have 15. Mainland specimens all have 15 scale rows at the vent, except one that has 13.

Although the Bay Island specimens are distinguishable to a certain degree from those on the adjacent mainland by dorsal ground color and number of posterior dorsal scale rows, we prefer not to recognize this population formally with a subspecific name for two reasons. First, we feel that a range-wide analysis of variation needs to be made in the species before the significance of the variation in Bay Island material can be properly evaluated. Secondly the degree of differentiation between the island material and that of the adjacent mainland is obviously less than that among the mainland subspecies.

On the Bay Islands this snake is called "clapansaya," the name used for *Spilotes pullatus* in British Honduras (Neill and Allen 1959).

SPECIMENS EXAMINED.—Isla de Roatán: near Coxen Hole (FMNH 34582); 1 km W Roatán (LSUMZ 21743); French Harbor (LSUMZ 22401). Isla de Guanaja: no other data (BMNH 1938.10.4.90).

Elaphe flavirufa (Cope)

This ratsnake was first recorded from the Bay Islands by Günther (1894) from a specimen Gaumer collected on Roatán. This specimen was described as a new subspecies, *E. f. polysticha,* by Smith and Williams (1966b), who claimed it differs from *E. f. pardalina* of the adjacent mainland solely by having a higher number of dorsal scale rows (a maximum of 34 in *polysticha,* 31 in *pardalina*; a posterior minimum of 23 in *polysticha,* 21 in *pardalina*).

Since the above paper was written, four more Bay Island specimens of *E. flavirufa* have become available, three collected by J. V. Mankins in 1965 and one by Meyer and Wilson in 1967. All four specimens agree with the descriptions of both *E. f. pardalina* and *polysticha* in terms of color and pattern, ventral numbers, and divided preocular. Ventral numbers of two males are 263 and 265; of two females 263 and 266. The scale reduction formulae of the four specimens are as follows:

LSUMZ 21747

$$29\ \frac{5+6(28)}{5+6(22)}\ 27\ \frac{+6(48)}{+6(42)}\ 29\ \frac{+8(65)}{+8(66)}\ 31\ \frac{+8(126)}{}$$

$$32\ \frac{7+8(138)}{}\ 31\ \frac{6+7(148)}{6+7(149)}\ 29\ \frac{5+6(155)}{5+6(155)}\ 27\ \frac{5+6(164)}{4+5(164)}$$

$$25\ \frac{5+6(184)}{5+6(187)}\ 23$$