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The HAA is dedicated to the study and conservation of African reptiles and amphibians. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the African herpetofauna. Members receive the Association's journal, *African Journal of Herpetology* (which publishes review papers, research articles, and short communications – subject to peer review) and *African Herp News*, the Newsletter (which includes short communications, natural history notes, geographical distribution notes, herpetological survey reports, venom and snakebite notes, book reviews, bibliographies, husbandry hints, announcements and news items).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S NOTE

Articles shall be considered for publication provided that they are original and have not been published elsewhere. Articles will be submitted for peer review at the Editor's discretion. Authors are requested to submit manuscripts by e-mail in MS Word '.doc' or '.docx' format.

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH: *Hyperolius pusillus* from near Nelspruit, South Africa. Photograph by: Bryan Maritz. Canon EOS 50D (1/250, F25, ISO 200).

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AGAMIDAE

Agama hispida (Linnaeus, 1754)
Southern Spiny Agama

On 3 October 2011, an adult male *Agama hispida* in breeding colours was observed basking on a railway line and photographed on the farm Knolfontein in the Riebeek valley, Western Cape, South Africa (Fig.1). A female was also spotted on the same day on a nearby gravel road followed by another female specimen on 7 October in the same vicinity. No voucher specimen was collected due to the individuals darting off soon after being photographed and no collecting permits.

Knolfontein is located approximately 33°19'47.68" S, 18°52'15.52" E, altitude 153 m, in the Riebeek West valley approximately 2 km and 27 from Riebeek West and Malmesbury in the Swartland Region, respectively. The general area is well developed with vineyards and wheat the main source of farming.

Agama hispida is widely distributed from south western Namibia throughout the western and Northern Cape Province including an isolated small population in the north western Free State in South Africa (Branch 1998, Griffin 2003, Alexander and Marais 2008). Branch (1998) indicates that *A. hispida* prefer arid semi-desert and coastal dunes.

Figure 1. *Agama hispida* from the Riebeek West area, south Western Cape, South Africa.

Confirmed sightings in the general area include Tulbach (28 km), Worcester (65 km) and Stellenbosch (67 km) (McLachlan 1981). Our sighting confirms *A. hispida* in a well developed anthropogenic setting in the Riebeek valley although in 30 years living in the area, this is the first observation by the authors.

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GEKKONIDAE

***Lygodactylus capensis capensis* (A. Smith 1849)**
Cape Dwarf Gecko

With reference to the previous discovery of the Cape Dwarf Gecko *Lygodactylus capensis capensis* in the Western Cape Province, South Africa (De Villiers 2006, Witberg & Van Zyl 2008), the species has subsequently been recorded from several sites within the town of George, including the Garden Route Botanical Garden (33^0 56' 50,8" S, 22^0 27' 46,5" E), altitude 256 m. Although only adults have been seen, it is assumed that the species has established itself within the town environs (five adults and subadults seen at the Botanical Garden on March 23, 2012) where an adult was photographed (Fig. 1). No specimens were collected. This locality is approximately 400 km east of Somerset West and 350 km west of Port Elizabeth, the nearest locality (Branch, 1998).

Figure 1: Cape Dwarf Gecko (*Lygodactylus capensis*) photographed at the Garden Route Botanical Gardens, George, South Africa.