

At 2200 h on 17 December 2015, in a first order rocky stream within Reserva Biológica Estadual Mata Paludosa, municipality of Itati, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil (29.50770°S, 50.12570°W; WGS 84; 300 m elev.), we collected one albino and one normally pigmented individual of *Hylodes meridionalis* (Fig. 1). Both were juveniles measuring 23.0 and 23.5 mm, respectively. The albino *H. meridionalis* exhibited whitish and pinkish coloration, with red pupils indicating the absence of pigmentation in the retina, indicating total albinism (Browder 1972. J. Exp. Zool. 180:149–156). This is the first report of albinism within the anuran family Hylodidae.

Diurnal animals are more sensitive to UV radiation and have more chances of predation due the lack of camouflage (Childs 1953. Evolution 73:228–233; Sazima and Di-Bernardo 1991. Mem. Inst. Butantan 53:167–173). The fossorial or cryptic habits could increase the life expectancy of albino individuals offering protection against radiation and predation (Sazima and Di-Bernardo 1991, *op. cit.*; Santos and Silva 2010. Bol. Mus. Biol. Mello Leitão 28:159–163). Probably the survivorship of the young albino *H. meridionalis* is associated with the typical behavior of *Hylodes* frogs that consists in hiding under rocks in stream margin avoiding UV radiation and some potential predators. We collected and deposited the two juvenile torrent frogs in the herpetological collection of the Museu de Ciências Naturais, RS (MCN 14338 [albino], 14339 [normal]).

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INCILIUS NEBULIFER (Gulf Coast Toad). POLYMELIA. Over the last few decades, concerns about amphibian malformations, population declines, and extinctions have increased (Lannoo 2005. Amphibian Declines: The Conservation Status of United States Species. University of California Press, Berkley, California. 1075 pp.). Amphibian malformations have increased in their frequency over time and have been reported in over a dozen species of North American anurans (Lannoo 2008. Malformed Frogs: The Collapse of Aquatic Ecosystems. University of California Press, Berkley, California. 270 pp.). Polymelia is defined as the presence of more than two forelimbs or more than two rear limbs each with identifiable major segments (Meteyer 2000. Field Guide to Malformations of Frogs and Toads. Biological Science Report USGS/BRD/BSR-2000-0005). Here, we report on an observation of an adult male *Incilius nebulifer* (76.2 mm SVL) exhibiting polymelia (Fig. 1).

On four separate occasions (5 July 2018, 10 July 2018, 29 October 2018, and 23 April 2019) we observed the malformed *I. nebulifer* in Nacogdoches County, Texas, USA (31.60350°N, 94.65550°W; WGS 84). The male had an extra forelimb on

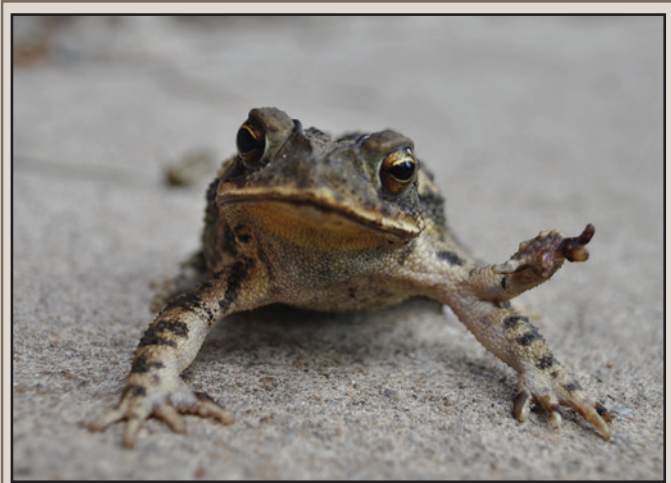


FIG. 1. Polymelia in an adult male *Incilius nebulifer* on its left forelimb from Texas, USA.

its left forelimb. The additional limb was approximately the same length as the other two forelimbs and had identifiable major segments. The digits on the additional limb developed in the opposite direction compared to the standard forelimbs. Polymelia malformations can be due to mutation, trauma or developmental errors (Lannoo 2008, *op. cit.*). It was not clear what lead to polymelia in this *I. nebulifer*, but the male did not seem impaired.

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LEPTODACTYLUS TROGLODYTES (Pernambuco White-lipped Frog). PARASITES. The small frog *Leptodactylus troglodytes* (Fig. 1A) has a large distribution in the Cerrado and Caatinga of

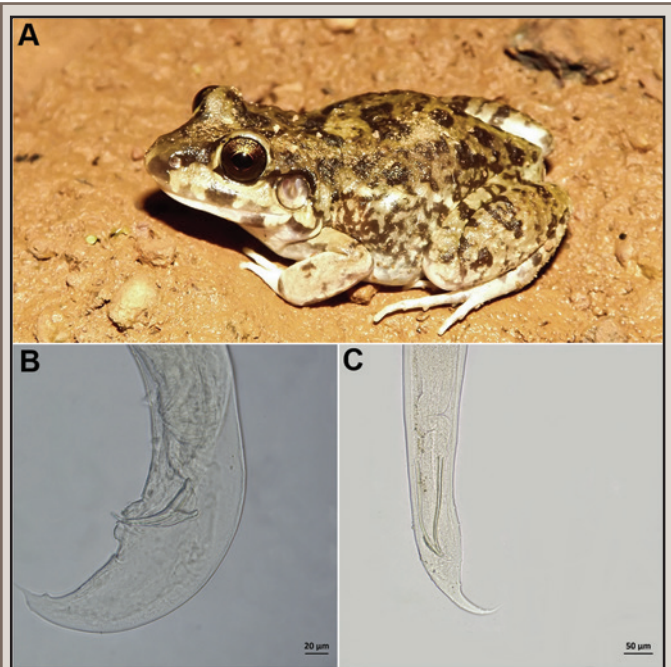


FIG. 1. A) Adult *Leptodactylus troglodytes*; B) male *Aplectana membranosa*; C) male *Raillietnema spectans*.