

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

**Amphibia, Hylidae, *Sphaenorhynchus pauloalvini* Bokermann, 1973:
Distribution extension and rediscovery in nature**

Marco Antonio de Freitas¹
Thais Figueiredo Santos Silva²
Daniel Loebmann³

¹ Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz (UESC), Programa de Pós-Graduação em Zoologia.
Rodovia Ilhéus/Itabuna, CEP 46.500-000. Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil. E-mail philodryas@hotmail.com

² Biogeographia Publicações e Consultoria Ambiental.
Caixa Postal 35. CEP 42700-000. Lauro de Freitas, Bahia, Brazil.

³ Universidade Estadual Paulista, Instituto de Biociências, Laboratório de Herpetologia.
Av. 24 A, 1515, Bairro Bela Vista. CEP 13506-900. Rio Claro, São Paulo, Brazil.

The genus *Sphaenorhynchus* comprises a total of 12 species which are distributed in tropical forest areas on the Amazon and Orinoco basins, Guianas, Trinidad, and the Atlantic rainforest regions of northeastern and southeastern Brazil (Frost 2007, Toledo et al 2007). Eleven of these species are currently recognized in the Brazilian territory (SBH 2008). According to Faivovich et al. (2005) *Sphaenorhynchus* is closely related to the genera *Dendropsophus* and *Xenohyla*.

The Paulo's lime treefrog *Sphaenorhynchus pauloalvini* (Figure 1) was described based on individuals collected in the Cacao Center Research (*Centro de Pesquisas do Cacau*, 14°47'08" S, 39°13'22" W, 50 m), Itabuna district, south of Bahia state. Although extensive field work was carried out in southern Bahia in the last years (e.g. Silvano and Pimenta 2003, Freitas and Silva 2004, 2005), the species has not been recorded since the original description in 1973.



Figure 1. Adult male (MZUFB 7621) of *Sphaenorhynchus pauloalvini* photographed in natural conditions. Photo: M. A. Freitas.

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

During a field survey conducted on 17 March 2007 in the Una district (15°10'03" S, 39°03'50" W; ca. 75 m), a population of *Sphaenorhynchus pauloalvini* was rediscovered. The specimens were found in a pound in the surroundings of Maroin river, an area with a physiognomy of the Atlantic Forest Domain (*sensu* Ab'Saber 1977).

A total of three individuals were collected and deposited as vouchers specimens in the collection of the Zoology Museum of the Universidade Federal da Bahia (MZUFB 7621-7623). These specimens were examined by

the curator of this collection, Dr. Marcelo F. Napoli, which confirmed the species identification. Collecting permits were authorized by Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (*Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis*) (Proc. # 11278-1). The present record extends the species range of *Sphaenorhynchus pauloalvini* ca. 46 km southwards from previous reports in the Itabuna municipality, Bahia. This finding is the first record for the species in nature since the original description 36 years ago (Bokermann 1973).

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Geraldo Pinto and Antônio Jorge Suzart Argôlo for revising and improving the manuscript; James T. Lee for reviewed the English grammar and style; Marcelo Felgueiras Napoli for verifying all specimens.

Literature cited

- Ab'Saber, A. N. 1977. Os Domínios Morfoclimáticos na América do Sul. Primeira aproximação. *Geomorfologia* 52: 1-159.
- Bokermann, W. C. A. 1973. Duas novas espécies de *Sphaenorhynchus* da Bahia (Anura, Hylidae). *Revista Brasileira de Biologia* 33 (4): 589-594.
- Faivovich, J., C. F. B. Haddad, P. C. A. Garcia, D. R. Frost, J. A. Campbell, and W. C. Wheeler. 2005. Systematic review of the frog family Hylidae, with special reference to Hylinae: phylogenetic analysis and taxonomic revision. *Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History* 294: 1-240.
- Freitas, M. A. and T. F. S. Silva. 2004. Anfíbios na Bahia, Um Guia de Identificação. Camaçari. Malhada-Sapo Publicações e Consultoria Ambiental. 60 p.
- Freitas, M. A. and T. F. S. Silva. 2005. Guia ilustrado: A herpetofauna da Mata Atlântica nordestina. Pelotas. USEB. 164 p.
- Frost, D. R. 2007. Amphibian Species of the World: an online reference. Version 1. Electronic Database accessible at <http://research.amnh.org/herpetology/amphibia/index.html>. American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA. Captured on 14 May 2008.
- SBH. 2008. Brazilian amphibians – List of species. Electronic Database accessible at <http://www.sbherpetologia.org.br>. Sociedade Brasileira de Herpetologia, Brazil. Captured on 30 May 2008.
- Silvano, D. L. and B. V. S. Pimenta. 2003. Diversidade e distribuição de anfíbios na mata atlântica do sul da Bahia; *In* P. I. Prado, E. C. Landau, R. T. Moura, L. P. S. Pinto, G. A. B. Fonseca, and K. Alger (Ed.). Corredor de biodiversidade na Mata Atlântica do Sul da Bahia. CD-ROM - Ilhéus, IESB/CI/CABS/UFMG/UNICAMP.
- Toledo, L. F., P. C. Garcia, R. Lingnau, and C. F. B. Haddad. 2007. A new species of *Sphaenorhynchus* (Anura; Hylidae) from Brazil. *Zootaxa* (Online) 1658: 57-68.

Received June 2008
Accepted March 2009
Published April 2009