

## Correspondence



## Phrynobatrachus pintoi Hillers, Zimkus & Rödel, 2008 (Amphibia: Anura: Phrynobatrachidae): additional morphological and distribution data

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Currently 14 *Phrynobatrachus* species are known to occur in Guinea (Frétey 2008; Frost 2011). The recently discovered species, *Phrynobatrachus pintoi* Hillers, Zimkus and Rödel, 2008, was described from the Boké region, north-western Guinea (Hillers *et al.* 2008). Although this description comprised distinct morphological and genetic characters, it was only based on one, subadult specimen. Further data on the species morphological variability, its biology and distribution, are thus needed. During a survey from 28 September to 20 October 2010 in the Télimélé region, north-western Guinea, we recorded this species at three additional localities. The respective data are presented herein.

Frogs were collected, anesthetized in a chlorobutanol solution and thereafter preserved. An adult male was stored in 75% ethanol. A liver sample of this voucher was taken for genetic analyses and stored in 96% ethanol. Eight juveniles were completely preserved in 96% ethanol. The vouchers are kept at the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin (ZMB). Measurements of the adult male were collected as described in Hillers *et al.* (2008). Other morphological data (e.g. webbing, warts, colour) were collected from all vouchers. Description of colour pattern in life is based on photos. Geographical positions were taken with a hand-held GPS receiver (Garmin 12XL; data format: WGS84). We analyzed approximately 478 base pairs (bp) of mitochondrial 16S ribosomal RNA from the new vouchers and compared them to the holotype of *P. pintoi* (ZMB 70689; GenBank #: EU718711). The respective molecular methods are described in Rödel *et al.* (2011).

New records. ZMB 76878, field #: KD123, GenBank #: JN813913, adult male (SVL: 16.0 mm), Guinea, Télimélé Préfecture, 10.93514, -13.66117, 255 m asl, grass savanna in midst of forest, 17 October 2010, coll. N.G. Kouamé & J. Doumbia; ZMB 76882-76886, field #: KD115-119, GenBank #: JN813916 (ZMB 76883) & JN813917 (ZMB 76885), juveniles (SVL: 9.5-10.1 mm), Guinea, Télimélé Préfecture, 10.93803, -13.66450, 416 m asl, grass and tree savanna, 14 October 2010, coll. N.G. Kouamé & J. Doumbia; ZMB 76879-76881, field #: KD112-114, GenBank #: JN813914 (ZMB 76879) & JN813915 (ZMB 76881), juveniles (SVL: 9.5-10.1 mm), Guinea, Télimélé Préfecture, N 10.93514, W - 13.66117, 428 m asl, grass savanna, 14 October 2010, coll. N.G. Kouamé & J. Doumbia.

Genetics. Five of the nine new vouchers were analyzed; the adult male (ZMB 76878) and two juveniles from each of the other two localities (ZMB 76883, 76885 and 76879, 76881, respectively). Three specimens, one of each locality, did not differ genetically from each other (ZMB 76878, 76881, 76885). The largest differences (0.4%) were found between the holotype and 76879 and 76883, respectively. The overall genetic range between all tested frogs was 0.0-0.4%, thus confirming conspecificy of all vouchers. *P. pintoi* differs by 7-16% in the 16S rRNA gene when compared to other West and Central African *Phrynobatrachus* species (Hillers *et al.* 2008). *Phrynobatrachus pintoi* is most closely related to *P. "gutturosus*" (Chabanaud, 1921) (species complex including undescribed species), *P. maculiventris* Guibé and Lamotte, 1958 and *P. fraterculus* (Chabanaud, 1921) (Zimkus *et al.* 2010), all three being morphologically distinctly different to *P. pintoi* (Hillers *et al.* 2008).

**Description of adult male** (ZMB 76878; measures in mm) Small, compact *Phrynobatrachus*; snout-vent length: 16.0; short snout, rounded in dorsal and lateral view; *canthus rostralis* indistinct; loreal region straight to slightly concave; head-width directly behind the eyes: 5.5; eye-diameter: 2.1; distance eye-nostril: 1.5; distance nostril-snout tip: 1.2; nostril closer to snout than to eye; tympanum visible but indistinct, 1.2 in diameter, half of eye diameter; femur: 7.7, slightly longer than tibio-fibulare: 7.6; foot including longest toe: 12.2; hand with large and oval palmar and thenar