

by Andrew G. Gluesenkamp. Searches of residential and commercial areas in Coachella, Holtville, La Quinta, Mecca, and Thermal were unsuccessful. Our records suggest a very localized distribution. Mediterranean House Geckos have been observed at Moorten Botanical Gardens in Palm Springs for approximately 25 years (J. Moorten, pers. comm.). The species also occurs in nearby neighborhoods, but is apparently absent from other suitable areas. Probable dispersal mechanisms for this species in California include transportation of nursery stock, transport via recreational vehicles and associated equipment (e.g., a specimen was found in the folds of a canvas picnic umbrella) and the use of railroad ties for landscaping (e.g., specimens were found in the crevices of railroad ties at two localities).

The Mediterranean House Gecko is one of two introduced species of gecko that have become established in California. A population of the Common Wall Gecko (*Tarentola mauritanica*) has been reported from San Diego County (Mahrtdt 1998. Herpetol. Rev. 29:52). The impact of *H. turcicus* on native gecko populations (e.g., *Coleonyx* and *Phyllodactylus*) is unknown.

Submitted by **KENT R. BEAMAN**, Section of Herpetology, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90007, USA (e-mail: heloderma@adelphia.net); **DAVID M. GOODWARD**, 22430 Pico Street, Grand Terrace, California 92313, USA; **NATHAN T. MOORHATCH**, AMEC, 3120 Chicago Ave., Suite 180, Riverside, California 92507, USA; and **CHRIS W. BROWN**, U.S. Geological Survey, 5745 Kearny Villa Road, Suite M, San Diego, California 92123, USA.

***HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS*** (Mediterranean House Gecko). USA: CALIFORNIA (as listed below). In California, *Hemidactylus turcicus* was first reported from Ocotillo in Imperial County (Porter 1988. San Diego Herpetol. Soc. Newsl. 10:5; LACM 137493–95). Sight records were reported from Cathedral City and Palm Springs, RIVERSIDE Co. (Cornett 1997. The Desert Sun, January 5, 1997) and the species was included in a checklist of the amphibians and reptiles of California based on records from El Centro, Imperial County (Laudenslayer et al. 1991. California Fish and Game 77[3]:109–141 [see Saethre and Medica 1993. Herpetol. Rev. 24:154–155]). Voucher specimens for El Centro and Palm Springs were obtained, herein reported as LACM 153060 and LACM 147938, respectively.

The following records are new for California: IMPERIAL Co: Brawley (LACM 155072); RIVERSIDE Co.: Blythe (LACM 146690), Desert Hot Springs (LACM 146693), Indio (LACM 155073), Palm Desert (LACM PC 1386), and Rancho Mirage (LACM 152669); San BERNARDINO Co: Earp (LACM 146691) and Needles (LACM 155124); and SAN DIEGO Co: El Cajon (LACM-PC 1363). Verified