

A large and enigmatic new eleutherodactyline frog (Anura, Strabomantidae) from Serra do Sincorá, Espinhaço range, Northeastern Brazil

JOSÉ CASSIMIRO¹, VANESSA K. VERDADE² & MIGUEL T. RODRIGUES³

Departamento de Zoologia, Instituto de Biociências, Universidade de São Paulo, Caixa Postal 11461, CEP 05422–970, São Paulo, Brazil. E-mail: ¹geckoides@gmail.com; ²vverdade@usp.br; ³mturodri@usp.br

Abstract

We describe a new species of a large eleutherodactyline frog from the mountain rocky meadows (“campos rupestres”) of the Serra do Sincorá, Espinhaço mountain range, Mucugê municipality, State of Bahia, Brazil. The new species is promptly diagnosed from all the other Brazilian eleutherodactylines by its large size (males SVL 40.3–41.1; females SVL 75.2–79.7mm), broad head (head width 43–49% of SVL), presence of frontoparietal crests, *pars fascialis* of the maxilla deepened, discs absent on fingers, toes with poorly developed discs, first and second toes ridged, and tarsal fold absent. On the basis of these characters the new species is attributed to the genus *Strabomantis* up to now restricted to southern part of Central America and northwest part of South America.

Key words: *Strabomantis aramunha* sp. nov., *Eleutherodactylus*, Strabomantidae, Amphibia, Atlantic forest, Campos rupestres, Taxonomy

Resumo

Descrevemos uma nova espécie de eleuterodactíneo endêmico dos campos rupestres da Serra do Sincorá, Cadeia do Espinhaço, município de Mucugê, estado da Bahia, Brasil. A espécie é facilmente diagnosticada de todos os outros membros brasileiros do grupo pelo seu grande tamanho (CRC dos machos 40.3–41.1; CRC das fêmeas 75.2–79.7 mm); cabeça larga (largura da cabeça 43–49% do CRC), presença de cristas frontoparietais, *pars fascialis* da maxilla profunda, discos ausentes nos dedos, artelhos com discos pouco desenvolvidos, primeiro e segundo artelhos com dobras dérmicas, e ausência de dobra tarsal. Com base nesses caracteres, a nova espécie é atribuída ao gênero *Strabomantis*, até o presente momento restrito ao sul da América Central e ao noroeste da América do Sul.

Palavras-chave: *Strabomantis aramunha* sp. nov., *Eleutherodactylus*, Strabomantidae, Amphibia, Mata Atlântica, Campos rupestres, Taxonomia

Introduction

The genus *Strabomantis* is currently allocated in Strabomantidae (Hedges *et al.* 2008) and comprises 16 large species of forest-litter dweller frogs, occurring from Costa Rica through the cloud forest of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Amazon basin in western Brazil (Lynch 1975, 1997; Heinicke *et al.* 2007; Frost 2007; Hedges *et al.* 2008). The genus was resurrected by Hedges *et al.* (2008) that recently split the large assemblage of eleutherodactyline frogs (*sensu* Lynch 1976) in monophyletic units based on molecular data. *Strabomantis* is currently applied to all frogs previously belonging to the *bufoniformis* species series and *Strabomantis biporcatus* (Hedges *et al.* 2008). Despite the many historical attempts to address relationships within “*Eleutherodactylus*”