

First record of the smoky bat *Furipterus horrens* (F. Cuvier, 1828) (Mammalia: Chiroptera) in the state of Espírito Santo, southeastern Brazil

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ABSTRACT: *Furipterus horrens* has its distribution restricted to the Neotropics. In the coastal states of Southeastern Brazil covered by Atlantic Forest, few records are known and the Espírito Santo state has never been included as an area of occurrence of the species. Here, we report the collection and identification, using morphological and molecular data, of a single individual from Floresta Nacional do Rio Preto, Conceição da Barra, which is the first record in Espírito Santo and fills in a gap in the known geographical distribution of this bat in the Atlantic Forest.

The smoky or thumbless bat *Furipterus* Bonaparte, 1837 is a monotypic genus represented by the species *Furipterus horrens* (F. Cuvier, 1828). Along with *Amorphochilus schnablii* W. Peters, 1877, which occurs in western South America from coastal Ecuador through Peru into northern Chile (Gardner 2008), they are the extant representatives of family Furipteridae. *Furipterus horrens* has an exclusively Neotropical distribution, occurring in Central America (Panama and Costa Rica), the island of Trinidad, and in South America, in Colombia, Venezuela, south of the Rio Orinoco, the Guianas, eastern Peru, and Brazil, southward into the state of Santa Catarina (Gardner 2008). In Brazil, there are sparse records in the Cerrado, Caatinga and in the Amazonian and Atlantic forests (Paglia *et al.* 2012), always in association with humid vegetation (Figure 1).

Due to its wide distribution, this species is listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Miller *et al.* 2008). It is seldom recorded in surveys due to sampling difficulties, usually attributed to mist net inefficiency, even when these are placed at the entrance or inside their shelters (Uieda *et al.* 1980). This low trapping success may explain the scarcity of specimens of this taxon in scientific collections (Bredt *et al.* 1999). Accordingly, there are only 108 voucher specimens with occurrence in Brazil, according to a search in the online databases speciesLink (<http://splink.cria.org.br>) and GBIF Data Portal Classification (<http://data.gbif.org>). Here we report the first record of *F. horrens* in the state of Espírito Santo, southeastern Brazil, filling a significant gap in its known geographical distribution in the coastal Brazilian Atlantic Forest. We also provide a map (Figure 1) of the current known records for the species, including the new record from Espírito Santo, registering 32 points of occurrence, according to a search in the literature (Gardner 2008; Novaes *et al.* 2012) and in collection databases (speciesLink and GBIF Data Portal). The closest records of the Espírito Santo locality are located 600 km to the north (Bahia; Gardner 2008), 750 km to the south

(Praia da Sumaca, RJ; Gardner 2008), and 580 km to the west (Parque Nacional Cavernas do Peruaçu, MG; Tavares *et al.* 2010).

The species was registered during a mammal survey at Floresta Nacional (FLONA) do Rio Preto (18°21'19" S, 39°50'39" W), municipality of Conceição da Barra, a protected area of Atlantic Forest in northern Espírito Santo (Figure 1). A single adult male was found, during the day, in an abandoned barbecue area by an employee of this protected area on December 10th, 2009. The specimen is preserved in 70% alcohol with the skull removed, and is housed in the mammal collection at Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo, Vitória, Brazil (UFES-MAM 2005).

A tissue sample preserved in alcohol is deposited in the tissue collection at UFES, Vitória, Espírito Santo, Brazil (UFES-CTA 2013). Morphological identification was based on the characters described by Gardner (2008), with additional molecular data. DNA was extracted following the protocol described by Bruford *et al.* (1992) and used in the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to amplify 657 base pairs of the Cytochrome-C Oxidase I gene (COI) using primers LCO1490 and HCO2198 (Hebert *et al.* 2003). The 25 µL PCR reaction solution included 2.5 µL of 10x PCR buffer, 1.0 µL of MgCl₂ (50 mM), 0.5 µL of dNTP mixture (10 mM of each oligonucleotide), 0.3 µL of Platinum Taq DNA polymerase (Invitrogen), 0.3 µL of each primer (10 µM), and 2 µL of DNA template (100 ng/µL). PCR profile consisted of an initial denaturation at 94°C (5 min), followed by 39 cycles comprising denaturation at 94°C (30 s), annealing at 44°C (45 s) and extension at 72°C (45 s), with a final cycle of 72°C (5 min). PCR products were purified using the enzyme ExoSAP-IT (USB Corporation, Cleveland, USA). Sequencing was performed by using the Big Dye Terminator Cycle Sequencing kit version 3.1 and an ABI Prism 310 automated sequencer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, USA), according to the manufacturer's instructions. Sequences were aligned using Clustal W in the program MEGA 5 (Tamura *et al.* 2011). The same software was used to calculate pairwise sequence divergence, with

a Kimura two-parameter distance model (K2p; Kimura 1980). The data matrix included the new sequence from Espírito Santo (deposited in Genbank under the accession number JX989224) and six other COI sequences from Genbank: four from *Furipterus horrens* (EF080358 and JF459160 from Guyana, EU096741-42 from Suriname) and one from each outgroup, *Carollia castanea* (JF448773 from Ecuador) and *Micronycteris brosetti* (JF448067 from Guyana).

Furipterus horrens specimen reported in this paper presents all the diagnostic features listed in Gardner

(2008): dorsal fur slate-gray, ventral pelage as in the dorsum, with the tips of the fur slightly paler. The tail is completely wrapped in the uropatagium and extends slightly less than two-thirds of its length. The muzzle is relatively simple and well furred; there are no fleshy structures under the chin; the palate is short, and does not extend well beyond the last molar; the mesopterygoid fossa is longer than wide (Figure 2). Furthermore, the cranial characters of *F. horrens* reported by Husson (1962) are also observed in the collected specimen: the rostrum is short, about half the length of the braincase; upper incisors in pairs, the outer slightly smaller than the inner; the space between the two inner incisors and that between the outer incisor and the canine are distinct; upper canine small, its shaft about equal in height to the large second premolar; first upper premolar about half the size of both the canine and the second premolar; lower incisors with trifid cutting edges, forming a continuous row between the canines; lower canine as high as both the second and the third premolars, which are of about equal size; first lower premolar about half the height of the canine (Figure 2).

The external and cranial measurements (in millimeters) of the specimen, according to Simmons and Voss (1998), were taken with a digital caliper to the nearest 0.01 mm: total length= 64.4; tail length= 25.2; hind foot length= 7.53; ear length= 8.92; tragus length= 2.46; forearm length= 36.95; greatest length of the skull= 11.49; zygomatic breadth= 6.82; condyloincisive length= 12.03; maxillary tooththrow length= 4.08; breadth across molars= 4.86. The weight was 1 g and it was taken with a Pesola scale (precision= 0.5 g). These measurements are very similar to those obtained in previous works (Husson 1962, 1978; Simmons and Voss 1998; Pol *et al.* 2003). Intraspecific divergence between the sample from Espírito Santo and from the Guianas varied from 2.1% to 2.5%, while interspecific divergence varied from 21.2% to 25.4%.

Although there have been several bat surveys in the state of Espírito Santo (Luz *et al.* 2009; Vieira *et al.* 2010; Peracchi *et al.* 2011), collecting localities are concentrated in central to southern areas, and until now *F. horrens* had never been recorded. With this new record, the number of bat species occurring in the state (Mendes *et al.* 2010; Pimenta *et al.* 2010; Peracchi *et al.* 2011) increases to 68. Although the species' natural history is very poorly known, some aspects of its biology are described in the literature. Flight activity begins at twilight, but these bats do not leave the shelters until after dark (Gardner 2008). They are insectivorous animals that fly close to the ground (La Val 1977), especially in search of moths (Fenton *et al.* 1999). Although this species has been associated with caves, its presence has been recorded in other kinds of refuges, like buildings, tunnels, among boulders, hollow logs and within or under fallen trees in decomposition (Uieda *et al.* 1980; Simmons and Voss 1998; MacDonald 2006; Fabián 2008; Tavares *et al.* 2010). Even in caves, they have been observed roosting in holes in the walls (Nowack 1999), which denotes its preference to hide in crevices. Individuals do not touch each other when roosting in groups (Uieda *et al.* 1980; Bredt *et al.* 1999).

The northern part of Espírito Santo is among the top 10 priority areas for conservation in the state, both in

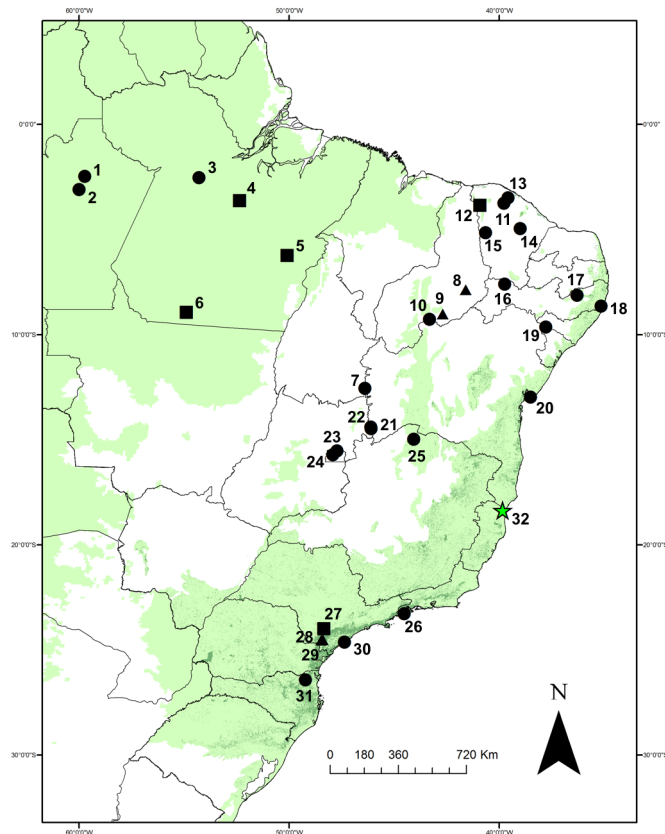


FIGURE 1. Collecting localities of *Furipterus horrens* in Brazil. The light green shadow illustrates the original forested areas, and the dark green shadow indicates the current remaining fragments of Atlantic Forest. Triangles refer to databases records (speciesLink and GBIF Data Portal), circles to literature records (according to Gardner 2008; Novaes *et al.* 2012), and squares to both, databases and literature records. Specific localities are listed: 1. Amazonas, 80 km north of Manaus (02°30' S, 59°43' W); 2. Amazonas, Manaus (03°06' S, 60°00' W); 3. Pará, Taperinha (02°31' S, 54°17' W); 4. Pará, Cachoeira do Espelho (03°37' S, 52°22' W); 5. Pará, Floresta Nacional de Carajás (06°04' S, 50°13' W); 6. Pará, Cachimbo (08°57' S, 54°53' W); 7. Tocantins, Aurora do Tocantins, Maciço dos Moura (12°34'53.4" S, 46°30'59" W); 8. Piauí, Arara (04°49' S, 40°54' W); 9. Piauí, São Raimundo Nonato (08°00' S, 42°41' W); 10. Piauí, Parque Nacional da Serra das Confusões (09°13' S, 43°29' W); 11. Ceará, Irauçuba (03°44' S, 39°47' W); 12. Ceará, Gruta de Ubajara (03°48' S, 40°52' W); 13. Ceará, Itapipoca (03°30' S, 39°35' W); 14. Ceará, Quixadá (04°58' S, 39°01' W); 15. Ceará, Crateús, Serra das Almas (05°10' S, 40°40' W); 16. Pernambuco, Exu (07°30' S, 39°42' W); 17. Pernambuco, Brejo Madre de Deus (08°08' S, 36°22' W); 18. Pernambuco, Rio Formoso (08°39' S, 35°09' W); 19. Sergipe, Canindé de São Francisco (09°38' S, 37°47' W); 20. Bahia, Bahia (12°59' S, 38°31' W); 21. Goiás, Mambai (14°29' S, 46°06' W); 22. Goiás, Nascentes Rio Vermelho (14°24' S, 46°11' W); 23. Distrito Federal, Planaltina (15°32' S, 47°44' W); 24. Distrito Federal, Rural Area (15°44' S, 47°57' W); 25. Minas Gerais, Parque Nacional Cavernas do Peruaçu (15°05' S, 44°15' W); 26. Rio de Janeiro, Praia da Sumaca (23°17' S, 44°32' W); 27. São Paulo, Fazenda Intervalos (24°20' S, 48°25' W); 28. São Paulo, Iporanga (24°35' S, 48°35' W); 29. São Paulo, Apiaí, São Paulo (24°31' S, 48°24' W); 30. São Paulo, Estação Ecológica da Juréia-Itatins (24°40' S, 47°21' W); 31. Santa Catarina, Colônia Hansa (26°26' S, 49°14' W); 32. The new record in the state of Espírito Santo, Conceição da Barra, Floresta Nacional do Rio Preto (18°21'19" S, 39°50'39" W).

terms of fauna and flora diversity and endemism (Loiola et al. 2011). Considering that the records of *F. horrens* seems to occur in association with humid forests (Handley 1976; Uieda et al. 1980), and that the Atlantic Forest in the Espírito Santo state has suffered high deforestation rates (Lederman and Padovan 2005), reflecting in a high number of threatened mammal species (Chiarello et al. 2007), this new record indicates that specific efforts to investigate new localities of occurrence should be made.

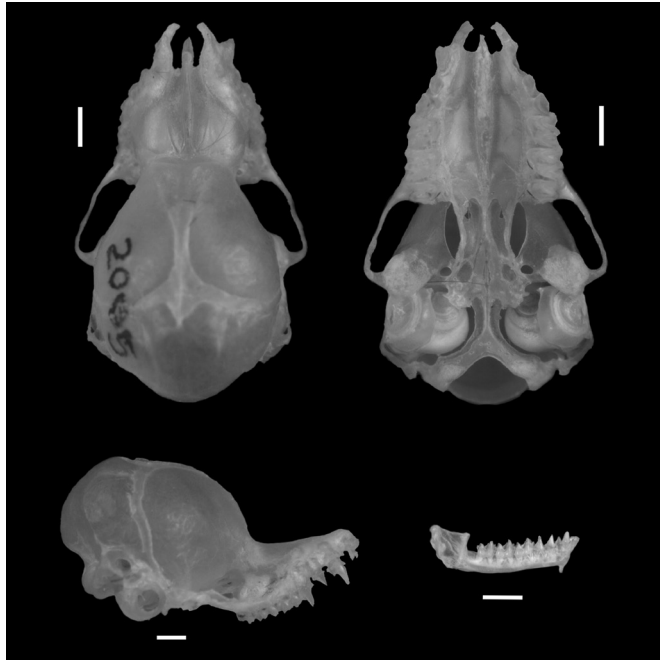


FIGURE 2. Dorsal, ventral and lateral views of the skull, and lateral view of the mandible of the specimen of *Furipterus horrens* collected at Floresta Nacional do Rio Preto, Conceição da Barra, Espírito Santo (UFES-MAM 2005). Scale bar = 2 mm.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: We thank Vinícius Pimenta for providing important literature. R. Duda received an undergraduate scholarship from Fundo de Amparo à Ciência e Tecnologia do Espírito Santo (FAPES). J. Dalapiccola received an undergraduate scholarship from Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo (UFES). This work was supported by a grant from Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq) to L. P. Costa. The specimen was collected under permit number 20379-1 from Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis (IBAMA).

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RECEIVED: May 2012

ACCEPTED: October 2012

PUBLISHED ONLINE: December 2012

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITY: Valéria da Cunha Tavares