

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Hylidae, *Hypsiboas pellucens*: First country record, Peru.

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The extreme northwestern region of Peru, department of Tumbes, is unique because of its herpetofauna. The southernmost populations of several species of amphibians and reptiles, which occur from Central America or along the Pacific slope of the Andes, are found in this area (amphibians: *Scinax quinquefasciatus* and *Trachycephalus jordani*; reptiles: *Ameiva septenlineata*, *Bothriechis schlegeli*, *Bothrops asper*, *B. osbornei*, *Gonatodes caubiscutatus*, *Micrurus bocourti*, *M. mipartitus*, and *Sibon nebulatus* [Tello 1998; Campbell and Lamar 2004]). This region was classified as Pacific Tropical rainforest (PTR) eco-region by Brack (1986). The flora and fauna from this eco-region are considered much different from the ones found at drier areas further south on the Pacific slope of the Andes (Brack 1986; Venegas 2005;

Pacheco et al. 2007). The most complete herpetological work of this region was done by Tello (1998), which does not reflect the total richness of amphibians and reptiles (Venegas 2005). Recent surveys carried out at the *Parque Nacional Cerros de Amotape* (PNCA), a protected area in the department of Tumbes, have resulted in the observation and collection of a new species of frog for Peru, *Hypsiboas pellucens*, which we report herein.

Hypsiboas pellucens was photographed (Figure 1) and identified by the senior author in a survey at the PTR in the PNCA, at Quebrada Cochas (03°49'18" S, 80°13'54" W; 330 m), province of Zarumilla, department of Tumbes, on 12 December, 2001. A male specimen (MUSM 26198; Figure 2), was collected in a recent survey



Figure 1. Photo vouchers of adult male (left) and adult female (right) of *Hypsiboas pellucens* from Quebrada Cochas, at Zona Reservada de Tumbes, departament of Tumbes, Peru. Photos by P. J. Venegas.

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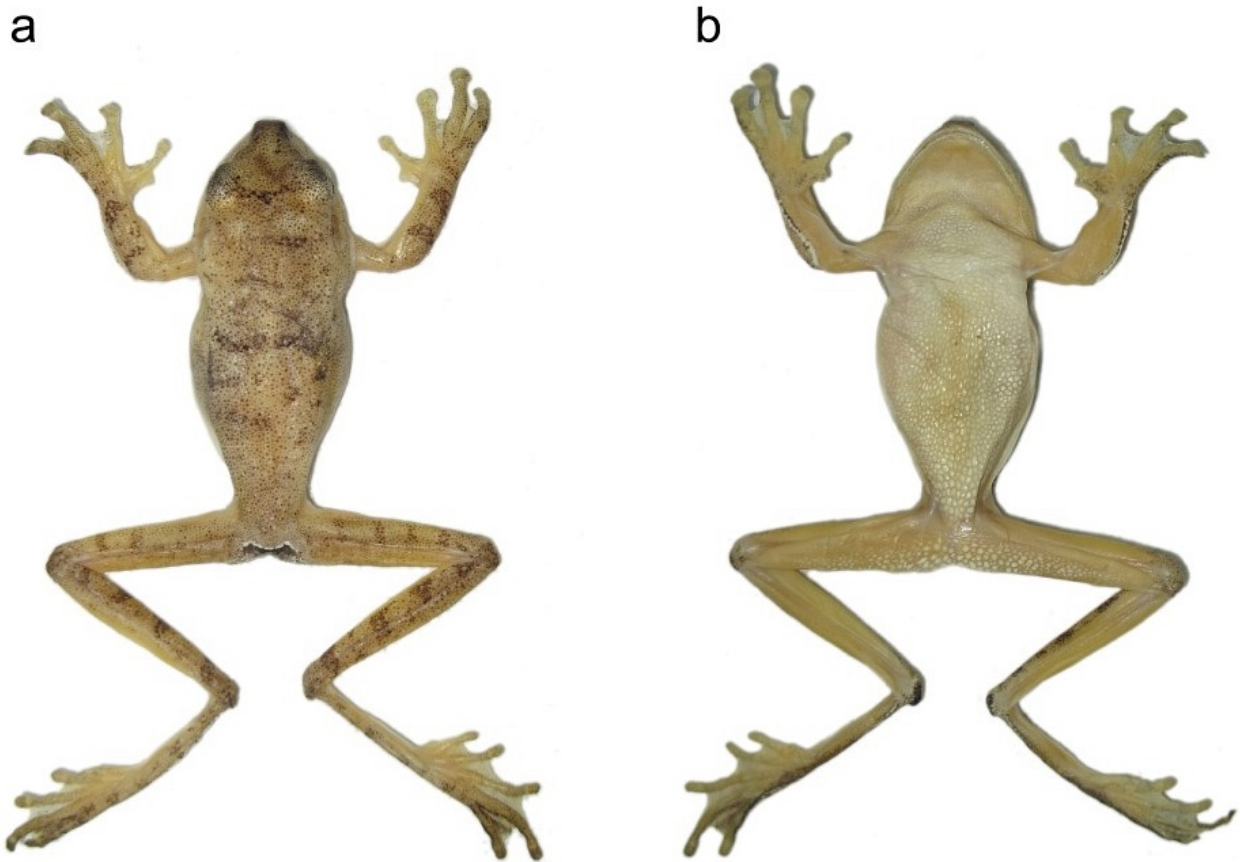


Figure 2. Dorsal (left) and ventral (right) views of male *Hypsiboas pellucens* (MUSM 26198) collected at Quebrada Campoverde, *Zona Reservada de Tumbes*, departament of Tumbes, Peru. Photos by K. Siu-Ting.

at a nearby locality from Quebrada Campoverde (3°50'30.4" S, 80°11'02.7" W; 500 m; Figure 3), province of Zarumilla, department of Tumbes, on 03 September 2006 by J. C. Jordán. Both localities lie within the boundaries of the PNCA and are separated from each other by ca. 6 km. The male specimen agrees with the description of the species presented by Duellman (1971) in having similar snout-vent length (SVL = 52.9 mm; range sensu Duellman [1971]: 43.0 – 52.0 mm); head as wide as body; snout twice as long as eye, flat, round in dorsal and lateral profiles, barely protruding beyond edge of lip; axillary membrane absent; moderately robust forearms; ulnar fold present; thin supratympanic fold, barely obscuring upper edge of tympanum; tympanic ring present; distinct tympanum, posterior to eye;

enlarged prepollex; recurved prepollical spine present in males (Duellman 1971). The collected specimen and the photo voucher share the same life coloration described for the species by Duellman (1971): green dorsum with brown flecks and bars and creamy white spots; creamy white flanks; green limb bones; blue axilla and groin; bluish-white and blue posterior surfaces of thighs with black or gray flecks; white stripe bordering anal area and heel (Figure 1).

Measurements and ratios of the specimen MUSM 26198 are: SVL = 52.9 mm, ratio foot length/SVL = 0.41, ratio head length/SVL = 0.31, ratio head width/SVL = 0.35, ratio interorbital distance/head width = 0.30, ratio tympanum diameter/eye diameter = 0.70.

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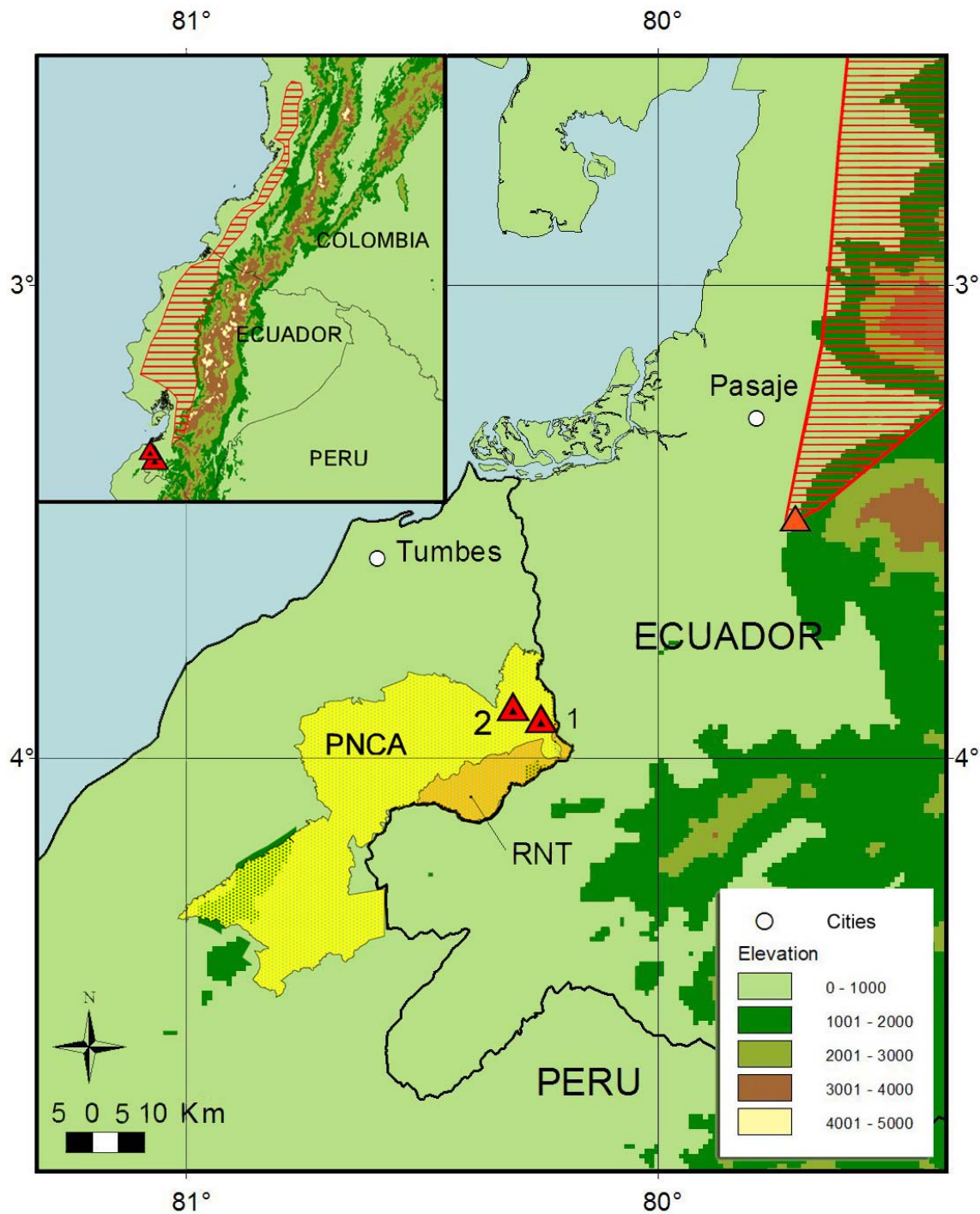


Figure 3. Map of southern Ecuador and northern Peru showing the general distribution of *Hypsiboas pellucens* in the area. Area with red lines shows the previously known distribution of the species (from Bolívar et al. 2006). Red triangle in Ecuador corresponds to the former southernmost locality (province of El Oro, about 20 km SSE of Pasaje). Red triangles in Peru correspond to the new localities herein reported: 1, Quebrada Campoverde, the new southernmost locality; 2, Quebrada Cochás where the photo vouchers were collected. Map on the upper left corner illustrates current distribution of the species. PNCA= *Parque Nacional Cerros de Amotape* and RNT= *Reserva Nacional de Tumbes*, Peru.

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Previously *Hypsiboas pellucens* was known across the Pacific lowlands from western Colombia (Playa de Oro, departament of Chocó) to southwestern Ecuador (province of El Oro, about 20 km SSE of Pasaje), at elevations between 100–1000 m (Duellman 1971; Ruiz-Carranza et al. 1996; Bolívar et al. 2007; K-H. Jungfer pers. com.). This new record extends the known distributional range of *H. pellucens* by 61.4 airline km SW.

In the locality of Cochas, *Hypsiboas pellucens* was found at the end of the dry season in the PTR. Many individuals of *H. pellucens* began calling

late in the afternoon (18:00 h) from the canopy, but at 20:00 h some individuals started calling from low branches and shrubs less than 2 m high above permanent pools in an otherwise dry stream bed. One amplexant pair of *H. pellucens* was on a branch above the water and one captive female laid eggs in a plastic bag. Two recently metamorphosed *H. pellucens* were found on low vegetation at the edge of a pool. These metamorphs exhibited a green dorsum with red dorsolateral stripes that extended from the rostrum to mid-length of the body (consistent with ontogenic changes in color reported for *H. pellucens* by Duellman 1971).

Acknowledgments

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