



A new species of *Oreobates* (Anura: Strabomantidae) from the Andes of northern Argentina

MARCOS VAIRA^{1,3} & LILIANA FERRARI²

¹Conicet-CIBA, Universidad Nacional de Jujuy, Gorriti 237, 4600. Jujuy, Argentina. E-mail: mvaira@argentina.com.ar

²Instituto de Herpetología, Fundación Miguel Lillo, Miguel Lillo 251, 4000. Tucumán, Argentina. E-mail: lilif@unt.edu.ar

³Corresponding author

Abstract

Oreobates barituensis **sp. nov.** is described from the ecoregion of southern Andean Yungas forests of north-western Argentina at elevations of 1100 to 1300 m above sea level. It shares morphological characters with the sympatric and syntopic *O. discoidalis*, as well as with *O. ibischi* and *O. cruralis* from Bolivia. The recognition of the new species is in particular supported by considerable differences in the advertisement call among these species. We also made some considerations on probable conspecificity of northern Argentina and Bolivian populations of *O. discoidalis* and *O. cf. cruralis*.

Key words: Anura, Strabomantidae, *Oreobates*, systematics, bioacoustics, Andes, Yungas, Argentina

Resumen

Se describe una nueva especie, *Oreobates barituensis* **sp. nov.**, de la Ecorregión de las Yungas Andinas del Sur en el noroeste de Argentina a elevaciones entre los 1000 a 1300 m. La nueva especie comparte caracteres morfológicos tanto con la especie simpátrica y sintópica *O. discoidalis*, así como con *O. ibischi* y *O. cruralis* de Bolivia. El reconocimiento de la nueva especie se confirma especialmente por las considerables diferencias en el canto de anuncio entre las especies. Asimismo, realizamos algunas consideraciones sobre la probable co-especificidad de poblaciones de *O. discoidalis* y *O. cf. cruralis* del norte argentino y de Bolivia.

Palabras claves: Anura, Strabomantidae, *Oreobates*, Sistemática, Bioacústica, Andes, Yungas, Argentina

Introduction

Recent works reviewed the highly diverse Neotropical genus *Eleutherodactylus* and proposed substantial changes of its systematics (Heinicke *et al.* 2007; Hedges *et al.* 2008). The authors, based on extensive DNA sequence analysis and morphological evidence, proposed a new taxon, Terrarana. It now comprises four families formerly included in the species-rich family Brachycephalidae of Frost *et al.* (2006). This new arrangement resolved the relationships of many South American species by including them in the family Strabomantidae, consisting of 16 genera and 530 species, most of them occurring in the northwestern Andes. Now, several former members of the genera *Craugastor*, *Eleutherodactylus*, *Ischnocnema*, and *Phrynopus* are placed in the monophyletic genus *Oreobates*. The genus, as reviewed and redefined by Padial *et al.* (2008a) and Hedges *et al.* (2008), include fifteen species known from Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia and