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The tadpole of *Rhinella abei* (Baldișsera, Caramaschi, and Haddad, 2004)

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The *R. crucifer* group is composed by five species: *R. crucifer* (Wied-Neuwied), *R. ornata* (Spix), *R. henseli* (A. Lutz), *R. pombali* and *R. abei* (Baldișsera, Caramaschi & Haddad). In Brazil, these species are distributed in coastal areas, being found in ponds and streams inside forests or in open areas (Heyer *et al.* 1990; Baldișsera *et al.* 2004). *Rhinella abei* was described by Baldișsera, Caramaschi & Haddad in 2004 to allocate the populations of *R. crucifer* from east of Paraná, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul States. Herein, we describe *R. abei* tadpoles, collected in a swamp area, next to Praia dos Naufragados (27°49'51.78"S, 48°33'40.25"W; 11 m a. s. l.) Florianópolis, state of Santa Catarina Brazil, in the beginning of September 2010.

Tadpoles were killed in 5% lidocaine solution, then prepared and preserved in 10% formalin and housed at the tadpole collection of the Herpetological Collection of the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), in Belo Horizonte, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

External morphology descriptions, and measurements were based on 14 tadpoles in the stage 35 (Lot UFMG 1090a). Terminology and measurements follow Altig & McDiarmid (1999), complemented by Lourenço *et al.* (2010): TL (total length), BL (body length), TAL (tail length), IOD (interorbital distance), and IND (internarial distance), BH (body height), BW (body width), ED (eye diameter), ESD (eye-snout distance), END (eye-nostril distance), NSD (nostril-snout distance), ND (narial diameter), SED (snout-spiracle distance), ODW (oral disc width), DFH (dorsal fin height) and VFH (ventral fin height). All measurements were based on photographs and performed using the software ImageTool (alpha 3) to the nearest 0.1 mm. Oral morphology was described under a Zeiss stereomicroscope. Indexes of measurements are expressed as ranges (min–max).

Description. Body depressed (BW/BH = 1.17–1.38), globular in lateral and dorsal views (Fig. 1-A and B, respectively); body length longer than one third of total length (BL/TL = 0.38–0.42); body width almost two thirds of body length (BW/BL = 0.63–0.68); snout rounded in dorsal view and nearly rounded in lateral view. Eyes small (ED/BW = 0.18–0.21), dorsally positioned and dorsolaterally directed, located in the anterior third of the body (ESD/BL = 0.28–0.33); inter-orbital distance longer than one third of body width (IOD/BW = 0.43–0.47). Small oval nostrils (ND/BW = 0.05–0.09), dorsally located and laterally oriented, closer to the eye than to the snout (NSD/END = 1.03–1.24). Spiracle sinistral, lateral, posterodorsally oriented, located in the distal third of the body (SSD/BL = 0.65–0.76); spiracle inner wall present as a slight ridge and longer than external wall. Vent tube medial, well developed, with both walls attached directly to ventral fin, posteriorly directed. Tail large (TAL/TL = 0.58–0.62), with both fins of the same size of body height (TAH/BH = 0.92–1.04); slender musculature, not reaching the rounded tail tip; dorsal fin emerging on the end of the posterior third of the body at a low slope, as high as the ventral fin (VFH/DFH = 0.95–1.09). Oral disc medium-sized (ODW/BW = 0.41–0.49), ventral, laterally emarginated, with wide anterior and posterior gaps, surrounded by a uniseriate row of marginal papillae; few aligned submarginal papillae, on the lateroventral and laterodorsal oral disc portions; upper jaw sheath narrow “arc” shaped; lower jaw sheath open “V”-shaped, both very finely serrated; labial tooth row formula 2(2)/3; tooth rows A1 and A2 of the same size, P1 and P2 tooth rows slightly longer than P3 (Fig. 1-D).

Measurements (14 individuals; stage 35): TL 26.23 ± 1.33 (23.90–28.28), BL 10.47 ± 0.37 (9.79–11.03), BW 6.79 ± 0.28 (6.26–7.23), BH 5.41 ± 0.38 (4.84–5.99), TAL 15.76 ± 1.08 (13.96–17.56), TAH 5.30 ± 0.26 (4.96–5.81), DFH 1.99 ± 0.09 (1.86–2.15), VFH 2.02 ± 0.13 (1.79–2.25), IND 1.60 ± 0.07 (1.51–1.77), IOD 3.10 ± 0.11 (2.92–3.28), ED 1.32 ± 0.09 (1.17–1.47), ND 0.50 ± 0.07 (0.32–0.60), END 1.53 ± 0.07 (1.39–1.64), NSD 1.70 ± 0.13 (1.43–1.89), SSD 7.52 ± 0.31 (7.01–8.01), ODW 2.97 ± 0.15 (2.76–3.27), ESD 3.22 ± 0.20 (2.81–3.51).