

White-tipped Quetzal *Pharomachrus fulgidus* feeding on lizard

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On 20 April 1993, Mark Elwonger, Dianne Holsinger, Diane Albright and myself observed a White-tipped Quetzal *Pharomachrus fulgidus* at the Rancho Grande research station, Aragua, Venezuela. The bird, a male, was witnessed trying to swallow a large lizard, c.15–20 cm long and 2 cm in width. The quetzal was swallowing it head-first,

and the hindlegs and tail were still protruding from its beak. After a period of c.10 minutes, the quetzal took flight with the lizard still dangling from its beak. I have neither seen nor heard of trogons feeding on lizards, and have never come across any reference to such feeding behaviour in the literature.

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