

The tadpole of *Physalaemus soaresi* Izecksohn, 1965 (Anura: Leptodactylidae), with comments on taxonomy, reproductive behavior, and vocalizations

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Abstract

The tadpole of *Physalaemus soaresi* is described and notes on its reproductive behavior are presented. The advertisement call of *P. soaresi* is described and compared with the call of *P. olfersii*. Taxonomic notes on these similar species are presented.

Key words. Advertisement call; Anura; Leptodactylidae; *Physalaemus soaresi*; Reproductive behavior; Tadpole

Introduction

The genus *Physalaemus* consists of 43 recognized species distributed from Mexico to southern South America (Duellman 1993; Feio et al. 1999; Frost 2002; Haddad & Sazima 2004). Lynch (1970) defined four species groups within the genus: *Physalaemus biligonigerus* group, *P. cuvieri* group, *P. pustulosus* group, and *P. signifer* group. *Physalaemus soaresi* Izecksohn, 1965 is known only from the type locality, Horto Florestal de Santa Cruz, Itaguaí (currently Floresta Nacional Mario Xavier, Seropédica), Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil. Izecksohn (1971) suggested that *P. soaresi* might have been introduced to the type locality with cultivated plants.

The similarity between *Physalaemus soaresi* and *P. olfersii* (Lichtenstein and Martens) was pointed out by Izecksohn (1965) and by Feio et al. (1999). However, these species are currently placed in different species groups: the *P. cuvieri* group and *P. signifer* group, respectively (Frost 1985; Lynch 1970).