

A new species of *Pseudopaludicola* (Anura, Leptodactylidae) from northern Brazil

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Abstract

We describe a new species, *Pseudopaludicola canga*, from the Serra dos Carajás highlands in Brazilian Amazonian forest. The new species is a member of the *Pseudopaludicola pusilla* group and is characterized mainly by its large size. The described species may represent another endemic species of the Serra dos Carajás.

Key words: Anura, Leptodactylinae, *Pseudopaludicola canga* new species, northern Brazil

Introduction

The genus *Pseudopaludicola* consists of eleven species of diminutive South American frogs of the Leptodactylid subfamily Leptodactylinae (Lobo 1995; Frost 1985; Barrio & Barrio 1994). Recently, new species of the genus have been described (e.g., *P. mineira* Lobo 1994a), and the great variety of chromosome numbers among populations indicate that the number of names used is likely conservative (Batistic *et al.* 1969). The genus *Pseudopaludicola* is considered monophyletic (Lobo 1995) and the presence of an antebrachial tubercle is an easily recognizable synapomorphy. Lynch (1989) recognized subdivisions within the genus; the *Pseudopaludicola pusilla* group contains four species, all sharing the derived condition of T-shaped terminal phalanges. At present, the remaining seven species cannot be grouped using shared derived characters (Lobo, 1995). In the Amazonian forest in southern Pará, small areas of open vegetation occur around water-filled depressions in outcrops of iron ore (Morellato & Rosa 1991). *Pseudopaludicola* specimens collected in these water bodies have been called *P. mystacalis* Cope, 1887 (Lobo 1996) but particularities in their morphology and advertisement call support a specific status for the members of this population.