

# Predation on *Sibynomorphus neuwiedi* (Serpentes: Dipsadidae) by *Leptodactylus labyrinthicus* (Anura: Leptodactylidae) in southeastern Brazil

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The vast majority of anurans, especially middle-sized and small species, feed on arthropods and other invertebrates. However, large species can feed on bigger prey items allowing a broader diet that can include small vertebrates (Duellman and Trueb, 1994). Snakes are among the main predators of frogs (Duellman and Trueb 1994; Mattison 2011). Nevertheless the predation of snakes by large frogs is not uncommon (Branch, 1976; Silva, Costa and Feio, 2007; Camargo Filho, et al. 2008).

*Leptodactylus labyrinthicus* (Spix, 1924) is a large frog from the *L. pentadactylus* group (sensu Heyer, 1979; 2005). The species is widely distributed in open areas, forest enclaves and semi-deciduous forests of eastern South America. It occurs in central and southeastern Brazil, Bolivia, northern Argentina (region of Misiones) and eastern Paraguay (Frost, 2012). The diet of *L. labyrinthicus* includes the amphibians *Eupemphix nattereri*, *Hypsiboas albopunctatus*, *Hypsiboas faber* and *Rhinella granulosa*; the amphisbaenian *Amphisbaena vermicularis*; the lizard *Ameiva ameiva*; the snakes *Trilepida koppesi* and *Typhlops brongersmianus*, and a small rodent species of the Family Muridae (Cardoso and Sazima, 1977, Vaz-Silva, Silva and Silva Jr., 2003; Toledo, Ribeiro and Haddad, 2007).

We present here the first report of predation of *Sibynomorphus neuwiedi* (Serpentes: Dipsadidae)

by the pepper-frog *Leptodactylus labyrinthicus*. A female specimen of frog was found in a small pond on the edge of a small forest patch of Lajinha municipal park, Juiz de Fora municipality, Minas Gerais state, Brazil (21°47'26"S 43°22'56"W), at around 20:00 h on December 26th, 2011. The specimen was captured, placed in a plastic bag and carried to the Herpetological Laboratory of the Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora (UFJF). During transportation, the frog regurgitated a snake, identified as *Sibynomorphus neuwiedi*. Both specimens have been incorporated in the herpetological collection Coleção Herpetológica/Anfíbios da Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora, in a container under the voucher number CAUFJF 1163.

This report is another evidence of the generalist behavior of the frog *Leptodactylus labyrinthicus* that probably swallows every moving prey within its range.

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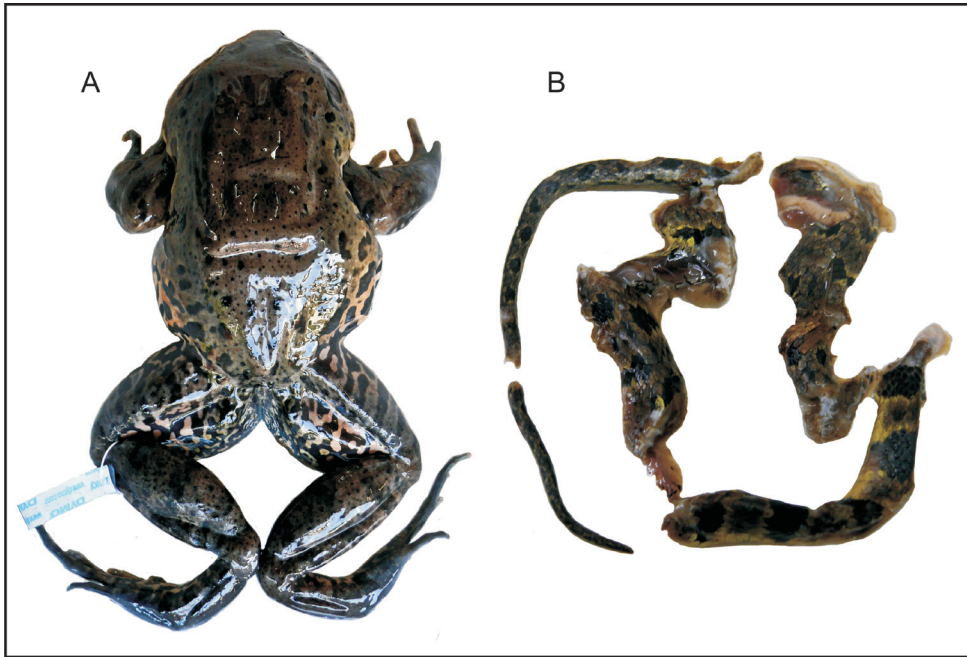
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**Figure 1.** A) *Leptodactylus labyrinthicus* specimen collected at Parque Municipal da Lajinha. B) *Sibynomorphus newwiedi* regurgitated by the pepper frog (CAUFJF 1163). Animals are not in the same scale.

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