

First record of *Lithodytes lineatus* (Schneider, 1799) (Anura: Leptodactylidae) in northeastern Brazil

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ABSTRACT: In this paper, we report the first record of *Lithodytes lineatus* (Schneider, 1799) in the state of Maranhão Brazil. This is the first record of this species in the northeastern region of Brazil, extending its geographic distribution in 425 km northeast of its nearest known distribution, in the Biological Reserve of Tapirapé in Pará state, Brazil.

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Lithodytes is a monotypic genus, including only *L. lineatus* (Schneider, 1799). This is a leaf-litter frog with snout-vent ranging from 33–45.0 mm in males and 44–56.0 in females (Rodríguez and Duellman 1994; Beirne and Whitworth 2011). *Lithodytes lineatus* is found in primary and secondary tropical rainforest, and pasture (Bernarde and Kokubum 2009; La Marca *et al.* 2010). Some studies report an association between this species with ant nests (*Atta* spp.) (e.g. Schlüter and Regôs 1981; Lamar and Wild 1995; Schlüter *et al.* 2009).

This species is known from the Amazon region in northern Bolivia (Harvey 1998), Peru (Rodríguez and Duellman 1994; Icochea *et al.* 2001; Schlüter *et al.* 2004; May *et al.* 2008), Ecuador (Duellman 1978; Almendáriz 1987; Cisneros-Heredia 2003; Vigle 2008; Beirne and Whitworth 2011; Ron and Read 2013), Colombia (Cochran and Goin 1970; Lynch 2005, 2006), French Guiana (Lescure and Marty 2000), Guyana (Ernst *et al.* 2005; Reynolds and MacCulloch 2012; Cole *et al.* 2013), Suriname (Ouboter and Jairam 2012) and Venezuela (Rivero 1961; Barros and Barrios 2001; Señares *et al.* 2002; Amorós 2004). In Brazil, it occurs in the states of Acre (Souza 2009; Bernarde *et al.* 2011, 2013), Rondônia (Bernarde 2007; Bernarde and Macedo 2008), Mato Grosso (São-Pedro *et al.* 2009), Amazonas (Lima *et al.* 2006; França and Venancio 2010; Rojas-Ahumada and Menin 2010; Ilha and Dixo 2010; Waldez *et al.* 2013; Prudente *et al.* 2013), Tocantins (Cintra *et al.* 2014) and Pará (Bernardo *et al.* 2012; Pinheiro *et al.* 2012).

During fieldwork in the biological reserve Gurupi, Bom Jardim municipality, State of Maranhão, Brazil (Figure 1), on 18 January 2013; we collected a single specimen of *Lithodytes lineatus* (Figure 2) in pitfall traps (04°00'20" S, 46°46'41" W). No specimen was found on the forest leaf litter or temporary ponds during active search. Nine arrays of pitfall traps containing five 60 L plastic buckets, with buckets connected by fence (17.5 m long, 50 cm high), were installed in the study area. Each arrays of pitfall traps remained open four nights per month, totaling a sampling effort of 540 buckets/day. These collects were conducted in the implementation of the project "Survey of Herpetofauna" at biological reserve Gurupi (ICMBio-SISBIO 36669-1). During three months 38 specimens of frogs were captured in pitfall traps, where only *Lithodytes lineatus* was represented by one specimen (2.6% of captured frogs). This may suggests low local abundance in the study period. The specimen of *L. lineatus* collected was killed and fixed in accordance with guidelines of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists and were deposited in the Herpetological Collection of the Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco (CHP-UFRPE 1815).

This is the first record for the state of Maranhão, and the first for the northeastern region of Brazil (Figure 2), extending the known distribution of the species by more than 425 Km northeast from the nearest locality, in the Reserva Biológica de Tapirapé, Pará state, Brazil (Bernardo *et al.* 2012).

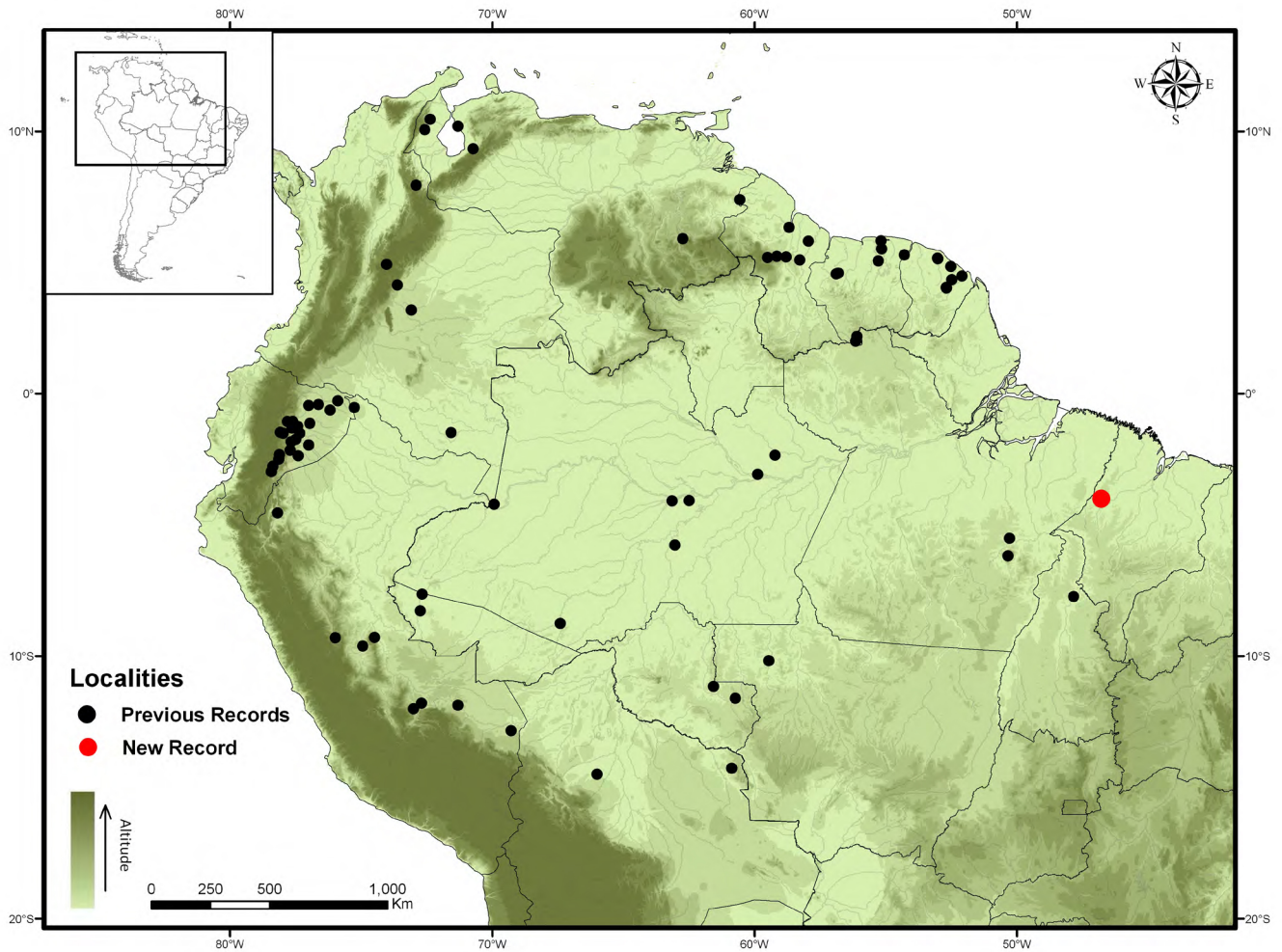


FIGURE 1. Map of the known distribution of *Lithodytes lineatus*. Records from the literature are indicated by black dots and the new locality by a red dot.



FIGURE 2. *Lithodytes lineatus* (CHP-UFRPE 1815) collected in the biological reserve of Gurupi, Maranhão state, Brazil (Photo by Marco Antonio de Freitas).

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