



## New frog (Brachycephalidae: *Eleutherodactylus*) from the Western Flank of the Cordillera Oriental of Colombia

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### Abstract

A new *Eleutherodactylus* species is described from the western flanks of the Cordillera Oriental in the Departamento de Santander. It is a member of the *Eleutherodactylus conspicillatus* phenetic group. It appears to be most closely related to *E. carranguerorum*.

**Key words:** Anura, Cordillera Oriental, *Eleutherodactylus*, *E. conspicillatus* group, new species

### Resumen

Se describe una nueva especie de *Eleutherodactylus* de los flancos occidentales de la Cordillera Oriental en el Departamento de Santander. Esta especie pertenece al grupo fenético *Eleutherodactylus conspicillatus*. La especie parece tener parentesco con *E. carranguerorum*.

### Introduction

Field work carried out by Professor John D. Lynch on the northern part of the Cordillera Oriental between 1986 and 1991 revealed that various *Eleutherodactylus* species occurred there (Lynch, 1994; Lynch 1996). Although the Cordillera Oriental of Colombia is the least species-rich of the three Cordilleras in Colombia in terms of the frogs of the genus *Eleutherodactylus* (Lynch *et al.* 1997), new material collected by persons from the Universidad Industrial de Santander in the last few years (Arroyo *et al.* 2003; Gutiérrez-Lamus *et al.* 2004; Suarez & Ramirez-Pinilla, 2004; Cortés-Gómez & Tovar, 2005) gives us evidence that this Cordillera harbours more *Eleutherodactylus* species than previously recognized (Lynch, 1994).

From March 1999 to February 2002 field work was done at the Estación Experimental El Rasgón in the Municipality of Piedecuesta, Santander, Colombia (7° 3' N, 72° 57' W, 2400 m elevation). This field station is located on the western flank of the northern extent of the Cordillera Oriental of the Colombian Andes (Fig 1). The collections made in this area contain two new species of *Eleutherodactylus*. Subsequent collections made in the south-eastern portion of the Departamento de Santander at the Santuario de Fauna y Flora Guanenta (5° 57' N, 73° 04' W, 2400 m elevation) (Fig 1) have turned up more new species. One of these species is shared between the two reserves, and is named here.