

moved into a refuge under a large boulder along the edge of the mountain where it was no longer visible. The habitat occupied by *C. saxatilis* consists predominantly of a mosaic of boulder jumbles that may prevent the access of many of the typical terrestrial frog predators (i.e., snakes). Thus, apart from avian predators much of this habitat may represent a safe harbor and where the possibility of predation is restricted to the habitat edges.

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CROSSODACTYLUS CARAMASCHII (NCN). **MORTALITY.**

Crossodactylus caramaschii is a diurnal, stream dwelling anuran found at the Serra de Paranapiacaba, state of São Paulo, south-eastern Brazil (Bastos and Pombal 1995. Copeia 1995:436–439). The species calls from emergent rocks in forest streams, where their eggs are laid and the tadpoles develop. During Sept 2003 in the municipality of Apiaí (24°33'45"S, 48°48'45"W; 925 m elev.) in the Atlantic Forest of the state of São Paulo, Brazil, five dead or moribund *C. caramaschii* were collected. These frogs were found recently, dead on the rocks of the stream (N = 2) or were heard calling and died shortly after collection (N = 3). This situation is similar to the pattern reported from localities where local extinctions have been associated with infection by the chytrid fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, which causes chytridiomycosis (Berger et al. 1998. Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA 95:9031–9036). Clinical signs of amphibian chytridiomycosis include abnormal posture, lethargy, and loss of righting reflex (Daszak et al. 1998. Emerg. Infect. Dis. 5[6]:735–748). The first record of *B. dendrobatidis* in Brazil was reported from Serra da Mantiqueira in *Hylodes magalhaesi* (Leptodactylidae), a diurnal, stream dwelling frog closely related to *Crossodactylus* (Carnaval et al. 2005. Froglog 70:3). Although the dead or moribund *C. caramaschii* collected were not tested for the presence of *B. dendrobatidis*, the pattern of death observed suggests infection by this fungus. Therefore, *B. dendrobatidis* might be more widespread in Brazil than reported.

Identification of these frogs was verified by Vanessa K. Verdade, and four were catalogued at the Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZUSP 133906–133909).

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DENDROPHRYNISCUS MINUTUS (Amazonian Tiny Tree Toad). **PREDATION.**

On 3 Feb 2005 between 1300 and 1330 h, I observed predation involving a toad, a spider, and a group of ants in the forest litter next to a stream in the Reserva Florestal Adolpho Ducke (02°55'N, 59°59'W), Central Amazon, Amazonas, Brazil. While taking photos of an adult *Dendrophryniscus minutus* (SVL 15.8 mm) on the forest litter, it jumped about 30 cm and when it landed it was immediately attacked by a spider (*Ancylometes rufus*; 9.0 mm cephalothorax and abdomen length). The spider bit it on the dorsal region, and quickly moved away.

The toad stayed motionless during the attack; it tried to move afterward but fell with its ventral region up, stretching and slowly contracting its hind and front legs. The spider came back shortly and grasped one of the toad's hind legs. After about two minutes an adult ant (*Megalomyrmex cf. balzani*; 8.2 mm) attacked the spider and tried to pull the toad away by one of the front legs. In less than two minutes five more adult ants of the same species attacked the spider which then abandoned the toad. The ants touched the toad for a few seconds but rejected it and followed in the spider's direction. The ants found, attacked, and immobilized the spider quickly. The toad, free of predators, but under the toxin's effect, tried to jump but was disoriented and still partially paralyzed.

The small diurnal bufonid *D. minutus* is an inhabitant of primary forest associated with leaf litter (Rodriguez and Duellman 1994. Publ. Nat. Hist. Mus., Univ. Kansas, 80 pp.). *Ancylometes rufus* is a terrestrial pisaurid spider that lives in the tropical forests of South America. They are most abundant next to streams and natural ponds and often feed on frogs (Menin et al. 2005. Phyllomedusa 4:39–47), tadpoles, and small fishes (Höfer and Brescovit 2000. Insect Syst. Evol. 31:323–360). Predation of toads by ants has been reported (Thomas and Allen 1997. Herpetol. Rev. 28:40–41; Zuffi 2001. Herpetol. Rev. 32:100–101; Fritz et al. 1981. Biotropica 13:158–159). Predation of adult *D. minutus* by adult *A. rufus* has been reported (Menin et al., *op. cit.*). Predation on amphibians by *A. rufus* can be common due to the abundance of this species in Amazonian forests and the large diversity of frogs in the different microhabitats occupied by this spider.

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ELEUTHERODACTYLUS DIASTEMA (Common Tink Frog). **REPRODUCTION.**

The genus *Eleutherodactylus* comprises a large number of poorly known tropical frogs that demonstrate direct development of terrestrial eggs and often exhibit parental care. Reproduction has been described for very few *Eleutherodactylus*, and for most species there are no data available on clutch size or parental care (Townsend 1996. In Powell and Henderson [eds.], Contributions to West Indian Herpetology, a Tribute to Albert Schwartz, pp. 229–239. SSAR Contrib. Herpetol. Vol. 12. Ithaca, New York). For those species for which information is available, data are often derived from one or two observations, and quite often these observations are contradictory (Townsend, *op. cit.*).

Eleutherodactylus diastema is a common frog of humid forests that ranges from Nicaragua to Panama and belongs to the subgenus *Eleutherodactylus* and the *martinicensis* series (Savage 2002. The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica. Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois, 934 pp.). Dunn (1937. Copeia 1937:163–167) described one clutch of *E. diastema* from "Tablazo," Costa Rica and suggested male parental care. Ovaska and Rand (2001. J. Herpetol. 35:44–50) reported observations of five clutches from Barro Colorado Island, Panama, and suggested the species does