

TABLE 1. Prey consumed by *Hyla punctata* (N = 19) from Santa Fe Province, Argentina. No. = number of prey items; % Total = percentage taxa in the total number of prey; % Vol = percentage of each prey volume (mm³); Freq. = number specimens containing prey; % Occ. = percentage occurrence.

Taxa	No.	% Total	% Vol (mm ³)	Freq.	% Occ.
INSECTA					
Hymenoptera	16	20.2	15.6	6	31.6
Diptera	45	57	31.2	11	57.9
Coleoptera	13	16.4	31.2	9	47.4
ARACHNIDA					
Aranae	5	6.3	6.2	4	21.1
Unidentified arthropod parts	—	—	15.6	10	52.6
TOTAL	79	100%	100%	—	—

Although many aspects of ecology of *Hyla punctata* were discussed by Gallardo (1987. *Anfibios Argentinos. Guía para su Identificación. Biblioteca Mosaico, 98 pp.*) the diet of this hylid frog has not been described.

Between 15 December 1999 and 2 February 2001 we collected 19 specimens (8 males, mean SVL = 20.23 mm ± 8.81 mm and 11 females, mean SVL = 19.35 mm ± 3.06 mm). The samples were taken in two semi-permanent ponds of Santa Fe Province, Argentina (31°35'S, 60°41'W). Frogs were captured by hand between 2000 and 2300 h and preserved in 10% formalin. Analysis of the stomach contents suggests that *H. punctata* has a carnivorous diet, composed mainly of arthropods. The most frequently taken prey items were dipterans (N = 45; 57%) and hymenopterans (N = 16; 20%). These results suggest that *H. punctata* has a sit and wait foraging behavior for capturing prey. Table 1 summarizes these results.

Submitted by **JAVIERA. LOPEZ** (e-mail: inali@ceride.gov.ar), **PAOLA M. PELTZER** (e-mail: paolapeltzer@hotmail.com), and **RAFAEL C. LAJMANOVICH**, National Institute of Limnology, José Maciá 1933, 3016 Santo Tomé, Santa Fe, Argentina.

LIMNONECTES LIMNOCHARIS (Paddy Frog): **PREDATION.** Herein we report predation of *Limnonectes limnocharis* by four species of colubrid snakes collected during July 1989 at a single locality in west-central Thailand, precisely 25 km NW of Lan-Sak, 65 km NW of Uthai-Thani, ca. 220 km NW Bangkok, 110 m elevation, in Uthai Thani Province. Juvenile *L. limnocharis* were found in the stomachs of the following snakes: one in a *Dendrelaphis pictus* (Institut Royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique IRSNB 15587; SVL 497 mm), two in a *Enhydryis plumbea* (IRSNB 15589; SVL 215 mm), one in a *Ptyas korros* (IRSNB 15590; SVL 826 mm), three in a *Xenochrophis flavipunctatus* (IRSNB 155927; SVL 340 mm), and one in another *X. flavipunctatus* (IRSNB 15593; SVL 297 mm). No other prey items were detected in the stomach of these snakes. Although the list of ophidian predators on *L. limnocharis* at Lan-Sak is undoubtedly longer, this report is indicative of the high predation pressure on *L. limnocharis* at some localities and hence its importance in the local trophic chain.

We thank G. Lenglet, G. Coulon (IRSNB) and R. Peuchot (Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels).

Submitted by **OLIVIER S. G. PAUWELS**, Department of Recent Vertebrates, Institut Royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique, Rue Vautier 29, 1000 Brussels, Belgium; e-mail: osgpauwels@hotmail.com.

PHYLLOMEDUSA HYPOCHONDRIALIS AZUREA (Orange-legged Leaf Frog). **METAMORPH BEHAVIOR.** Wiping of skin secretions in metamorphic *Phyllomedusa hypochondrialis azurea* is reported. The specimen (SVL 2.08 cm) was collected on 8 Dec 2000, near the town of Tavaí, Reserva San Rafael (26°18'27"S; 55°40'29"W), Department of Cazaapá, Paraguay during a survey conducted by the Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center (KUNHM BRC) of the University of Kansas and the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay (MNHNP). The specimen was collected at night in 0.5 m high grass, at the edge of a cattle pond utilized by several species of anurans; humidity was high and the temperature was ca. 26°C. On the following day, we observed the wiping behavior at mid-day (1100 h) while the metamorph was perched on a branch. Mid-day temperatures during this behavior were ca. 37.7°C. The specimen is deposited at KUNHM BRC (KU 290892).

The behavior was consistent with the description by Blaylock (1976. *Copeia* 1976:283–295) and began with the frog rubbing its dorsum and pelvic region with the hind limbs. Secretions appeared to be concentrated on the dorsum of the pelvic region, where lipid glands presumably are present in metamorphs as well as adults (Fig. 1). The right foot was raised and pronated to grasp and wipe the right flank and left leg; subsequently the dorsum was wiped posteriorly-anteriorly. Once the parotoid gland was reached, the metamorph proceeded to wipe its shoulder, elbow, and forearm. While the forearm was being wiped, the dorsal surface of the femur was also reached and covered with secretions. This motion was repeated on the left side with the left foot. A more intricate, scissors-like pattern of wiping the femurs was employed, with both feet wiping simultaneously, the right foot wiping the left and visa versa. After wiping the back, the juvenile used its hands to smear the head and chest with secretions (Fig. 2). Wiping the head began by pronating the hand and grasping the parotoid region, with Digit I (i.e., thumb) directed ventrally and Digits II-IV directed dorsomedially over the parotoid gland. Wiping of the body with

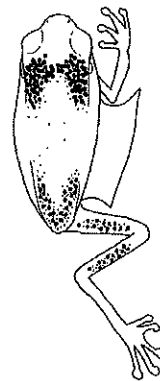


FIG. 1. Regularly arranged dorsal glands of *Phyllomedusa hypochondrialis azurea*.