

## Correspondence

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## Comments on the type locality, type series, and geographic distribution of *Pseudopaludicola falcipes* (Hensel, 1867) (Amphibia, Anura)

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The genus *Pseudopaludicola* was erected by Miranda-Ribeiro, 1926 to accommodate *Liuperus falcipes* Hensel, 1867a. Currently, there are 18 recognized species of *Pseudopaludicola*, with 45% of the species described since 2003. Although *Pseudopaludicola falcipes* is the type species, Hensel's description lacked designation of type specimens for that species; furthermore, it was based on a series of 30 individuals (without collection numbers or indication of where were they deposited) from "Província S[ão] Pedro do Rio Grande do Sul" (today Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil).

The naturalist Reinhold Friedrich Hensel (1826–1881), collector and author of *Pseudopaludicola falcipes*, travelled and collected throughout Rio Grande do Sul (1863–1866) but mostly in the areas surrounding Porto Alegre and other German colonies found north of that city (Papavero 1973). The visited colonies were documented in a paper where the author detailed his travels and included a map (Hensel 1867b: Plate III); coincidentally, the same year of the publication of *P. falcipes*. The region visited by Hensel includes several municipalities located in the northeastern region of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, from Porto Alegre to Passo Fundo, to the southern areas of the State of Santa Catarina. Given that there is no other available source to render a more precise the type locality among the localities visited by Hensel, we consider that the type material was collected in the northeast region of Rio Grande do Sul (between latitude: -30.49° to -29.65° and longitude: -49.73° to -52.46°).

A previous study extensively reviewed the literature on the type material of *Liuperus falcipes* concluded that Hensel specimens seem to be lost (Lobo 1996). However, a neotype was not designated, as could have been done following Article 75 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1999; = ICZN 1999). "...hasta tanto se verifique la inexistencia de ese material" [...] until it is confirmed the lack of the material] (Lobo 1996:183). Instead, the author described a topotype for the species based on material deposited at the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales Bernardino Rivadavia (MACN), with catalog number CENAI 589 corresponding to an adult female, collected 15 km from Aceguá, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil by Avelino Barrio in 1962 (Lobo 1996).

Frost (1985) stated that the type series cannot be traced, whereas Lavilla (1994), following the original description, noted "tipo portador de nombre no designado" [lack of type specimen associated with the name]. In addition, Fávero *et al.* (2011), while studying *Pseudopaludicola*'s chromosomes, considered specimens of *P. falcipes* from Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, as topotypes without explanation.

The specimens collected by Hensel while in Rio Grande do Sul were originally deposited in the collection of the Anatomischen Museum, Berlin, Germany (Martens 1882). The collections currently resides in the Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität (ZMB), Berlin, Germany (<http://www.fotoerbe.de/institution.php?inr=761>). According to the systematics and taxonomy portal (SysTax) from the German GBIF (The Global Biodiversity Information Facility) (<http://www.biologie.uni-ulm.de/systax/>), there are 12 remaining specimens from the original type series of *Leiuperus falcipes* under catalog number ZMB 6799 (lot), now renumbered as ZMB 6799, 70433, 70434, 70435, 70436, 78709, 78710, 78711, 78712, 78713, 78714, 78715 (Fig. 1). Although Article 72.4.7 of the Code (ICZN 1999) indicates that mention of "type" or equivalent in a museum catalog or label is not evidence that the specimen