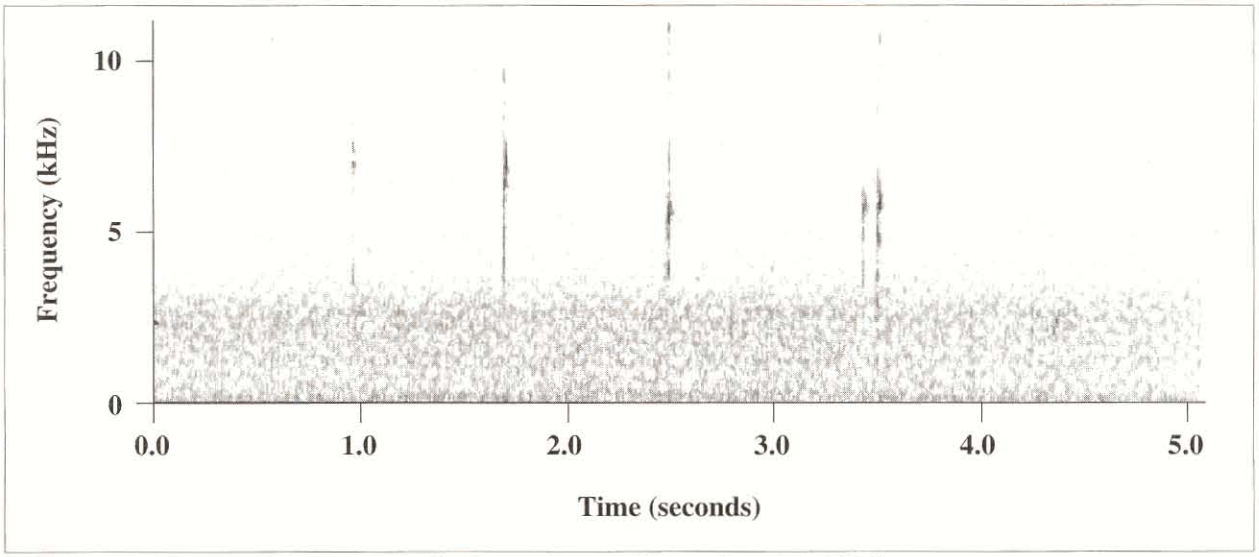

FIGURE 2. Audiospectrogram of *Eleutherodactylus thorectes* from Peak Formon, Dept. du Sud, Haiti.