A new North American chorus frog species (Amphibia: Hylidae: *Pseudacris*) from the south-central United States

EMILY MORIARTY LEMMON1,5, ALAN R. LEMMON1,5, JOSEPH T. COLLINS2,3 & DAVID C. CANNATELLA1,4

1Section of Integrative Biology, 1 University Station C0930, The University of Texas, Austin 78712.
E-mail: chorusfrog@mail.utexas.edu, alemmon@evotutor.org, catfish@mail.utexas.edu
2Kansas Biological Survey, Higuchi Hall, 2101 Constant Avenue, The University of Kansas, Lawrence 66047.
E-mail: jcollins@ku.edu
3Sternberg Museum of Natural History, 3000 Sternberg Drive, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas 67601
4Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity St., University of Texas, Austin 78705
5Section of Evolution and Ecology, 2320 Storer Hall, The University of California, Davis 95616.
E-mail: emlemmon@ucdavis.edu (present address)

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Abstract

We describe a new species of chorus frog of the North American treefrog genus *Pseudacris* from the south-central United States. This new species is morphologically similar to the parapatric species *P. feriarum* and has thus previously been considered synonymous with this species. The new species is geographically distinct from *P. feriarum* and from its sister species, *P. nigrita*. We diagnose the new species based on advertisement call, morphological, and genetic characters.

Key words: chorus frogs, *Pseudacris fouquettei*, Cajun chorus frog, *Pseudacris feriarum*, *Pseudacris maculata*, *Pseudacris nigrita*, *Pseudacris triseriata*, advertisement call, morphology, new species

Introduction

The chorus frog genus *Pseudacris* (family Hylidae) is derived from a treefrog lineage that expanded from Central America and Mexico, giving rise to the North American sister genera *Acris* and *Pseudacris* (Smith et al. 2005). The chorus frogs radiated within the United States to form at least 16 species during the period from