

Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Phyllodytes punctatus* Caramaschi and Peixoto, 2004: Distribution extension and first record out of the type locality

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ABSTRACT: This article provides a new record of *Phyllodytes punctatus* in Parque Nacional Serra de Itabaiana, municipality of Areia Branca, Sergipe, northeast Brazil. This point is the first record after the description of the species.

The genus *Phyllodytes* consists of small species that have odontoids on the mandible, a feature unique among hylids. Its representatives live in areas of open vegetation and breed in bromeliads with tadpoles developing in rain water accumulated in these plants (Caramaschi *et al.* 1992). The taxon is currently composed of 11 species (*Phyllodytes acuminatus*, *P. brevisrostris*, *P. edelmoi*, *P. gyrinaethes*, *P. kautskyi*, *P. luteolus*, *P. maculosus*, *P. melanomystax*, *P. punctatus*, *P. tuberculatus*, and *P. wuchereri*), distributed along the northeast and southeast of Brazil (Frost 2010; SBH 2010).

Phyllodytes punctatus (Figure 1) belongs to the *Phyllodytes tuberculatus* group (Faivovich *et al.* 2005), and is characterized as a small species of pale brown color with distinctive brown dots of varying number and distribution along the dorsal surface. Until now, the distribution of this species was restricted to its type locality, at Fazenda Gravatá (10°47' S, 36°54' W), municipality of Santo Amaro das Brotas, state of Sergipe, northeastern Brazil (Caramaschi and Peixoto 2004).



FIGURE 1. *Phyllodytes punctatus* (C224), Parque Nacional Serra de Itabaiana, state of Sergipe, Brazil. Photo by F.L.S. Caldas.

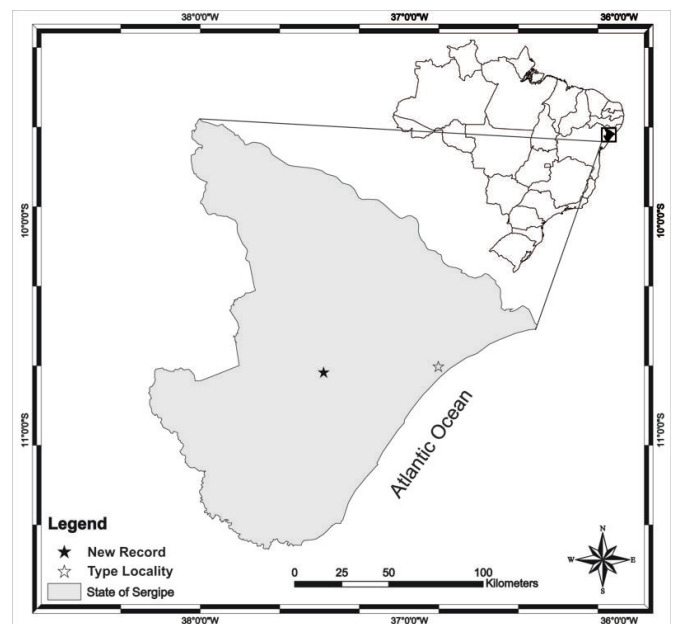


FIGURE 2. Distribution map of *Phyllodytes punctatus* in the state of Sergipe, Brazil.

We present a new record for *P. punctatus*, based on a specimen (snout-vent length 17.21 mm) collected in Bromeliaceae (*Hohenbergia* sp.), on 16 June 2007, in Parque Nacional Serra de Itabaiana (10°44' S, 37°20' W; 240 m above sea level; Figure 2), extending the geographical distribution of this species ca. 90 km from its type locality. The new location has areas of semi-deciduous forest interspersed with open habitats (Vicente *et al.* 2005) and is a transition zone between the Atlantic Forest and the Caatinga, where species from both biomes coexist (Carvalho and Vilar 2005). In that area, another two *Phyllodytes* species are found: *Phyllodytes* cf. *edelmoi* and *Phyllodytes* cf. *luteolus* (Carvalho *et al.* 2005).

Phyllodytes punctatus is listed as data deficient by IUCN, since little is known about its distribution, population status and ecological requirements (Stuart 2006). The

Parque Nacional Serra de Itabaiana is the first protected area where the species is known to occur. However, large gaps remain in the geographical distribution of *Phyllodytes* species, and new records may arise over the course of further studies.

Identification of the collected specimen was based on Caramaschi and Peixoto (2004). The voucher specimen is deposited at the Herpetological Collection of the Universidade Federal de Sergipe, Brazil (C224). Collecting permits were granted by Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade – ICMBio/SISBIO (permit # 10504-1).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We thank all who are part of the Parque Nacional Serra de Itabaiana, Universidade Federal de Sergipe given the logistics and CAPES (Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior) for fellowships.

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RECEIVED: September 2010

LAST REVISED: January 2011

ACCEPTED: January 2011

PUBLISHED ONLINE: February 2011

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Marcelo N. de C. Kokubum