

## NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

### **Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Scinax aromothyella*: Distribution extension and habitat.**

Claudio Borteiro<sup>1</sup>  
Carina Nieto<sup>1</sup>  
Francisco Kolenc<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Río de Janeiro 4058, Montevideo 12800, Uruguay. E-mail: borteiro@adinet.com.uy.

<sup>2</sup>Universidad de la República, and Universidad Católica del Uruguay. Grecia 3678, Montevideo 12800, Uruguay.

*Scinax aromothyella* is a small hylid frog of the *Scinax catharinae* species group (Figure 1) described from three localities in central and northern Province of Misiones, northeastern Argentina (Faivovich 2005). Prigioni et al. (2005) recently extended its distribution to central-eastern Uruguay, about 750 km southwards from previously known localities. During a field survey on 30 October 2006, at Sierra de Carapé, Department of Maldonado, southeastern Uruguay (34°20'64" S, 54°37'50" W, 330 m above sea level) we captured a male of *S. aromothyella*. This new locality extends the known distribution of this species about 170 Km southwards.



**Figure 1.** Adult male of *Scinax aromothyella* (nocturnal coloration pattern), surroundings of Quebrada de los Cuervos, Department of Treinta y Tres, Uruguay. Photo: F. Kolenc.

The specimen is stored at the Vertebrate Zoology Collection, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de la República, Uruguay (ZVCB 11781). It was found at night, calling on the vegetation (predominantly *Eryngium* sp., Apiaceae) at the edge of a temporary pond, close to the water surface. The pond (Figure 2) is located in an open area of hilly landscapes with rocky floor and patches of native forest (*monte serrano*). Another male of *S. aromothyella* was seen vocalizing at this site on 24 February 2002; it was reported by Kolenc et al. (2004) as *S. berthae*. The habitat at this site is similar to that at the locality reported by Prigioni et al. (2005), a semi permanent pond in an open hilly area with scarce arboreal vegetation (Figure 3).



**Figure 2.** Habitat of *Scinax aromothyella* at Sierra de Carapé, Department of Maldonado, southeastern Uruguay. Photo: F. Kolenc.



**Figure 3.** Habitat of *Scinax aromothyella*, surroundings of Quebrada de los Cuervos, Department of Treinta y Tres, in central-eastern Uruguay. Photo: F. Kolenc.

## NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The known localities of *S. aromothyella* in Uruguay belong to the landscape unit *Serranías*, composed by hilly environments up to 500 m altitude, whose annual mean temperature and precipitation are 17 °C and 1,000 - 1,200 L/m<sup>2</sup> respectively (Evia and Gudynas 2000). Faivovich (2005) mentioned that *S. aromothyella* in Misiones, Argentina, also inhabits permanent or semi permanent water bodies of open areas, in contrast to most species of the *S. catharinae* clade which are more common inside forests.

### Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to Juan Carlos Borteiro and Cristina Machado for their support, to Diego

*Scinax aromothyella* probably is more widely distributed in Uruguay as there is a continuum of hilly landscapes between the two known localities, although at some places these habitats are being largely altered by *Eucalyptus* sp. and *Pinus* sp. crops. It may also be present in some areas of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, because the specimens treated as *Scinax* cf. *berthae* by Kwet and Di-Bernardo (1999) could actually be *S. aromothyella* (Faivovich, 2005).

Baldo for his comments, and Virginia Iglesias for assistance in manuscript preparation.

### Literature cited

Evia, G. and E. Gudynas. 2000. Ecología del Paisaje en Uruguay. Aportes para la conservación de la Diversidad Biológica. Sevilla, DINAMA - Junta de Andalucía, 173p.

Faivovich, J. 2005. A new species of *Scinax* (Anura: Hylidae) from Misiones, Argentina. *Herpetologica* 61(1): 69-77.

Kolenc, F., C. Borteiro, and M. Tedros. 2004. La larva de *Hyla uruguayana* Schmidt 1944 (Anura: Hylidae), con comentarios sobre su biología en Uruguay y su status taxonómico. *Cuadernos de Herpetología* 17(1-2): 87-100.

Kwet, A. and M. Di-Bernardo. 1999. Pró-Mata – Anfíbios. Amphibien. Amphibians. Porto Alegre, Edipucrs. 107 p.

Prigioni, C., C. Borteiro, M. Tedros, and F. Kolenc. 2005. Geographic distribution. *Scinax aromothyella*. *Herpetological Review* 36(4): 464.

Received February 2007

Accepted April 2007

Published online May 2007