

A new dendrobatid frog (Anura: Dendrobatidae: *Colostethus*) from Aprada tepui, southern Venezuela

CÉSAR L. BARRIO-AMORÓS

Fundación AndígenA., Apartado postal 210, 5101-A Mérida, Venezuela;
E-mail: cesarlba@yahoo.com; atelopus@andigena.org

Abstract

A new species of *Colostethus* is described from Venezuelan Guayana. It inhabits the slopes of Aprada tepui, a sandstone table mountain in southern Venezuela. The new species is distinguished from close relatives by its particular pattern, absence of fringes on fingers, presence of a lingual process, and yellow and orange ventral coloration. It is the 18th described species of *Colostethus* from Venezuelan Guayana.

Key words: Amphibia, Dendrobatidae, *Colostethus breweri* sp. nov., Venezuelan Guayana

Introduction

In recent years, knowledge of the dendrobatid fauna of the Venezuelan Guayana has increased remarkably. While La Marca (1992) referred four species, Barrio-Amorós *et al.* (2004) reported 17 species; one more species will appear soon (Barrio-Amorós & Brewer-Carías *in press*). The discovery of new species has coincided with progressive exploration of the Guiana Shield, one of the most inaccessible and unknown areas in the world. Barrio-Amorós *et al.* (2004) reviewed the taxonomic history of *Colostethus* from Venezuelan Guayana. Here, I provide the description of an additional new species from Aprada tepui, situated west of Chimantá massif and Apacara river. This species was collected by Charles Brewer-Carías and colleagues, during ongoing exploration of Venezuelan Guayana. The only known amphibian from the Aprada tepui is *Stefania satelles*, from 2500 m (Señaris *et al.* 1996). A species of *Eleutherodactylus* (Leptodactylidae) from the same tepui was mentioned by Gorzula and Señaris (1998) and another *Eleutherodactylus* species was collected together with the series of the new species of *Colostethus*, which will be the subject of future studies.