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The tadpole of *Scinax melanodactylus* (Lourenço, Luna & Pombal Jr, 2014) (Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae)

RAFAEL OLIVEIRA DE ABREU, MARCELO FELGUEIRAS NAPOLI^{1,2,*}, CAMILA COSTA TREVISAN²,
MILENA CAMARDELLI, THAIS ANDRADE FERREIRA DÓRIA & LUCAS MENEZES SILVA

¹Departamento de Zoologia, Instituto de Biologia, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Campus Universitário, Rua Barão de Jeremoabo, Ondina, 40170-115 Salvador, Bahia, Brasil.

²Programa de Pós-Graduação em Diversidade Animal, Universidade Federal da Bahia

*Corresponding author: E-mail: napoli@ufba.br

Scinax melanodactylus is a small treefrog distributed within the Tropical Atlantic morphoclimatic domain (see Ab'Sáber 1977 for South American morphoclimatic domains), from northern Espírito Santo state to Sergipe state in Brazil (Lourenço *et al.* 2014). The species is usually found inhabiting herbaceous and shrubby xerophytic vegetation (e.g. terrestrial tank-bromeliads) from sandy plains of beach ridges known in Brazil as Restingas (see Rocha *et al.* 2007 for a Restinga definition), and also the edge of forest areas with temporary ponds and/or permanent lakes and streams near these environments (Bastazini *et al.* 2007, as *Scinax agilis*; Lourenço *et al.* 2014). *Scinax melanodactylus* is currently placed in the *S. catharinae* species group (Lourenço *et al.* 2014), which in turn is included in the *S. catharinae* clade (sensu Faivovich *et al.* 2005). The *S. catharinae* clade is currently comprised of 46 species, 33 placed in the *catharinae* group and 13 in the *perpusillus* group (Faivovich *et al.* 2010, Silva & Alves-da-Silva 2011, Lourenço *et al.* 2014, Frost 2015). From these, 32 species have tadpoles with external morphology and oral disc formerly described. Here, we describe the external morphology, oral disc and color patterns of the previously unknown tadpole of *S. melanodactylus*.

We obtained tadpoles and adult specimens of *S. melanodactylus* at the Reserva Sapiranga (12°33'59"S; 38°02'18"W, 20 m a.s.l.), municipality of Mata de São João, state of Bahia, Brazil, on 11 July 2013, collected by R.O. Abreu, M. Camardelli, T.A.F. Dória, L.M. Silva and C.C. Trevisan. To confirm the species identity, part of these tadpoles were raised in the laboratory until metamorphosis. Additionally, tadpoles were obtained after egg deposition of a collected *S. melanodactylus* couple in a plastic bag. Tadpoles were preserved in 5% formalin and are housed at the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA lot 11878, collected in the field; UFBA lot 11879, obtained after egg deposition). Adult specimens of *S. melanodactylus* from this site were already registered and listed by Bastazini *et al.* (2007, as *S. agilis*) and Lourenço *et al.* (2014).

Terminology and measurements follow McDiarmid & Altig (1999), Altig (2007) and Mercês & Juncá (2010), and were based on 18 tadpoles at stages 28 (n = 1 tadpole), 30 (n = 1), 31 (n = 2), 32 (n = 1), 34 (n = 1), 35 (n = 7) and 36 (n = 5) (sensu Gosner 1960). The following measurements were taken in millimeters with an ocular micrometer in a stereomicroscope and are presented as range, average ± standard deviation: total length (TL), body length (BL), body height (BH), body width (BW), tail length (TaL), tail height (TH), tail musculature height (TMH), tail musculature width (TMW), dorsal fin height (DFH), ventral fin height (VFH), interorbital distance (IOD), eye diameter (ED), eye-snout distance (ESD), eye-nostril distance (END), internarial distance (IND), nostril diameter (ND), nostril-snout distance (NSD), spiracle-snout distance (SSD) and oral disc width (ODW).

Comparisons with tadpoles of the *S. catharinae* clade were based on the following descriptions: *S. albicans* (Bokermann)—Carvalho-e-Silva & Carvalho-e-Silva (1994); *S. angrensis* (Lutz)—Carvalho-e-Silva *et al.* (1995); *S. arduous* Peixoto—Peixoto (2002); *S. argyreornatus* (Miranda-Ribeiro)—Carvalho-e-Silva & Carvalho-e-Silva (1998); *S. ariadne* (Bokermann)—Bokermann (1967); *S. aromothyella* Faivovich—Kolenc *et al.* (2007); *S. belloni* Faivovich, Gasparini & Haddad—Silva-Soares *et al.* (2010); *S. berthae* (Barrio)—de Sá *et al.* (1997); *S. catharinae* (Boulenger)—Conte *et al.* (2007); *S. consenzai* Lacerda, Peixoto & Feio—Guimarães *et al.* (2012); *S. flavoguttatus* (Lutz & Lutz)—Carvalho-e-Silva & Carnaval (1997); *S. heyeri* (Peixoto & Weygoldt)—Peixoto & Weygoldt