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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Hypsiboas exastis* (Caramaschi and Rodrigues, 2003): Distribution extension and first record in the state of Alagoas, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: The hylid frog *Hypsiboas exastis* has recently been described and is only known from few locations along the Atlantic coast of northeastern Brazil. This work reports this species in an Atlantic rainforest fragment north of the São Francisco River, the Coimbra forest, in the state of Alagoas. The new record expands the geographical distribution of H. exastis approximately 70 km to the northeast.

Hypsiboas exastis Caramaschi and Rodrigues, 2003 is a large sized treefrog belonging to the *Hypsiboas faber* species group (Faivovich *et al.* 2005). The geographical distribution of the species extends only from the type locality, in the municipality of São José da Vitória (15°09' S, 39°18' W), and from the municipalities of Wenceslau Guimarães (13°36' S, 39°43' W) and Uruçuca (14°34' S, 39°17' W), all in southern state of Bahia, Brazil (Caramaschi and Rodrigues 2003; Loebmann *et al.* 2008). It also known from the municipality of Quebrangulo (09°15'50" S, 36°25'40" W), state of Alagoas, Brazil (Silva *et al.* 2008). *Hypsiboas exastis* occurs in the Atlantic forest domain between 100 and 490 m elevation (Caramaschi and Rodrigues 2003; Silva *et al.* 2008).

During a short survey on March 2007 (collection permit IBAMA #11218-1), two adults of *H. exastis* (Figure 1) were collected while calling in a broad-leaved shrub and a banana tree 2 m above the ground near a small stream. Specimens were located at about 390 m elevation and adjacent to the Coimbra forest edge, a large Atlantic forest fragment (3,500 ha; 08°59'28" S, 35°50'22" W) at the Usina Serra Grande, municipality of Ibateguara, northern of the state of Alagoas (Figure 2). Other individuals of *H. exastis* were observed and heard at the capture site (Figure 3), and small groups localized in the edge and around the Coimbra fragment during the survey.

Comparison with the holotype description made by Caramaschi and Rodrigues (2003) permitted the species identification. Shared morphological features include: 1) large size; 2) dorsum granulose; 3) a developed crenulated fringe along external border of forearm, finger IV, foot, and toe V; 4) calcar appendix conspicuous; 5) anal plate distinct, inferiorly delimited by a transverse row of white tubercules; 6) dorsum grayish yellow (in life) or brown (in preservative), with dark brown to black marks without forming a definite pattern and resembling tree bark with lichens; 7) in life, palm of hand bluish yellow, fingers and disks deep blue, and webbing yellowish gray; 8) in life, sole of foot gray, toes and disks deep blue, and webbing black.

Voucher specimens are deposited at the Coleção Herpetológica da Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco in Serra Talhada, state of Pernambuco, under the collection numbers CHURPE602 (75 mm snout-vent length) and CHURPE603 (78 mm snout-vent length).

The new record extends the geographical distribution of *H. exastis* in approximately 70 km to the northeast. Although *H. exastis* has only been recently described and is known from few locations, it is probably present in isolated populations in other forest fragments in the central and

FIGURE 1. Dorsal view of *Hypsiboas exastis* (voucher specimen CHUFRPE603).

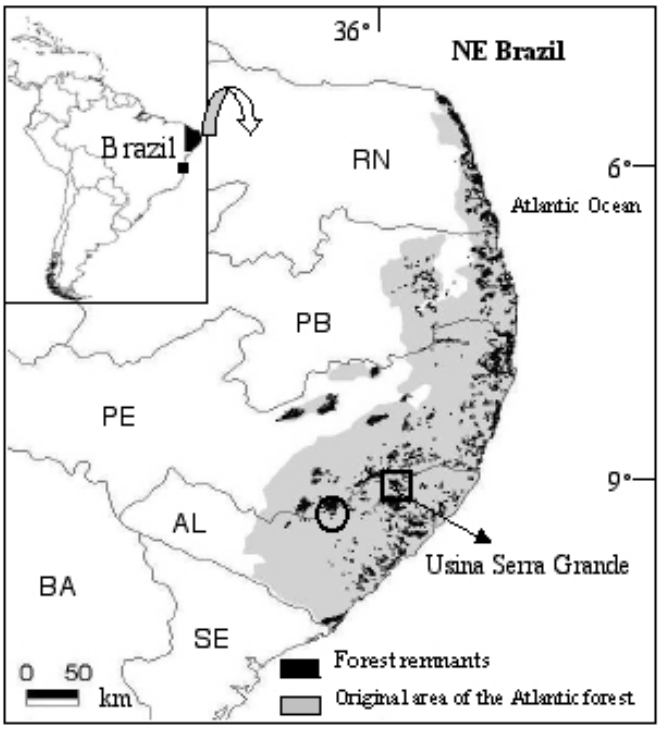

Figure 2. Distribution map of *Hypsiboas exastis*. Solid square: type locality, state of Bahia; empty circle: previously known northernmost record, state of Alagoas; and empty square: new record, state of Alagoas.

Figure 3. Adult *Hypsiboas exastis*, municipality of Ibateguara, state of Alagoas, Brazil.

northern Atlantic forest. Suitable habitats may still persist in the largest forested areas of the state of Alagoas and in the eastern part of the state of Pernambuco (Carnaval and Peixoto 2004). The few records are potentially explained by a lack of inventories and published observations, particularly in Atlantic forest areas of extreme northeastern Brazil. The Coimbra forest represents one of the last large fragments in the Atlantic forest north of the São Francisco River (Melo *et al.* 2006) that sustain a wide variety of appropriate habitats for amphibians, including streams, ponds and fields of terrestrial bromeliads. However, this is the first survey of the amphibian fauna for the area.

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