

## New state record of *Mesoclemmys perplexa* Bour and Zaher, 2005 (Reptilia: Chelidae) in Brazil

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Little is still known on the turtles of the family Chelidae, and undescribed species are currently found (Bour and Zaher, 2005). According to Bour and Zaher (2005), recent field works conducted in northeastern Brazil have revealed a previously unknown population

of turtles (Chelidae) described as belonging to a new species assigned to the genus *Mesoclemmys* on the base of morphological characters which allow to distinguish the new species from the genera *Batrachemys*, *Ranacephala* and *Bufocephala* (McCord et al., 2001).

This study provides the first record of occurrence of *Mesoclemmys perplexa* Bour and Zaher, 2005 (Fig. 1), in the state of Goiás. We recorded three individuals of *M. perplexa* in the Ecological Station of Nova Roma – ESEC-NR (13°53'25.7" S, 47°02'43.9" W), in the municipality of Nova Roma, northeast Goiás. This record extend the know distribution of this species of 620 km southwestward (see Bour and Zaher, 2005) (Fig. 2). The specimens found have a moderately enlarged head with a narrow parietal crest. The individuals were found during the day.

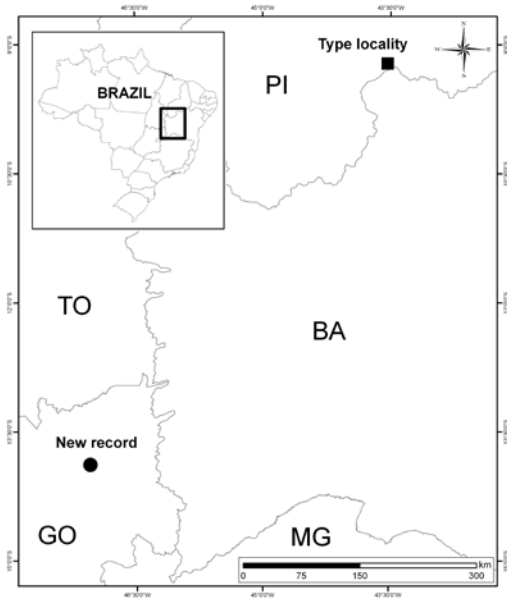
The Ecological Station of Nova Roma has a great biodiversity distributed in a mosaic of different vegetation types. Some fragments of the study area are

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**Figure 1.** *Mesoclemmys perplexa* recorded in the Ecological Station of Nova Roma - ESEC-NR, located from the municipality of Nova Roma, northeast Goiás.



**Figure 2.** Geographic distribution of *Mesoclemmys perplexa*. Black square represent the type locality. Black circle represent the new record. Abbreviations correspond to the states names: BA (Bahia), MG (Minas Gerais), GO (Goiás), TO (Tocantins) and PI (Piauí).

affected by anthropogenic habitat alteration, but most of its area, encompassed within the biome Cerrado, presents an excellent natural environments.

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