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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Reptilia, Squamata, Leiosauridae, *Enyalius bibronii* Boulenger, 1885: Distribution extension and geographic distribution map

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Abstract: This article provides a new record for *Enyalius bibronii* from municipality of Tenente Laurentino Cruz, state of Rio Grande do Norte, northeastern Brazil. The collection site is located in a mountain forest enclave belonging to the Caatinga domain. This record extends the species distribution towards central region of the state.

Leiosaurid lizards of the genus *Enyalius* comprise nine recognized species (Rodrigues *et al.* 2006), restricted to forested areas in Atlantic Rainforest remnants of eastern Brazil, the Brazilian Amazon rainforest (Jackson 1978; Ávila-Pires 1995), patches of savanna and gallery forests of the Cerrado in Central Brazil, and in scattered patches of the semiarid Caatingas (Rodrigues *et al.* 2006). In general, *Enyalius* are diurnal and insectivorous lizards that use tree trunks, shrubs, fallen logs or leaves as perches, but are also commonly found on the ground or leaf litter (Jackson 1978; Sazima and Haddad 1992; Vitt *et al.* 1996; Zamprogno *et al.* 2001; Teixeira *et al.* 2005).

Enyalius bibronii Boulenger, 1885 was described from an unspecified locality in the state of Bahia (Etheridge 1969). It is typical of relictual forests of arid environments from northeastern Brazil (Jackson 1978). According to Rodrigues (2003), after the degradation of its original habitat, this species remains in a few areas that are compatible with its physiologic processes.

Based on records available in the literature, the current distribution of *E. bibronii* is in northeastern Brazil, with records for the states of Minas Gerais (Jackson 1978), Bahia (Bertolotto *et al.* 2002; Rodrigues *et al.* 2006; Freitas and Silva 2007), Pernambuco (Jackson 1978; Rodrigues *et al.* 2006), Paraíba (Rodrigues *et al.* 2006; Freire *et al.* 2009), Rio Grande do Norte (Freire 1996), Ceará (Borges-Nojosa and Caramaschi 2003; Rodrigues *et al.* 2006; Loebmann & Haddad 2010), and Piauí (Rodrigues *et al.* 2006) (Figure 1). Etherigde (1969) cited a specimen from Linhares, state of Espírito Santo, southeastern Brazil (MCZ 82873), but Jacskon (1978) confirmed that it actually represents an *Enyalius pictus* (Wied, 1825).

Herein, we expand the geographic distribution of *E. bibronii* in the state of Rio Grande do Norte. On 22 and 24 September 2009, we collected one juvenile and one adult *E. bibronii* in a forest enclave inside the *Caatinga* biome, in the municipality of Tenente Laurentino Cruz (06°10'80" S, 36°43'38" W, 751 m asl). Additionally, 14 specimens were collected from October 2009 to April 2010 (Figure 2), six at another location (06°05'94" S, 36°42'94" W, 710 m a.s.l.) within the same municipality. Voucher specimens (CHBEZ 2869, 2870, 2926-2929, 3208-3210, 3301-3303, and 3577-3580) are deposited at the Herpetological Collection of the Department of Botany, Ecology and Zoology, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte, in Natal, Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. Collecting permits were granted by Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis (IBAMA) (Permit 206/2006 and Process no. 02001.004294/03-15).

The findings reported here represent the first record of this species in a mountain forest enclave belonging to the Caatinga Domain in the state of Rio Grande do Norte. This extends the known geographical distribution of *E. bibronii ca.* 170 km west from the nearest record in the state, in the municipality of Natal (05°47'25" S, 35°11'59" W) (Freire 1996), *ca.* 135 km north from the nearest record in the state of Paraíba, in the municipalities of São José dos Cordeiros and Sumé (07°28'15" S, 36°52'51" W) (Freire *et al.* 2009), and *ca.* 320 km northeast from the nearest record in the state of Ceará, in the municipality of Crato (07°10' - 07°50' S, 39°00' - 39°50' W) (Borges-Nojosa and Caramaschi 2003). The present record associated with the recent records of *Acratosaura mentalis* (Amaral, 1933) and *Anotosaura vanzolinia* Dixon, 1974 (Squamata, Gymnophthalmidae) to the municipality of Tenente Laurentino Cruz (Gogliath *et al.* 2010 a; b) represents an important advance to the knowledge about the distribution of squamate reptiles from the Caatingas.

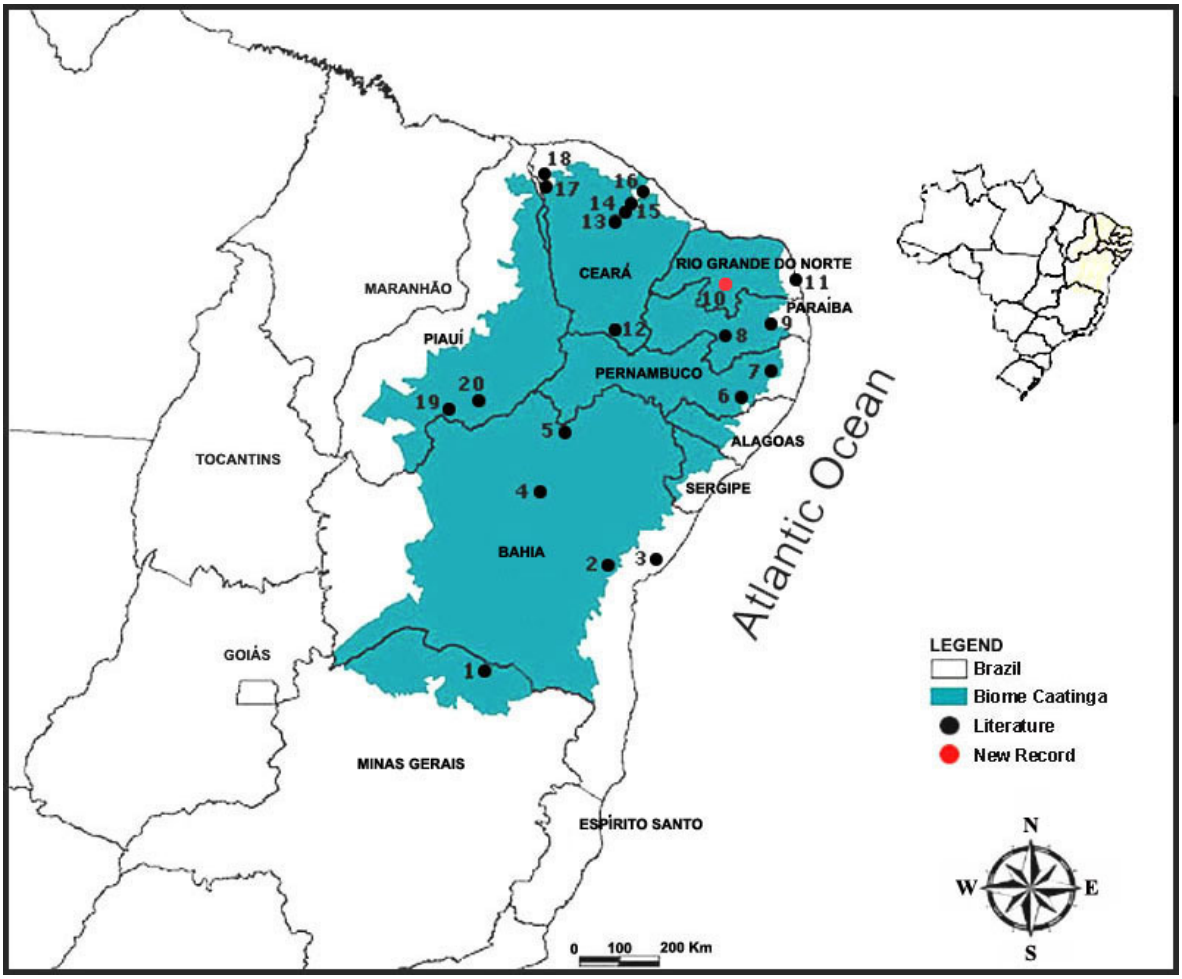

Figure 1. Geographic distribution of *Enyalius bibronii*. 1. Montezuma; 2. Serra da Jibóia; 3. Dias D'Ávila; 4. Morro do Chapéu, 5. Juazeiro; 6. Garanhuns; 7. Serra Negra; 8. São José dos Cordeiros and Sumé; 9. Areia; 10. Tenente Laurentino Cruz (new record); 11. Natal; 12. Crato; 13. Mulungu; 14. Guaramiranga; 15. Pacoti; 16. Pacatuba; 17. Ibiapina; 18. Ubajara; 19. Serra das Confusões; 20. Parque Nacional Serra da Capivara.

Figure 2. Specimens of *Enyalius bibronii* collected at Dizimeira and Serra Nova, municipality of Tenente Laurentino Cruz, state of Rio Grande do Norte, Brazil. A) Lateral view of gular flap of adult female (CHBEZ 2929); B) Adult male *Enyalius bibronii* (CHBEZ 2926); C) Juvenile of *Enyalius bibronii* (CHBEZ 3210). Photographs by Melissa Gogliath.

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