

A new species of *Physalaemus* (Amphibia; Leptodactylidae) from the Atlantic forest in southeastern Brazil

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Abstract

A new species of leptodactylid frog, *Physalaemus atlanticus*, is described from Ubatuba, northern coast of São Paulo in southeastern Brazil. The new species belongs to the *Physalaemus signifer* species group and is characterized by the following set of characters: small size (males 20.1–22.1 mm SVL, females 21.0–23.9 mm SVL); canthus rostralis distinct; dorsal skin texture smooth to slightly rugose; belly orange in life; advertisement call with duration of 0.6–0.84 s and frequency between 0.9–1.8 kHz. Descriptions of the advertisement call and tadpole are provided, as well as information on natural history.

Key words: Advertisement call; Anura; Atlantic Forest; Leptodactylidae; Natural history; New species; *Physalaemus*; Southeastern Brazil; Tadpole

Introduction

Four species groups in the genus *Physalaemus* are currently recognized: *P. biligonigerus* group, *P. cuvieri* group, *P. pustulosus* group, and *P. signifer* group (Lynch 1970). *Physalaemus deimaticus* and *P. rupestris* currently are not allocated to any species group (Caramaschi et al. 1991; Sazima & Caramaschi 1986). Several species of the forest dwelling *P. signifer* species group have been described in recent years, and nine species are presently included in this group (Haddad and Pombal 1998): *P. bokermanni* Cardoso and Haddad, *P. caete* Pombal and Madureira, *P. crombiei* Heyer and Wolf, *P. maculiventris* (A. Lutz), *P. moreirae* (Miranda-Ribeiro), *P. nanus* (Boulenger), *P. obtectus* Bokermann, *P. signifer* (Girard), and *P. spiniger* (Miranda-Ribeiro). Additionally, *P. olfersii* (Lichtenstein and Martens), *P. aguirrei* Bokermann, *P. maximus* Feio, Pombal, and Caramaschi, and *P.*