

# Reptilia, Squamata, Leiosauridae, *Urostrophus vautieri* Duméril and Bribon, 1837: Distribution extension, new state record, and geographic distribution map

João Luiz Gasparini<sup>1</sup>, Diogo Andrade Koski<sup>2</sup>, and Pedro L.V. Peloso<sup>3\*</sup>

1 Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Departamento de Oceanografia e Ecologia. Avenida F. Ferrari, 514, Goiabeiras. CEP 29075-910. Vitória, ES, Brazil.

2 AEV/FAESA – Associação Educacional de Vitória, Instituto Superior de Educação. Rodovia Serafim Derenzi, 3115, São Pedro. CEP 29048-450. Vitória, ES, Brazil.

3 Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi / CZO. Caixa Postal 399. CEP 66017-970. Belém, PA, Brazil.

\* Corresponding author. E-mail: [pedropeloso@gmail.com](mailto:pedropeloso@gmail.com)

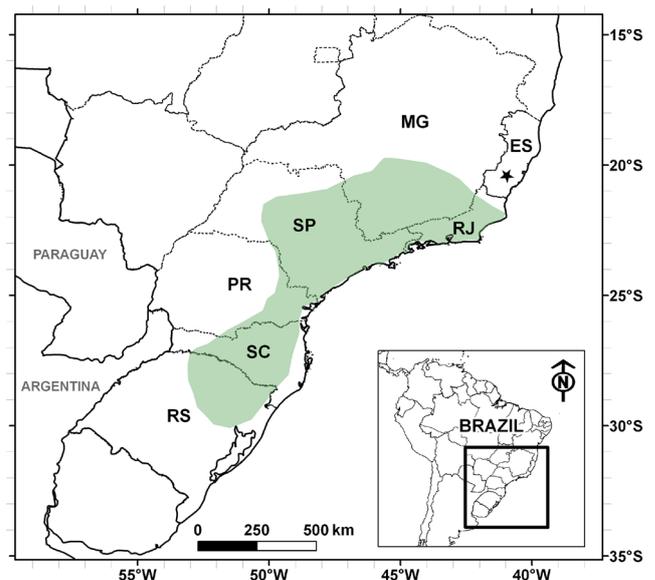
**ABSTRACT:** We present the first record of *Urostrophus vautieri* for the state of Espírito Santo and a distribution map for the species. This species was previously known from the states of Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Paraná, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul. The present record represents an extension of nearly 200 km to the North from the nearest published record for the species.

*Urostrophus* is a leiosaurid lizard genus represented by only two species: *U. gallardoi* Etheridge and Williams, 1991 and *U. vautieri* Duméril and Bribon, 1837 (Etheridge and Williams 1991). *Urostrophus gallardoi* was described in 1991 in the occasion of the revision of the genus (Etheridge and Williams 1991) and is currently known from northwest Argentina and southern Bolivia (Tedesco *et al.* 1992; Torres 1996). *Urostrophus vautieri* (Figure 1) was described by Duméril and Bribon (1837) from “Brésil”. The type locality was later restricted to Rio de Janeiro by Duméril and Duméril (1851). According to Etheridge and Williams (1991), the species is known from the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Paraná, Santa Catarina, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and southern Minas Gerais, in Brazil (Figure 2). Santos *et al.* (2009) reviewed the species distribution in Brazil and provided additional records in Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro, extending the known geographical distribution of *U. vautieri* in those states. Santos *et al.* (2009) also referenced a record by Ruschi (1966) to the state of Espírito Santo but did not include the record in their map of distribution (see Figure 1 in

Santos *et al.* 2009). The record by Ruschi (1966) was not mentioned by Etheridge and Williams (1991) in their review of the genus. The record was made in a compilation of the reptile species known to occur in Espírito Santo at the time (Ruschi 1966). Although we cannot ignore that Ruschi (1966) was the first to register *U. vautieri* in Espírito Santo we must mention that Ruschi’s list is not very reliable. No voucher number, collections examined or further details are given for any of the recorded species and several of them doubtfully occur in the region. Similar inconsistencies have been reported to other species lists compiled by Augusto Ruschi (*e.g.* birds - Simon 2000; Pacheco and Bauer 2001).



**FIGURE 1.** *Urostrophus vautieri*, in life, from Pedra Azul, municipality of Domingos Martins, state of Espírito Santo, Brazil.



**FIGURE 2.** Map of southern and southeastern Brazil showing the known distribution of *Urostrophus vautieri* (green shade; adapted from Santos *et al.* 2009), and the additional record reported here (star). ES = Espírito Santo, MG = Minas Gerais, SP = São Paulo, RJ = Rio de Janeiro, PR = Paraná, SC = Santa Catarina and RS = Rio Grande do Sul.

During the examination of a small regional collection from Parque Estadual da Pedra Azul (PEPAZ), the senior author found one specimen of *Urostrophus vautieri* collected in Pedra Azul, municipality of Domingos Martins, state of Espírito Santo, Brazil (Figure 3). This specimen is now deposited in the zoological section of Museu de Biologia Prof. Mello Leitão (MBML), Santa Teresa, state of Espírito Santo (MBML 2729). Unfortunately only limited locality information is available for this specimen. An additional specimen was recently photographed by DAK in the same region where the first specimen was collected (Figure 1). The specimen was photographed while basking on a rock at around 11:00 h on 20 November 2008.

As far as we are aware, the specimen MBML 2729 and the photograph published here are therefore the first verifiable vouchers of the occurrence of *U. vautieri* in the state of Espírito Santo. The records represent an extension of nearly 200 km to the north from the nearest published record for the species (Santos et al. 2009).



**FIGURE 3.** Overview of the Pedra Azul rock and its surrounding rainforest, habitat where the *Urostrophus vautieri* population reported here was found.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:** Antonio P. Almeida and Marcelo J. Sturaro helped in the identification of the species. Marco Antônio de Freitas first called our attention to the specimens in the Parque Estadual da Pedra Azul regional collection. We thank Leonardo Brioschi Mathias (Instituto Estadual de Meio Ambiente e Recursos Hídricos) for allowing deposition of the PEPAZ specimen in the collection of MBML. Adriano Maciel, Antonio P. Almeida, Eduardo Dias and Vinicius X. Silva provided several comments and suggestions.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Duméril, A.M.C. and G. Bribon. 1837. *Erpetologie generale ou Histoire naturelle complete des reptiles*. Vol. 4. Paris: Librairie Encyclopedique de Roret, 577 p.
- Duméril, A.M.C. and M.A. Duméril. 1851. *Catalogue methodique de la collection des reptiles (Museum d'Histoire naturelle de Paris)*. Vol. iv. Paris: Gide et Baudry, 224 p.
- Etheridge, R. and E.E. Williams. 1991. A review of the South American lizard genera *Urostrophus* and *Anisolepis* (Squamata: Iguania: Polychridae). *Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology* 152: 317-361.
- Pacheco, J.F. and C. Bauer. 2001. A lista de aves do Espírito Santo de Augusto Ruschi (1953): uma avaliação crítica; p. 261-278 In J.L.B. Albuquerque, J.F. Cândido Jr., F.C. Straube and A.L. Roos (eds.). *Ornitologia e conservação: da ciência às estratégias*. Tubarão: Editora Unisul.
- Ruschi, A. 1966. Lista dos répteis do estado do Espírito Santo. *Boletim do Museu de Biologia Prof. Mello-Leitão, Zoologia* 26A: 1-6.
- Santos, R.C., P. S. Lucas, B.M. Sousa, and I.A. Novelli. 2009. Reptilia, Squamata, Leiosauridae, *Urostrophus vautieri*: Distribution extension and geographic distribution map. *Check List* 5: 533-536.
- Simon, J.E. 2000. Composição da Avifauna da Estação Biológica de Santa Lúcia, Santa Teresa, ES. *Boletim do Museu de Biologia Mello Leitão* 11/12: 149-170.
- Tedesco, M.E., A. Hernando, and B.B. Álvarez. 1992. *Urostrophus gallardoii* (Iguania, Polychridae). Nuevas localidades para Argentina. *Facena* 9: 111-115.
- Torres, S.E. 1996. *Urostrophus gallardoii*: Geographic Distribution. *Herpetological Review* 27: 212.

RECEIVED: September 2009

REVISED: April 2010

ACCEPTED: April 2010

PUBLISHED ONLINE: September 2010

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Mara Cíntia Kiefer