

# Amphibia, Anura, Hylidae, *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* Caramaschi, Almeida and Gasparini, 2009: First state record and first record out of the type locality

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**ABSTRACT:** This study presents the first record of the recently-described Lime Treefrog *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* Caramaschi, Almeida, and Gasparini, 2009 in the state of Bahia, and the first record out of its type locality.

*Sphaenorhynchus* Tschudi, 1838, is a sister genus of *Dendropsophus* Fitzinger, 1843 and *Xenohyla* Izecksohn, 1998 (*sensu* Faivovich *et al.* 2005). The genus is currently composed of 14 species of treefrogs (see Caramaschi *et al.* 2009) with distribution associated to the Atlantic and Amazonian Forests domains (Frost 2009; Caramaschi *et al.* 2009), except for *Sphaenorhynchus platycephalus*, with unknown distribution (Frost 2009). *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* Caramaschi, Almeida and Gasparini, 2009 (Figures 1 and 2) was recently described from Lagoa Nova, Fazenda Gemada, municipality of Mucurici, state of Espírito Santo, southeastern Brazil (Caramaschi *et al.* 2009).

On 29 December 2008, at ca. 19:00 h, a population of *S. botocudo* was found in the municipality of Mucuri, state of Bahia, northeast Brazil. Two individuals were collected and deposited in the collection of the Museu de Zoologia João Moojen at Universidade Federal de Viçosa (MZUFV 9823, male, SVL 27.6 mm, and MZUFV 9824, male, SVL 28.6 mm). Identification of the species was possible due to the presence of a distinctive longitudinal white spot under the eye, observed in both individuals in life (Figure 2) and in

preservative (Figure 3), which separates *S. botocudo* from all other congeners, consisting in a putative autapomorphy of the species (Caramaschi *et al.* 2009).



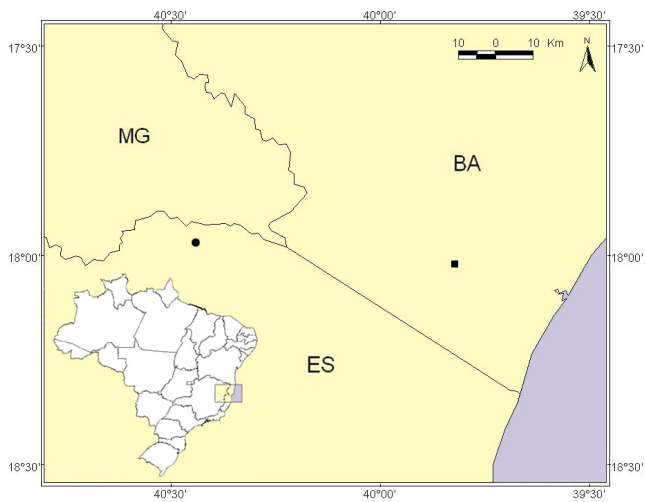
**FIGURE 2.** Adult male *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* (MZUFV 9824 – SVL 28.6 mm ) with emphasis on the presence of the distinctive longitudinal white spot under the eye, a putative autapomorphy of the species. Photo by J. V. A. de Lacerda.



**FIGURE 1.** Adult male *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* from Fazenda Santa Clara, municipality of Mucuri, state of Bahia, Brazil (MZUFV 9824 – SVL 28.6 mm ). Photo by J. V. A. de Lacerda.



**FIGURE 3.** Adult male *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* in preservative with emphasis on the presence of the distinctive longitudinal white spot under the eye, a putative autapomorphy of the species. Photo by E. T. da Silva.



**FIGURE 4.** Distribution map of *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo*: circle = municipality of Mucurici, state of Espírito Santo (type locality), ca. 250 m above sea level; square = Fazenda Santa Clara, municipality of Mucuri, state of Bahia (new record), ca. 60 m above sea level.

The individuals were found in Fazenda Santa Clara (18°01'11" S; 39°49'17" W), municipality of Mucuri, southern extreme of the state of Bahia, northeastern Brazil. Both individuals were obtained in a permanent pond with approximately 7,000 m<sup>2</sup>, 60 m above sea level, ca. 30 km airline away from the Atlantic Ocean coast. As well as observed in the type locality of the species (see Caramaschi *et al.* 2009), the present record took place in a pond with emergent and floating vegetation, located

in an open artificial grassland. The region was originally covered by Atlantic Forest, cleared during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and nowadays dedicated to cattle farming.

The present work helps to improve the knowledge on the geographic distribution of *Sphaenorhynchus botocudo* by reporting this recently described species for the first time in the state of Bahia, at about 65 km (straight-line distance) eastward from its type locality and previously only known place of occurrence (Figure 4).

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