

A new species of the *Scinax catharinae* Group (Anura: Hylidae) from Northeastern Brazil

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Abstract

We describe a new species of the *Scinax catharinae* Group from Municipality of Porto Seguro, State of Bahia northeastern Brazil. The new species is mainly characterized by its small size, nuptial pad dark colored, and compound pectoral fold. Additionally, we describe the structure of its nuptial pad and compare it with that of *S. agilis*. We also briefly discuss its phylogenetic relationships within *Scinax*.

Key words: Dendropsophini, nuptial pad, morphology, systematics

Resumo

Aqui nós descrevemos uma nova espécie do grupo de *Scinax catharinae* do município de Porto Seguro, Estado da Bahia, região nordeste do Brasil. A nova espécie é caracterizada principalmente pelo pequeno tamanho, almofada nupcial de coroação escura e prega peitoral composta. Além disso, nós descrevemos a estrutura de sua almofada nupcial e a comparamos com aquela de *S. agilis*. Apresentamos também uma discussão sobre o relacionamento filogenético em *Scinax*.

Palavras chave: Dendropsophini, almofada nupcial, morfologia, sistemática

Introduction

The genus *Scinax* Wagler, 1830 currently includes 112 species, occurring from Mexico to Argentina and Uruguay, Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Lucia (Frost 2014). The most accepted relationship hypothesis within the genus indicates that species of *Scinax* are divided in two clades, the *S. catharinae* and the *S. ruber* clades (Faivovich 2002). The former clade contains the *S. catharinae* and *S. perpusillus* Groups. The *Scinax catharinae* Group as currently defined was proposed by Faivovich (2002) on the basis of three morphological synapomorphies: posterior portion of the cricoid ring extensively elongated and curved; partial mineralization of intercalary elements between ultimate and penultimate phalanges; laterodistal origin of the *m. extensor brevis distalis digit I*. Currently, the *Scinax catharinae* Group includes 32 species, listed in Lourenço *et al.* (2013). Although species recognition and identification is not simple, new species are frequently described (see Frost 2014). Most species of the *S. catharinae* Group occur in Brazil with the exception of *S. aromothyella* Faivovich, 2005 and *S. berthae* (Barrio, 1962), which also occur in open areas of Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay (Brusquetti & Lavilla 2006; Laufer *et al.* 2009; Busin *et al.* 2010; Pereyra *et al.* 2012). In Brazil species of the group are distributed in Atlantic Forest patches and in the Cerrado Biomes, especially in gallery forests (Caramaschi & Kistemacher 1989; Pombal & Bastos 1996; Pombal *et al.* 2010).

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