



SHORT COMMUNICATION

Noblella lynchi Duellman 1991 (Anura: Craugastoridae): Geographic range extension, Peru

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Abstract.—Reported is a significant range extension of the Leaf Litter Frog, *Noblella lynchi*, an endemic species to the Cordillera Central in northern Peru. The new record is in the Huiquilla Private Conservation Area.

Key words. Leaf Litter Frog, Huiquilla Private Conservation Area, Cordillera Central, Abra Chanchillo, district of Longuita, province of Luya, department of Amazonas, montane cloud forest

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Noblella lynchi (Duellman 1991) is a leaf litter frog categorized as Data Deficient (DD) in the IUCN Red List, because little is known about the extent of its occurrence and ecological requirements (Amphibian Specialist Group 2013). The holotype of *Noblella lynchi* (KU 212318, female, SVL 20.2 mm) and the paratype (KU 212319, subadult female, SVL 16.2 mm) were collected on the slopes of Abra Chanchillo (06°49' S, 77°54' W, elevation 2,870 m asl), 42 km (by road) ENE of Balsas, province of Chachapoyas, department of Amazonas, Peru, obtained on 22 January 1989 by John J. Wiens (Duellman 1991).

During the course of fieldwork in the project “Estado de Conservación de anuros que habitan la Cuenca del Río Tingo en el Departamento de Amazonas” (Directorial Resolution N°033-2006-INRENA-IFFS-DCB), three specimens of *Noblella lynchi* were collected in a montane forest (06°23'10" S; 77°59'10.7" W, 2,700 m asl) in the Huiquilla Private Conservation Area (ACP Huiquilla), located in the district of Longuita, province of Luya, department of Amazonas by Daniel Rodríguez on 17 June 2006 (Fig. 1). The collected specimens were the following: MUSM 24885 is a male, SVL 15.3 mm; MUSM 24886 is a juvenile, SVL 7.8 mm, and MUSM 26448 is a female, SVL 19.5 mm) (Fig. 2).

The holotype and paratype of *Noblella lynchi* (KU 212318–19) were found at 2,870 m asl. Both specimens were under stones, during the day in cutover cloud forest. The type locality is along the road between Balsas and Leimebamba (Duellman 1991). The new specimens (MUSM 24885–86, 26448) were found at 2,700 m asl in leaf litter during the night in montane forest of high and low canopy (Young and León 1999). These specimens represent a northward extension of 49.1 kilometers and the first record for the province of Luya.

Currently, the species has some degree of protection, because it occurs in the ACP Huiquilla, which is an important fragment of the montane cloud forest in the northern part of the Cordillera Central.

Abbreviations: KU = Biodiversity Institute, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, USA; MUSM = Museo de Historia Natural, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Peru; SVL = snout-vent length; m = meters; asl = above sea level.

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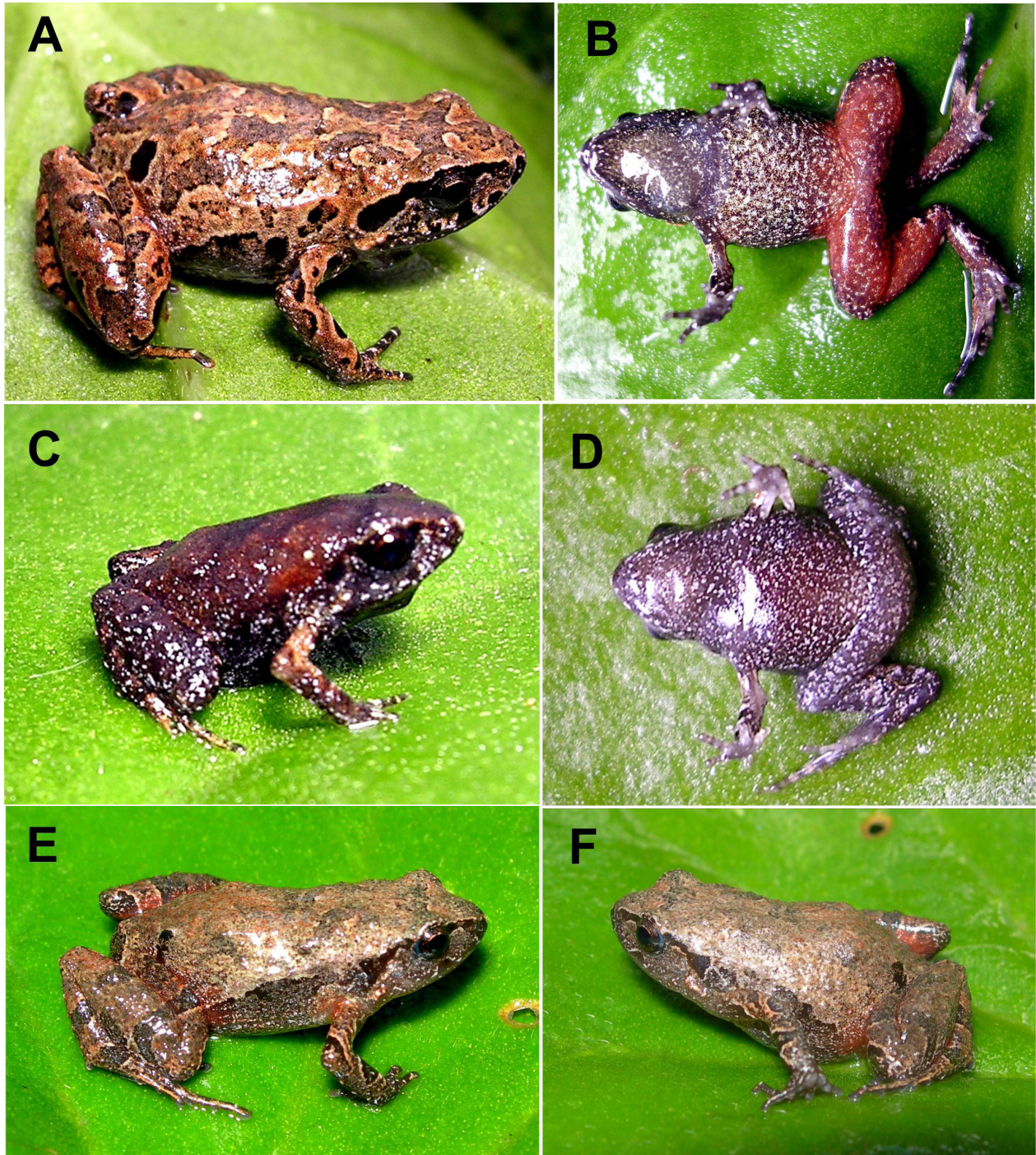


Fig. 1. *Noblella lynchi* (A and B: male, MUSM 28216, SVL 24.8 mm; C and D: young, MUSM 24886, SVL 7.8 mm; E and F: female, MUSM 26448, SVL 19.5 mm). Photos by D. Rodríguez.

Range extension of *Noblella lynchi*

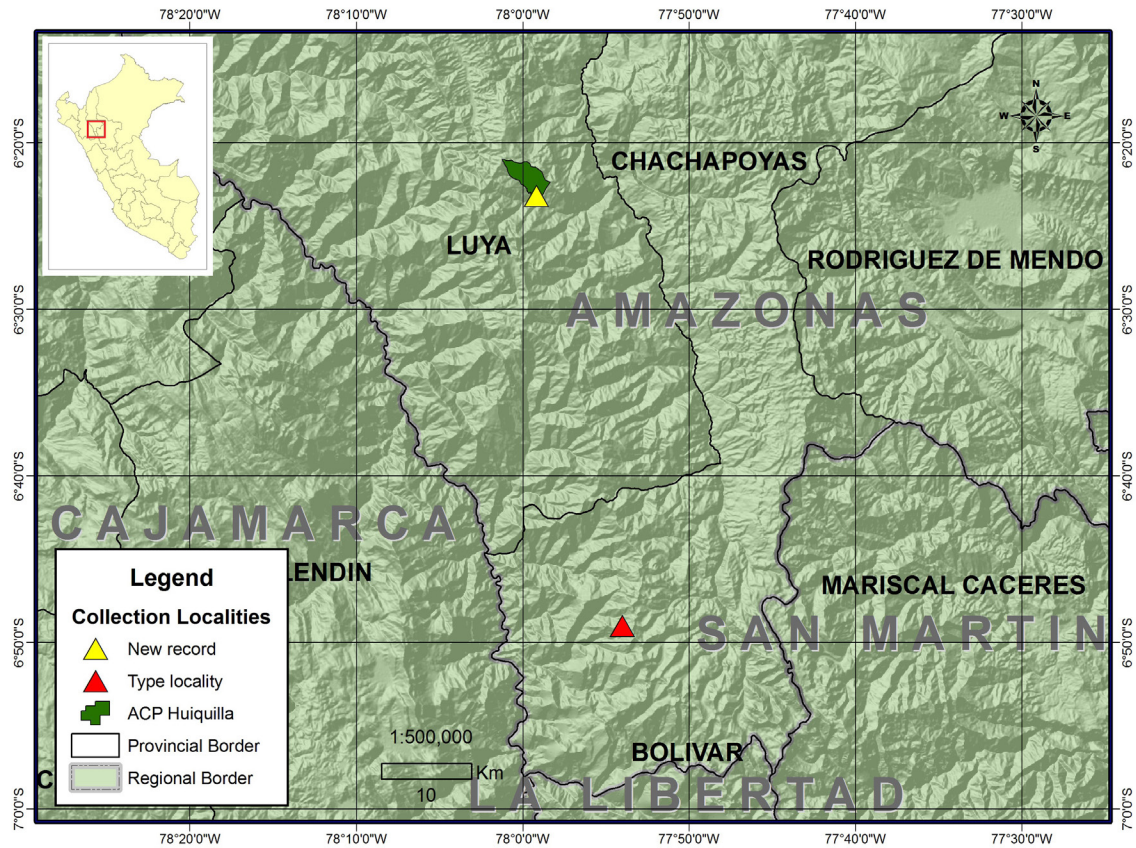


Fig. 2. Map showing distribution of *Noblella lynchi* in the Cordillera Central in northern Peru.



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