

Espadarana prosoblepon Boettger, 1892 (Amphibia: Anura): Distribution extension on the western slopes of the Cordillera Central, Colombia

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ABSTRACT: We report a new locality for *Espadarana prosoblepon* (Boettger, 1892) in a riparian forest on the western slopes of the Cordillera Central of Colombia, which extends its distribution ca. 100 km S from previous known records.

The neotropical family Centrolenidae has 76 species reported for Colombia (Frost 2011). Among these is the genus *Espadarana*, which contains three species that differ from other glass frogs by having pronounced humeral spines (Ruiz-Carranza & Lynch 1991; Guayasamin *et al.* 2009). Their distribution includes the lowlands and mountainous parts of Central America (Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama), through the Pacific slope of the Andes including Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela (Cisneros-Heredia & McDiarmid 2005; Guayasamin *et al.* 2009).

Espadarana prosoblepon (Boettger, 1892), formerly known as *Centrolene prosoblepon*, is a medium-sized centrolenid frog, measuring 21–28 mm SVL in males and 25–31 mm SVL in females (Cisneros-Heredia & McDiarmid 2007), which may have a uniformly green dorsum or green with dark and/or yellow spots on the body (Ruiz-Carranza & Lynch 1995; Cisneros-Heredia & McDiarmid 2005), Sometimes, when dark and yellow spots are present, they may be associated as false or incomplete ocelli (Cisneros-Heredia & McDiarmid 2007). Its elevational distribution extends from sea level to 1500 m (Kubicki *et al.* 2010). It is a well-known species within its range, with a conservation status of least concern according to the IUCN Red List, although populations are in decline (IUCN, 2010).

In Colombia, most reports of the *E. prosoblepon* have been from the western slopes of the Cordillera Occidental from sea level up to 1840 m asl in locations on the eastern slopes of the Cordillera Central (Ruiz-Carranza & Lynch 1995). We report for the first time the presence of *E. prosoblepon* on the western slopes of the Cordillera Central, extending its distribution ca. 100 km S of the previous known records. The specimens reported here were encountered on 24 January 2007 at 2030 h in a riparian forest, during the evaluation of a fragmented landscape for conservation.

Two adult male *E. prosoblepon* were found in the municipality of Filandia, Barbas river basin, on the borderbetween the departments of Quindio and Risaralda

(4°42'22.7" N, 75°38'29.2" W, 1935 m) (Figure 1). One specimen (SVL= 25 mm) was preserved and deposited in the collection of the Universidad del Valle (CD-UV 1911) according to the collection requirement of the rural landscapes project of the Alexander von Humboldt Institute (CI: 7710). The second individual was measured (SVL= 23 mm), photographed and released (Figure 2). The habitat where the specimens were found was a matrix of cloud forest remnants and riparian forest embedded in cattle pastures and forest plantations. Our new record suggests that *E. prosoblepon* has a continuous distribution along the Cordillera Central.

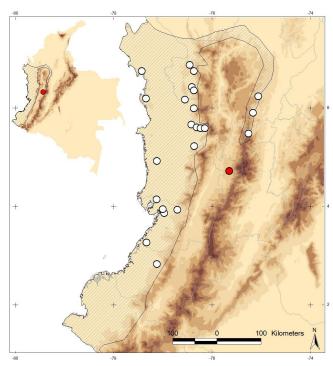


FIGURE 1. Geographic distribution of *Espadarana prosoblepon* in Colombia. Historical locations (white circles) and new locality (Red circle). The hatched area is the potential distribution for Colombia, according to IUCN Red List



FIGURE 2. Espadarana prosoblepon male, SVL 23 mm, from Barbas river basin, municipality of Filandia, Quindio. Photo by Andrés Quintero-Ángel in the Virtual Museum of Amphibians and Reptiles of Colombia.

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