***NOTOPHTHALMUS MERIDIONALIS* (Black-spotted Newt). ALBINSIM.** Albinism and partial albinism have been reported from many salamander families, including Ambystomatidae, Amphiumidae, Cryptobranchidae, Plethodontidae, Proteidae, Salamandridae, and Sirenidae (Hensley 1959. Publ. Mus. Mich. State Univ. 1:133–159; Dyrkacz 1981. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. 11. 1–31). Albinism and partial albinism have been reported in at least nine genera of salamandrids (Lanza 1946 Natura 36:18–20; Brame and Freytag 1963. Zool. Garten 27:130–131; Wells 1964. Herpetologica 19:291; Arribas and Rivera 1992. Bol. Asoc. Herpetol. Esp. 3:14–15; Fontanet et al. 1992. Herpetol. Rev. 23:79; Johnson and Franz 1999. Herpetol. Rev. 30:90; Diego-Rasilla et al. 2007. Herpetol. Rev. 38:68; Modesti et al. 2011. Herpetol. Notes 4:395–396; Heiss 2017. Salamandra 53:137–141). Within the genus *Notophthalmus* (Salamandridae), there have been reports of albinism in *N. perstriatus*, where Johnson and Franz (1999, *op. cit.*) described four individuals with abnormal coloration (partially albino or leucistic) from a pond in Florida, USA. In addition, Banta (1915. Science 41:577–578) reported a putative albino *N. viridescens* from the Catskill Mountains in New York, USA. As part of a study examining morphological variation across the distribution of *N. meridionalis*, we note an occurrence of a single albino specimen.

We examined a *N. meridionalis* specimen (Biodiversity Collections, The University of Texas at Austin [TNHC] 33941) that was collected in San Luis Potosí, Mexico, but lacks specific locality data other than noting the animal was collected in a "sinkhole in cave, in still pool". The specimen was a recently transformed juvenile (32.9 mm SVL, 27.31 mm tail length) that lacked pigment over the body and the eyes were red (Fig. 1). The black spots normally present on *N. meridionalis* were absent,

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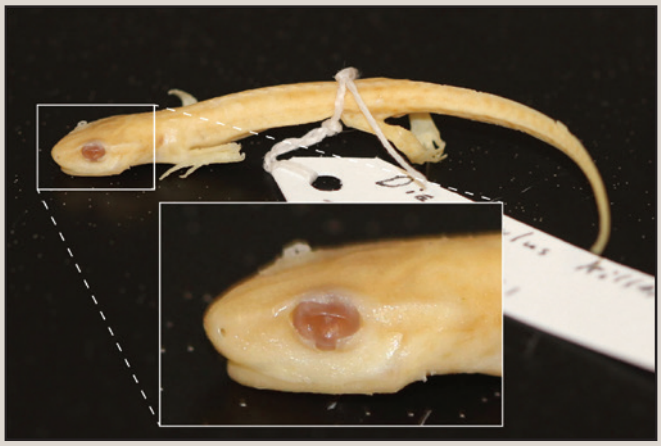

FIG. 1. Albino Black-spotted Newt (*Notophthalmus meridionalis*; TNHC 33941) from San Luis Potosí, Mexico.

with the exception of the tail, which instead had faint pale orange spots. Using the terminology from Dyrkacz (1981, *op. cit.*), this specimen is a partial albino with xanthophores. Preservation techniques can cause coloration to fade, however the presence of the red eyes indicates that this animal exhibits albinism. Of the 310 specimens examined as part of this study, this was the only individual with abnormal coloration. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first reported occurrence of albinism in *N. meridionalis*.

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