



A new species of flea-toad, genus *Brachycephalus* Fitzinger (Amphibia: Anura: Brachycephalidae), from the Atlantic rainforest of southern Bahia, Brazil

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Abstract

We describe a new species of flea-toad related to *Brachycephalus didactylus* and *B. hermogenesi* from the Serra Bonita mountain, an Atlantic rainforest remnant in the Municipality of Camacan, State of Bahia, northeastern Brazil, constituting the northernmost record of the genus. *Brachycephalus pulex* **sp. nov.** is mainly diagnosed by the toe II externally absent, the toe V vestigial, fingers I and IV externally absent, and an inverted depigmented v-shaped mark on chest bordered above by a dark brown stripe on each side.

Key words: *Brachycephalus pulex* **sp. nov.**, *B. didactylus*, *B. hermogenesi*, *Psyllophryne*

Resumo

Descrevemos uma nova espécie de sapo-pulga relacionada a *Brachycephalus didactylus* e *B. hermogenesi* proveniente da Serra Bonita, um remanescente de Floresta Atlântica no Município de Camacan, Estado da Bahia, nordeste do Brasil, constituindo o registro mais setentrional para o gênero. *Brachycephalus pulex* **sp. nov.** é principalmente diagnosticado pelo artelho II externamente ausente, artelho V vestigial, ausência externa dos dedos I e IV e uma marca em forma de v invertido sobre o peito, marginada superiormente por uma faixa marrom escura de cada lado.

Introduction

The Neotropical family Brachycephalidae Günther is currently composed by two genera, *Brachycephalus* Fitzinger and *Ischnocnema* Reinhardt and Lütken (Hedges *et al.* 2008; Frost 2010). The genus *Brachycephalus* comprises species that were until recently allocated in two genera, *Brachycephalus* and *Psyllophryne* Izecksohn (flea-toads), diagnosed from each other by the presence of an omosternum in the latter and by its absence in the former. Moreover, the combination of the usual vivid yellow to orange color of dorsal surfaces, larger body sizes (snout–vent length 9.3–19.7 mm), body bufoniform, and the inability to jump large distances prompt diagnose the species of the genus *Brachycephalus* from that included in *Psyllophryne* (with dorsal surfaces brown, tiny body sizes [snout–vent length 8.6–10.2 mm], body leptodactyliform, and long-distance jumpers). Nevertheless, a reduced omosternum in *Brachycephalus ephippium* Spix led Kaplan (2002) to consider the genus *Psyllophryne* a junior synonym of *Brachycephalus*.

In the current concept, the species of the genus *Brachycephalus* are leaf litter inhabitants, have small body sizes (snout–vent length 8.6–19.7 mm), phalangeal loss, and reduced number of toes (Alves *et al.* 2009). This