



## The tadpole of *Bokermannohyla ibitipoca* (Caramaschi & Feio, 1990) (Anura, Hylidae)

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*Bokermannohyla ibitipoca*, a member of *B. circumdata* group (Faivovich *et al.* 2005), is a small-sized hylid frog (males reaching 43 mm in snout-vent length) restricted to the Atlantic Forest Biome, found mainly along creeks in small gallery forests, usually in holes formed by tree roots (Caramaschi & Feio 1990). Faivovich *et al.* (2005) diagnosed the genus *Bokermannohyla* based on molecular data without morphological synapomorphies that support the monophyly of this clade. Despite the relevance of tadpoles characters for the establishment of phylogenetic relationships among different anuran taxa (Haas 2003), no information about *B. ibitipoca* larva is known so far.

We analyzed a lot of tadpoles collected from June 1997 to June 2000 at Parque Estadual do Ibitipoca (21°42'48"S 43°53'54"W) municipality of Lima Duarte, Minas Gerais State, Brazil. The Park is located near the village of Conceição do Ibitipoca, Southern Minas Gerais State, with altitudes ranging from 1.050 to 1.784 m above sea level and vegetation composed by altimontane fields, rupicolous grasslands, natural forest fragments and a mountain forest (Cruz *et al.* 2009). We collected tadpoles with hand nets in a streamlet inside a gallery forest. We anesthetized tadpoles in 10% ethanol and preserved them in 10% formalin. Some tadpoles were reared to metamorphosis to confirm species identity. We took morphometric measurements from twenty five tadpoles at stages 35 to 39 (Gosner 1960), and described them using the terminology and measurements from Altig and McDiarmid (1999). Variables used are listed in Table 1. All measurements shown are in millimeters and were taken using a digital caliper (0.1 mm precision). The tadpole used for the description at stage 35 and the remaining lot were deposited at Coleção de Anfíbios da Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora under the voucher number CAUFJF (1189) and CAUFJF (1107) respectively.

**Tadpole description:** Body oval, elongated in dorsal and ventral views and elliptic in lateral view (Fig. 1A, B and C). Snout slightly truncated in lateral view and rounded in dorsal and ventral views. Eyes big and positioned dorsolaterally on the anterior third of body. Nares small, elliptic and dorsally located closer to eyes than to snout, with a rounded projection in the medial marginal rim. A single sinistral spiracle is located on the middle third of the body, with inner wall fused to it. Cloacal tube short, dextral, and fused to the fin. Oral disc ventral, detached from body with two folds on posterior labium; row of marginal papillae in two series with a narrow gap on the anterior labium; marginal papillae long and conical, with posterior labium marginal papillae larger than anterior labium papillae. Submarginal papillae absent, although a minor portion of the lot present few amounts laterally in the oral disc. Labial tooth row formula (LTRF): 2(2)/4(1) (Fig. 1D); A-1 and A-2 with the same length, P-4 weak, fragmented, and slightly shorter than P-1, P-2 and P-3, which are similar. Jaw sheaths narrow, with triangular serration; upper jaw sheath shaped as an arc, and lower jaw sheath “U” shaped. Dorsal fin low, emerging at body-tail junction; ventral fin low and parallel to the longitudinal tail axis; dorsal and ventral fin maximum heights are similar. Caudal musculature moderately developed and tapers gradually to the posterior region of the tail. Lateral line system visible between nostrils and eyes, behind the posterior edges of eyes and along the lateral region of body and tail muscle.

**Coloration:** In formalin 10%, body ranges from dark to a light brown color with big scattered black spots along the dorsal and lateral region. Tail muscle follows the same color pattern of the body. Viscera are partially visible. Fins are transparent with some brown pigmentation on the dorsal fin edge. Spiracle edge with no pigmentation.

**Notes on natural history:** *Bokermannohyla ibitipoca* adults spawn a gelatinous mass in shallow waters, usually in tree holes on streamlet margins (Fig. 1E). We observed that tadpoles remain close to spawning sites until fully developed,