

## NOTAS

NEW RECORDS OF *CALAMODONTOPHIS PAUCIDENS* (SERPENTES, COLUBRIDAE, XENODONTINAE) FROM BRAZIL AND URUGUAY

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Amaral (1935) described the new genus and species *Calamodon paucidens* based upon one specimen collected at 'vila São Simão', municipality of Cacequi (29° 53' S; 54° 49' W), state of Rio Grande do Sul (RS), Brazil. The name *Calamodon* was preoccupied, being replaced by *Calamodontophis* (Amaral, 1963).

*Calamodontophis paucidens* is a small snake, with maximum snout-vent length of 361 mm (tab. 1). It is very rare in collections, and

little known. Until recently, the species was known only by the holotype (IB 8847), an adult female collected in the municipality of Cacequi, Rio Grande do Sul (RS). In 1987, Pagini & Lema redescribed the holotype, and presented a second specimen (MCP 26), proceeding from municipality of Rio Pardo, RS (29° 59' S; 52° 22' W). Franco *et al.* (1990) cited a third specimen from the Araucaria Plateau of the state of Paraná, Brazil, but it pertains to an undes-

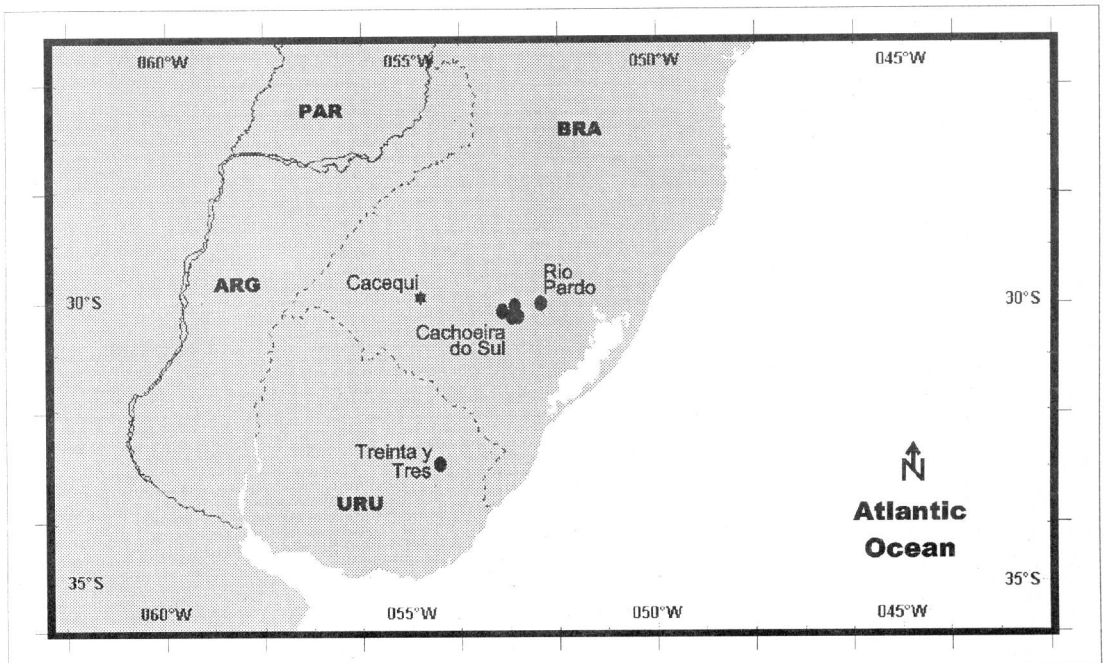


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of *Calamodontophis paucidens*. Star = holotype.

Specimen	Sex	SVL	CC	PRO	PSO	TT	SL <sup>1</sup>	IL <sup>2</sup>	VE	SC
IB 8847	F	299	54	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	7(4)/8(4)	135	32/32
IB 25989	F	361	55	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2			137	34/34
IB 28948	F	304	47	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	7(4)/7(4)	135	31/31
MCP 26	F	324	52	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	8(3)/8(3)	131	29/29
MCP 5737	F	284	44	2/2	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	6(4)/7(4)	131	29/29
MCP 7590	F	125	19	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	8(4)/8(4)	134	30/30
MCP 7834	M	249	55	2/1	2/2	1+1/1+1	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	8(4)/8(4)	124	39/39
MCP 8607	M	286	57	2/2	3/2	1+1/1+1	7(3,4)/6(3)	7(4)/7(4)	127	32/32
MCP 8773	F	276	48	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(2,4)/7(2,4)	8(4)/8(4)	135	30/30
MCP 9106	F	356	53	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	8(4)/8(4)	137	30/30
MCP 11469	F	294	57	1/1	2/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	7(4)/7(4)	133	31/31
ZVC-R 5500	F	316	49	1/1	3/2	1+2/1+2	7(3,4)/7(3,4)	8(4)/8(4)	135	30/30

**Table 1.** Meristics and morphometrics (mm) of all known specimens of *Calamodontophis paucidens*. SVL = snout-vent length; CC = tail length; PRO = preoculars; PSO = postoculars; TT = temporals; SL = supralabials; IL = infralabials; VE = ventrals; SC = subcaudals.

1. SL contacting orbit within brackets.

2. IL contacting chin shields within brackets.

cribed species, which is related to *C. paucidens* (Franco, in prep.).

This paper reports meristic and morphometric variation of all known specimens (including 10 reported herein for the first time) of *Calamodontophis paucidens* (tab. 1). Of the ten new specimens, nine are from the municipality of Cachoeira do Sul, RS (30° 02' S; 52° 54' W), and one is from the Department of Treinta y Tres, Uruguay (32° 56' S; 54° 26' W) (fig. 1).

All specimens from Rio Grande do Sul were collected in localities situated in the Depressão Central, between the Planalto Sul-Rio-Grandense (or Serra do Sudeste) and the south slopes of the Planalto Meridional of Brazil. This region was originally covered by grasslands (Savana) in open areas, with deciduous and semideciduous seasonal forests covering the slopes of the adjacent plateaus (IBGE, 1986).

Although this note reports several new locality records, the available data are still insufficient to characterize the habitat of the species. The Uruguayan specimen was collected in an open grassy area; the specimens MCP 5737, 7590, 7834, 8773 and 11469 were found

in very disturbed areas, such as gardens of houses and monocultures of pecan trees (*Carya illinoensis*), in Cachoeira do Sul.

Some specimens showed defensive behaviors at the time of capture and during their first few days in captivity. When handled, four individuals (MCP 5737, 7590, 7834 and 8607) coiled the body and hid the head among the coils (fig. 2). Two individuals (MCP 5737 and ZVC-R 5500) opened the mouth, exhibited the dark oral mucosa, and performed false strikes (see Greene, 1988). The specimen MCP 7590 compressed its body dorsoventrally (fig. 3).

#### SPECIMENS EXAMINED

Acronyms of the examined collections are: **IB** - Herpetological collection 'Alphonse Richard Hoge', Instituto Butantan, São Paulo, Brazil; **MCP** - Herpetological collection, Museu de Ciências e Tecnologia, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil; **ZVC-R** - Reptile collection, Facultad de Ciencias, Montevideo, Uruguay.



Figure 2. Defensive display by MCP 5737, showing the coiled body.



Figure 3. Defensive display by MCP 7590, showing the trunk dorsoventrally compressed.

**IB 8847** (Holotype) - Vila São Simão, Cacequi, RS (29° 53' S; 54° 49' W), received in XI.1934. **IB 25989** - Cachoeira do Sul, RS (30° 02' S; 52° 54' W), received in 7.IV.1965. **IB 28948** - Cachoeira do Sul, RS, received in 7.X.1968. **MCP 26** - Rio Pardo, RS (29° 59' S; 52° 22' W), received in 11.VI.1968. **MCP 5737** - Vila Capané (30° 14' S; 52° 57' W), Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 15.X.1993. **MCP 7590** - Vila Cordilheira (30° 13' S; 52° 50' W), Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 12.VI.1996. **MCP 7834** - Vila Capané, Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 23.XII.1996. **MCP 8607** - Vila Barro Vermelho (30° 08' S; 53° 09' W), Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 15.III.1997. **MCP 8773** - Vila Cordilheira, Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 28.V.1997. **MCP 9106** - Vila Cordilheira, Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 18.IX.1997. **MCP 11469** - Vila Cordilheira, Cachoeira do Sul, RS, collected in 27.X.1999. **ZVC-R 5500** - Ruta 98, 10 km W Isla Patrulla (32° 56' S; 54° 26' W), Departamento Treinta y Tres, Uruguay, collected in 22.III.1998.

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