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NEW *OSORNOPHRYNE* (AMPHIBIA: ANURA: BUFONIDAE) FROM THE ATLANTIC VERSANT OF THE ANDES IN ECUADOR

by

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Hoogmoed, M.S.: New *Osornophryne* (Amphibia: Anura: Bufonidae) from the Atlantic versant of the Andes in Ecuador.

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Key words: Anura, Bufonidae; *Osornophryne*; new species; breeding habits; internal fertilization; Neotropics, Andes; Ecuador.

Two species of the little known genus *Osornophryne* are described from the Atlantic (Amazonian) versant of the Andes in Ecuador. *O. guacamayo* spec. nov. occurs at 2100 m, has well developed cranial ridges, rather peculiar feet with toes IV and V of about equal length and much longer than the others. It is rather gaudily patterned with black and yellow. *O. antisana* spec. nov. occurs at 3600 m and has a pointed snout, indistinct cranial ridges and is rather drably coloured. The single available adult male has a cloacal tube that runs down the back of the thighs and opens ventrally. It is speculated that this peculiar structure is indicative of internal fertilization. It is concluded that inguinal amplexus in this genus is not a primitive, but an advanced character. A key to the known species is presented.

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RESUMEN

Se describe dos nuevas especies de *Osornophryne*, basándose en material recojido en Antisana por un grupo de PUCE, y en el Cordillera de Guacamayos, un extensión oriental del Andes, por un investigador suizo. *O. antisana* spec. nov. esta caracterizada por su piel lisa, su hocico apuntado, sus manos y pies compactos con membranas interdigitales bien desarrolladas, las dimensiones de la cabeza y de las patas traseras, y sobre todo, para la presencia en el holotipo macho de un tubo cloacal con apertura ventral. Se disputa las consecuencias posibles para la reproducción de este especie, se propone que la fecundación puede ser interna, y que la especie puede ser ovovivipara o vivipara. Faltan hembras fecundas para controlar estas especulaciones. *O. guacamayo* spec. nov. se caracteriza por su cabeza grande con bollos óseos en el parte posterior, por su pie con dedos IV y V distintos y mas largos que los otros y por su coloración negro y amarillo. Se presenta una clave para el genero *Osornophryne* y se discute la afinidad de las especies conocidas. Se concluye que el amplexus pélvico no es un carácter primitivo, pero por el contrario es un carácter derivado.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Osornophryne* was erected by Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho in 1976 to accommodate *Atelopus bufoniformis* (Peracca) and the newly described *O. percrassa*, rather peculiar small toads from the high Andean valleys in southern Colombia and northern Ecuador, which differ from other bufonids a.o. by the absence of the hypobranchial I, by a reduced number of phalanges in fingers and toes, which are connected by extensive webbing thus forming plates, by a reduced number of vertebrae, by a massive firmisternal shoulder-girdle, by strongly dilated and flattened sacral diapophyses, by lateral crests along the coccyx, and by inguinal amplexus. Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976) provided a detailed and adequate account of the new genus, providing extensive data not only on external and internal morphology (including skeleton and muscles), but also on the behaviour of the two species. One of the most striking characters of *Osornophryne* is the reduction in number of presacral vertebrae, which, however, is variable: *O. percrassa* has six, including a separate atlas; *O. bufoniformis* has five, including an atlas-complex which arose by fusion of the atlas and the first trunk vertebra (Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho, 1976: 107). Cannatella (1986a: 203) studied more skeletal material of *O. bufoniformis* and found that in the majority of specimens studied (cleared and stained, and X-rayed) there was no fusion into an atlas-complex. Thus, apparently the normal situation in *Osornophryne* is six presacral vertebrae, including a separate atlas, with occasional specimens having five, including an atlas-complex. According to Cannatella's (1986a: 203) analysis, *Osornophryne* forms a natural group with *Frostius* Cannatella and *Atelopus* Duméril & Bibron. Within this group two alternative arrangements are possible, a choice between which would just be based on a judgement about the subjective value of two characters. Cannatella (1986b: 620) described a third species, *Osornophryne talipes*, the type specimens of which originally were considered identical with *O. bufoniformis*, but could be distinguished on the basis of its fleshy, pointed rostrum, smooth dorsal skin and the relative size of the legs and head.

During studies of toads of the so-called *Bufo 'typhonius'* group, a few specimens of *Osornophryne* were found, which had been collected during recent fieldwork by parties of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, and of the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle of Genève (MHNG). They proved to belong to two new species, one represented by a single male, the other by two females.

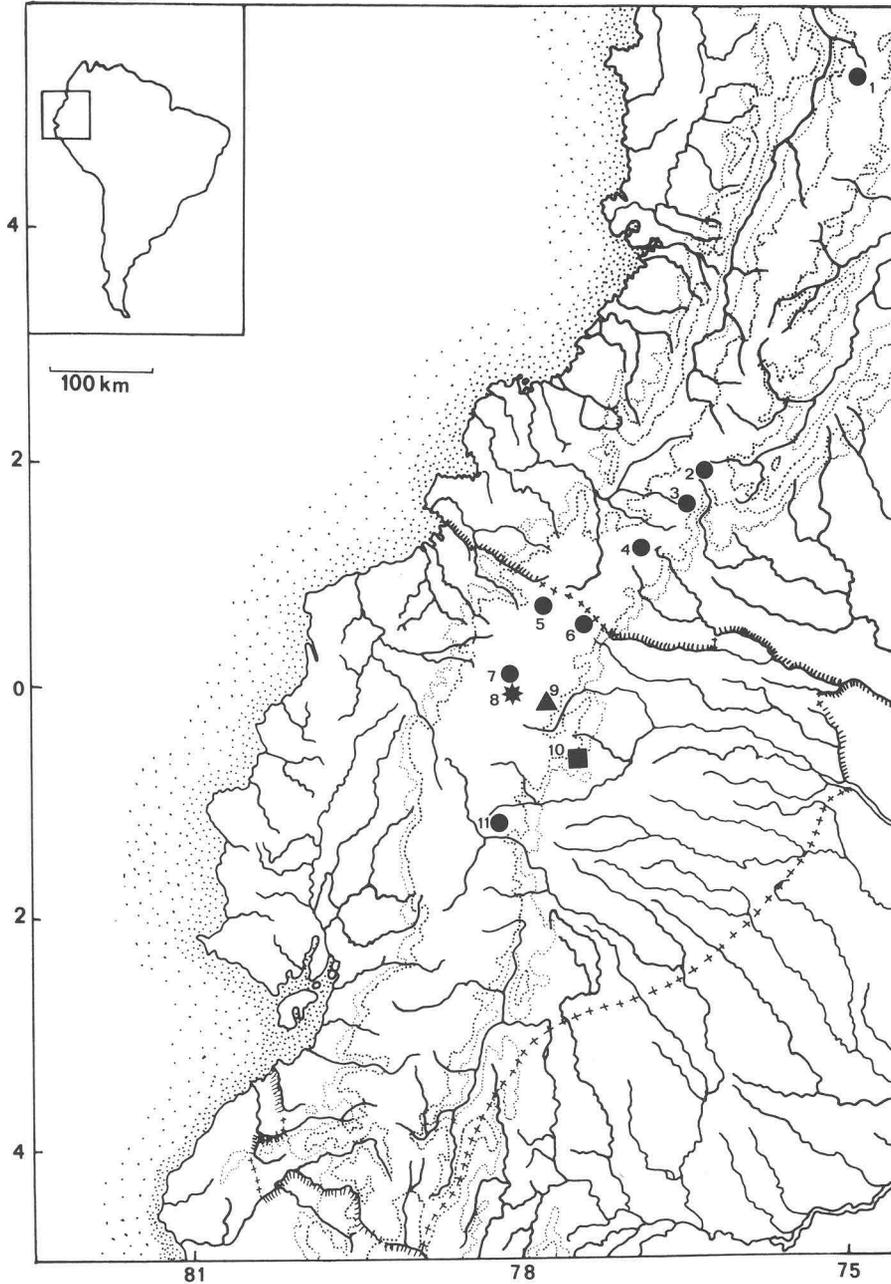


Fig. 1. Distribution of the genus *Osornophryne* in Colombia and Ecuador (adapted from Cannatella, 1986b: 621). Dots: *O. bufoniformis* (Peracca), star: *O. talipes* Cannatella, triangle: *O. antisana* spec. nov., square: *O. guacamayo* spec. nov. Numbers 1-8 correspond with those of Cannatella (1986b: 621), 9. Antisana, 10. Cordillera de Guacamayo, 11. Cerros Llanganati.

TAXONOMIC PART

***Osornophryne antisana* spec. nov.**

(figs. 1, 2, 4, 7, 10, 20)

Holotype. — ♂, MHNG 2278.49 (fieldno. 18772), "Rio Quijos, estribaciones surorientales del Antisana, Pichincha", [should be Napo Province], Ecuador, 3600 m (\pm 0°35'S 78°07'W), September 1984, leg. Mario García.

Diagnosis. — A small *Osornophryne* with a pointed snout; indistinct cranial ridges in posterior part of skull; upper eyelid slightly tubercular; small, narrow parotoids; ear absent. Limbs rather short and slender; fingers nearly completely connected by thick web, with only tips of fingers projecting from web; feet strongly webbed with all toes reduced and hardly recognisable, except fourth, which is well developed; footplate asymmetrically triangular. Dorsum with low smooth warts, some larger warts forming a dorsolateral row. Temporal area with rather large, low tubercles. Cloacal opening at the end of a tube which runs down the back of the thighs, ventrally even slightly curving anteriorly, opening ventrally. Back pale brown with dark brown lines along the larger warts. Belly and underside of limbs creamish with brown reticulum.

Description of holotype. — Adult male, snout-vent length 18.6 mm. Head slightly longer than wide, as wide as adjacent part of body; depth 60% of width; length 27% of snout-vent length. Width of head at corners of jaws distinctly less than width at "tympanum level" (88%) or at "supratympanic" level (91%). Eyelids not projecting from the head. Snout distinctly pointed in dorsal and lateral view. Upper lips from above with distinct angle at level of nostril. Tip of snout protracted into a conical protuberance, distinctly projecting beyond the upper jaw. Distance between nostril and tip of snout 125% of the distance between nostril and eye, which in turn equals half the diameter of the eye. Nostril situated closer to the eye than to the tip of the snout, well posterior of the anterior margin of the upper jaw, just below the canthus rostralis in a bulbous area. Nostrils round, directed laterally and dorsally. Distance between nostrils 81% of the interorbital distance. Internarial area slightly concave. Occipital area flat, with two glandular ridges converging posteriorly from the eyes at each side, not coming into contact. Interorbital area 1.5 times as wide as an upper eyelid, slightly convex. Upper eyelid wrinkled, with indistinct, flat warts. Canthus rostralis distinct, rounded, straight, converging anteriorly, not projecting over the loreal region, which is flat, sloping

steeply to the upper lips. Area between nostrils and tip of snout distinctly concave. Lips not flaring. Eyes with horizontally oval pupil. Lower eyelid translucent. Temporal region vertical, covered with flat warts. Ear absent. "Supratympanic" area rounded. In parotoid area a long and very narrow

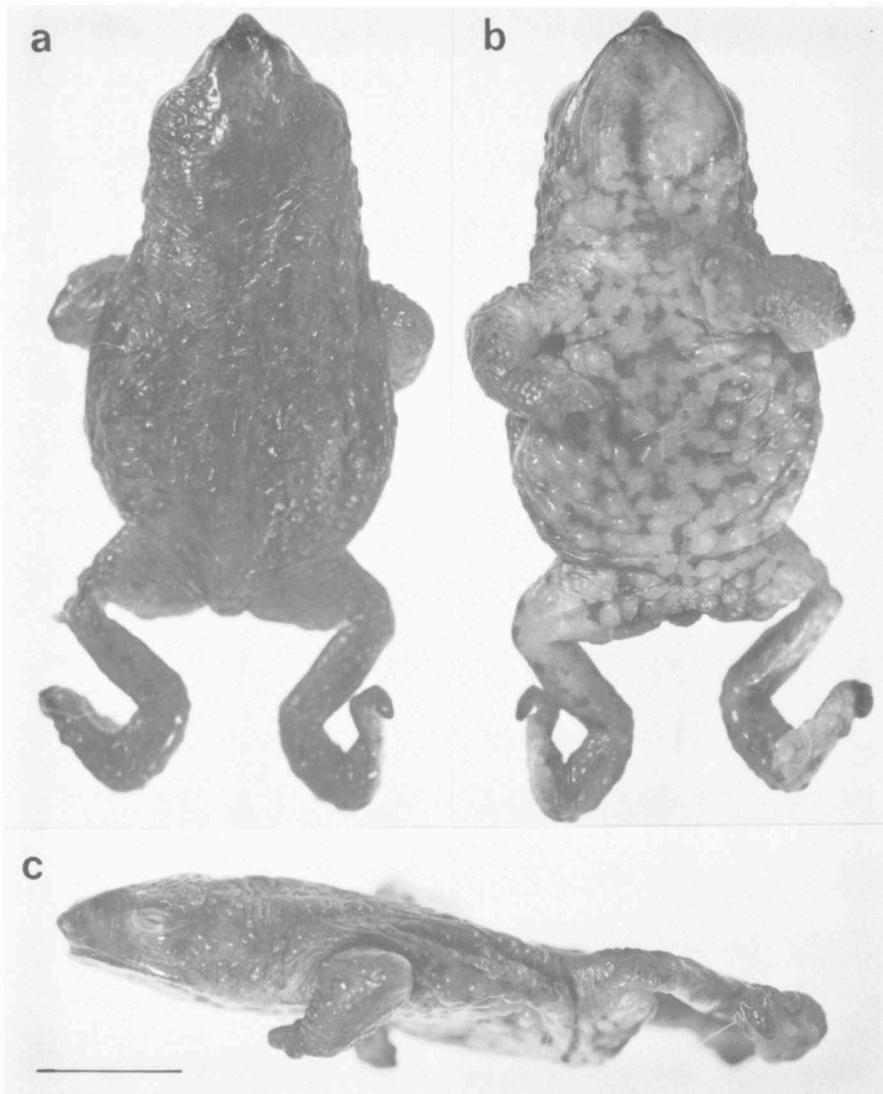


Fig. 2. Habitus of *Osornophryne antisana* spec. nov., holotype, ♂, MHNG 2278.49. a. dorsal, b. ventral, c. lateral aspect. The line equals 5 mm.

gland, posteriorly continued to the groin as an oblique row of low glands on the flanks (fig. 4).

Side of neck with low, rounded tubercles; flanks and, especially, the belly and underside of limbs coarsely tuberculate, with low, round tubercles; all tubercles with round pore. Throat and chest indistinctly coarsely areolate. Back smooth with wrinkles, round, low warts, and paravertebral rows of glands from shoulder to thighs (forming the extension of the converging glandular ridges on the occipital region) (fig. 2).

Cloacal opening directed ventrally at the end of a tube running from end of urostyle, over back of thighs and continuing anteriorly for a short distance on the ventral surface of the thighs (fig. 10).

Fingers connected by thick webbing, forming a plate with tubercular ventral

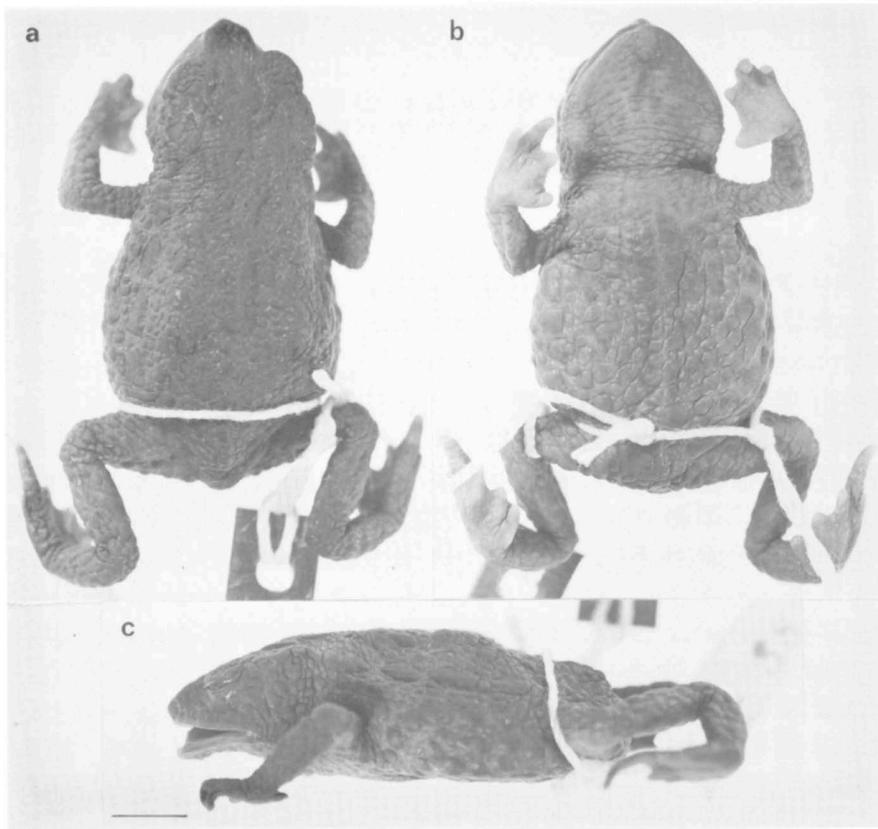


Fig. 3. Habitus of *Osornophryne bufoniformis* (Peracca), ♀, USNM 193540. a. dorsal, b. ventral, c. lateral aspect. The line equals 5 mm.

surface, from which only the tips of the toes protrude (fig. 7). Fingers distinguishable dorsally: first very wide with roughly circular nuptial pad on dorsal and medial surface second narrower, elongate, with entire dorsal surface covered by more widely spaced nuptial asperities. Tip of third toe with a few nuptial asperities. Webbing formula: I(0)-(0)II(0)-(1½)III(1½)-(0)IV. Fingers depressed, with rounded tips. Dorsal surface of fingers III and IV and of wrist with striking transverse grooves. Length of fingers: I < II < IV < III. Phalangeal formula: 1-2-3-2. Forearm thick.

Tarsus with a few low, scattered warts. Toes connected by thick webbing,

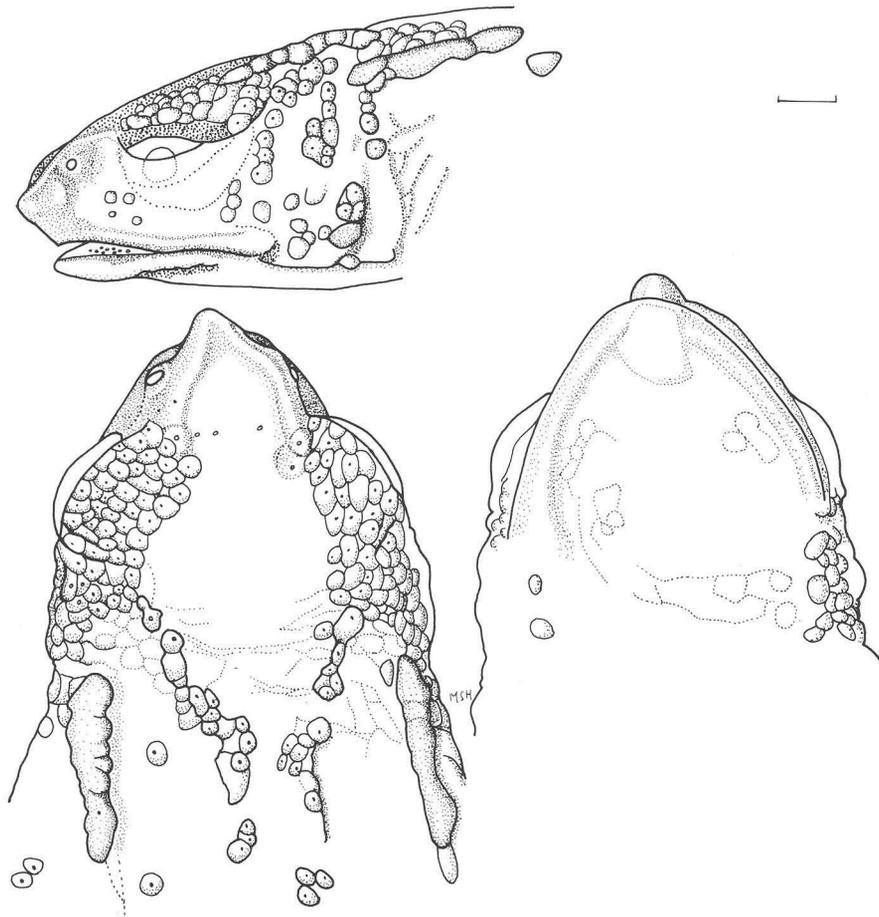


Fig. 4. Head of *Osornophryne antisana* spec. nov., holotype, ♂, MHNG 2278.49, in lateral, dorsal, and ventral view. The line equals 1 mm.

forming an asymmetrically triangular plate with deeply grooved tubercular ventral surface. Toes hardly distinguishable ventrally or dorsally; toes I, II and III very much reduced, but forming an area at the medial side of toe IV which is very well developed, wide and long, toe V hardly noticeable at lateral side of toe IV. Toes depressed with rounded tips. Webbing formula: I(0)-(0)II(0)-(0)III(0)-(2)IV(2)-(0)V. Dorsal surface of foot with transverse grooves. Length of toes: I < II < V < III < IV. Phalangeal formula: 1?-1?-2-4-1 (based on X-ray photographs which were difficult to interpret because of the flexed position of the toes).

When the hindlimbs are flexed at right angles to the sagittal plane, the heels

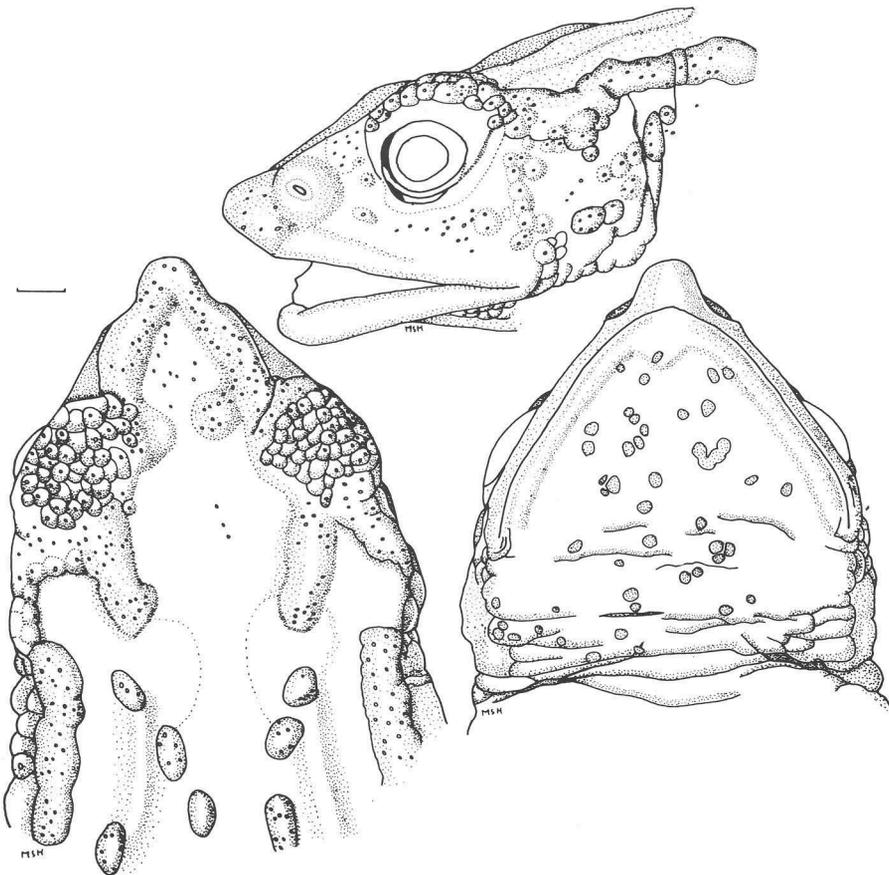


Fig. 5. Head of *Osornophryne talipes* Cannatella, paratype, ♂, KU 131798, in lateral, dorsal, and ventral view. The line equals 1 mm.

touch; when carried forward along the body the heel does not reach the axil. Tibia 25-26% of the snout-vent length.

Five presacral vertebrae, all of which bear rather short transverse processes, which distinctly differ in shape: those of vertebra 1 are straight rods, of equal width throughout, those of vertebra 2 are dilated, those of vertebra 3 are curved, rod-shaped (with the convexity directed posteriorly), those of vertebrae 4 and 5 are curved (convexity directed anteriorly) and bluntly pointed. The processes of vertebrae 1 and 5 are directed anteriorly, those of 3 and 4 posteriorly and those of 2 are transverse. Transverse width of the processes: $2 < 3 < 1$

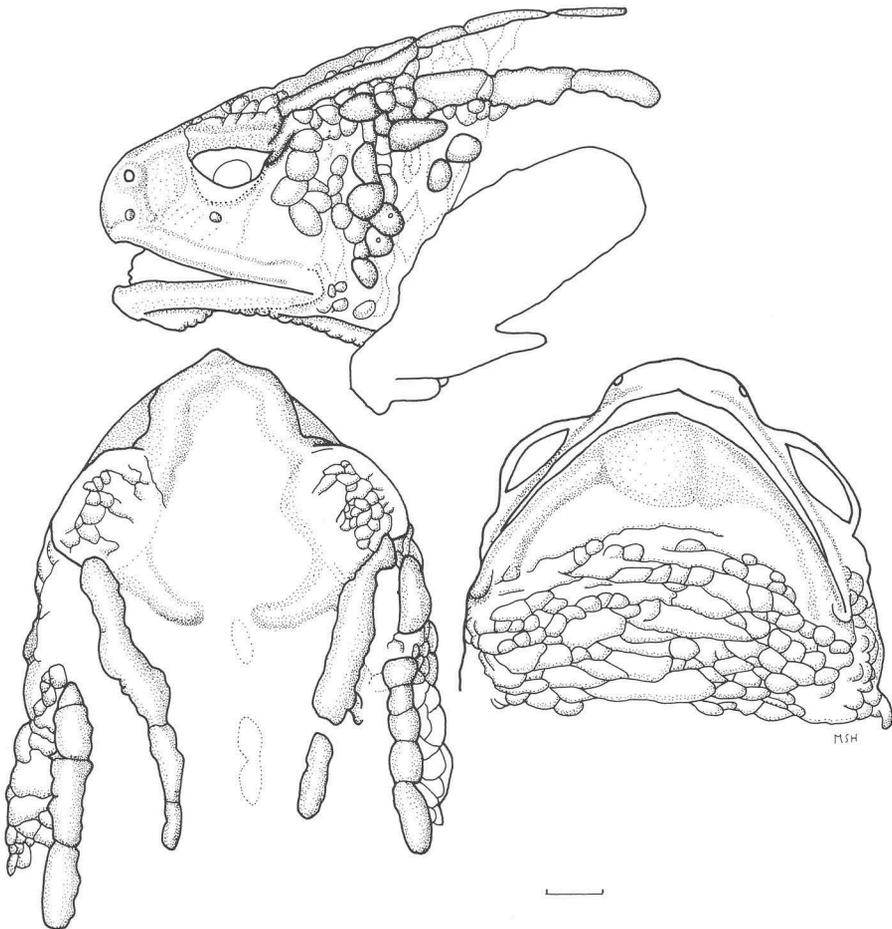


Fig. 6. Head of *Osornophryne bufoniformis* (Peracca), ♂, USNM 193539, in lateral, dorsal and ventral view. The line equals 1 mm.

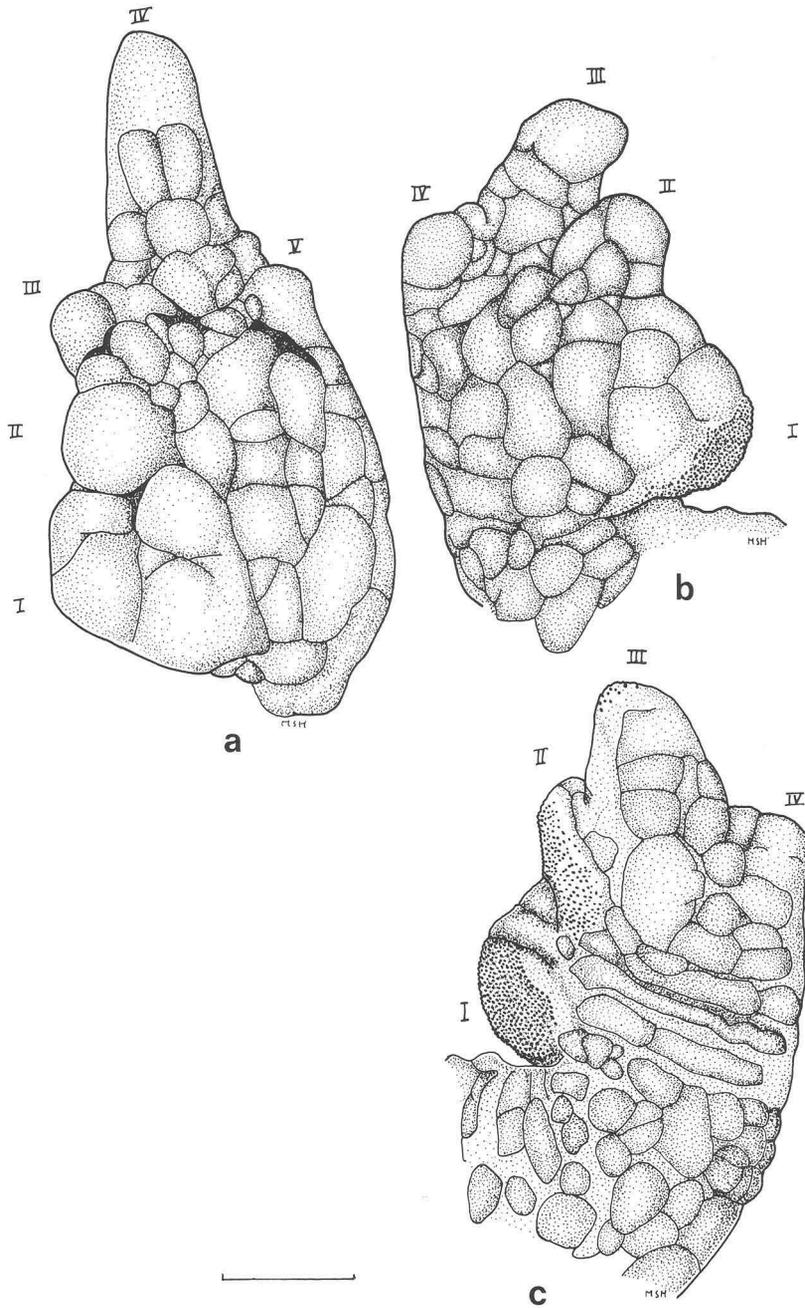


Fig. 7. *Osornophryne antisana* spec. nov., holotype, ♂ MHNG 2278.49. a. plantar surface of left foot, b. palmar surface of right hand, with nuptial asperities on finger I, c. dorsal surface of right hand, with nuptial asperities on fingers I-III. The line equals 1 mm. Roman numerals in this and similar figures denote approximate location of tips of fingers and toes.

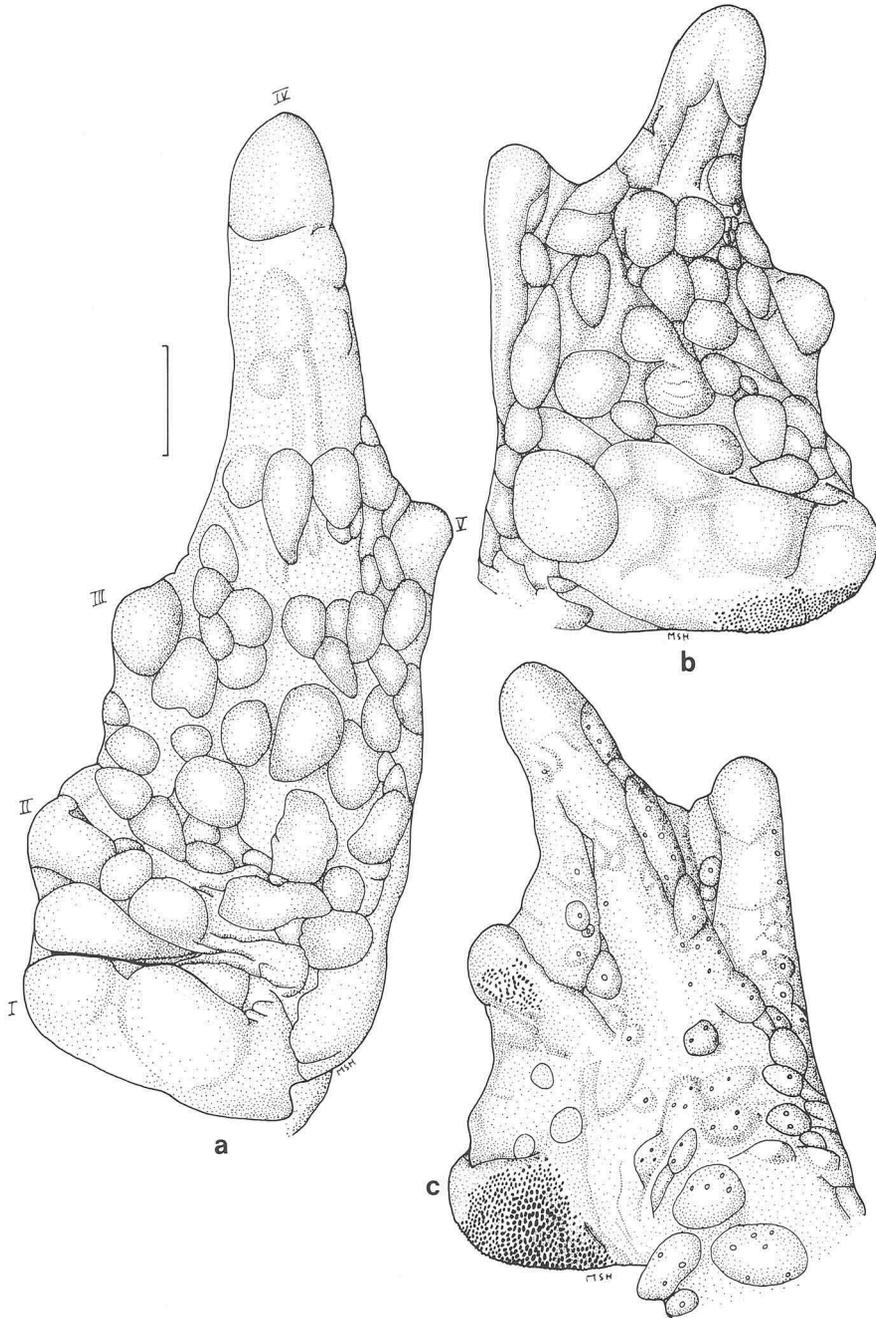


Fig. 8. *Osornophryne talipes* Cannatella, paratype, ♂, KU 131798. a. plantar surface of left foot, b. palmar surface of right hand, with nuptial asperities on finger I, c. dorsal surface of right hand, with nuptial asperities on fingers I and II. The line equals 1 mm.

< 5 < 4. Bicondylar articulation with head. Probably the atlas and the first trunk vertebra are fused into an atlas-complex, but the X-ray pictures are not good enough to be certain of that conclusion. Sacral diapophyses flattened and strongly dilated distally. Coccyx with dilated lateral crests (fig. 20). The femora are short and thick, boomerang-shaped, with the concavity directed anteriorly.

In preservative the back is pale brown with short, narrow, longitudinal dark brown lines along the larger glands in paravertebral and lateral rows of glands. Rim of upper eyelid dark brown. Belly, chest and underside of thighs creamish with brown reticulum, the brown only covering flat areas between slightly raised cream tubercles. Underside of arms cream, immaculate. Underside of tibiae cream with brown spots. Lower lips with brown margin. Throat with a median dark brown line and two oblique dark brown lines converging from the corner of the mouth with the median line (fig. 2).

Musculus tensor fasciae latae straplike, attaching to musculus cruralis, close to its attachment on the knee. Origin on ilium not seen.

Musculus adductor longus absent, musculus pectineus not visible ventrally.

Muscles in temporal region showing S-condition with very large musculus depressor mandibulae.

Tongue rather wrinkled, original form cannot be reconstructed; posterior margin rounded. Attached for about half its length. Vocal slits absent. Choanae medium-sized, round, widely separated. No prevomerine teeth.

Peritoneum not black.

Habitat. — The specimen was collected at an altitude of 3600 m on the southeastern flank of Volcan Antisana in an area of meadows with isolated patches of forest. Creeks and swampy places are frequent. The temperature is very variable: at night it may be close to freezing, in the daytime the temperature may rise to 30°C, but after showers it may drop rapidly. This is the typical landscape of the upper limit of the wet altitudinal forest, which is called wet subparamo of the subtropical zone.

During the greater part of the year rain is very abundant. During most of the day and of the night the area is enshrouded in fog, which wets everything. The toads often take refuge in Bromeliads which are attached to trees.

The following plants were recorded from the area: *Eryngium* sp., *Gynoxis* sp., *Festuca* sp., *Calamagrostis* sp., *Puya* sp., *Bromelia* sp., *Geranium* sp., *Hypericum* sp., *Valeriana microphylla*, *V. humboldiana*, *Olchus lavatus*, *Hallenia weadelliana* (the preceding notes are a free translation of a letter in French from Mr. G. Onore).

Distribution. — Only known from the type-locality.

Remarks. — The most striking character of the holotype is the structure of

the cloacal tube, which curves around the back of the thighs and opens ventrally (fig. 10). This suggests that some peculiarity in reproduction may be involved. The related species *O. percrassa* and *O. bufoniformis* are known to have a lumbar amplexus (Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho, 1976: 98, figs. 12, 13). Because of the size difference in species of *Osornophryne* between males and females, during amplexus the male is positioned rather posteriorly (l.c.: figs. 12, 13) and vertically on the posterior part of the female. It could be supposed that in *O. antisana* spec. nov. the size difference is even greater, thus causing the male to be positioned even more vertically. In order to ensure that the cloacal opening of the male comes close to that of the female, it may have become as elaborate as it is, opening under the thighs.

A comparable situation exists in *Nectophrynoides occidentalis* Angel, where there is sexual dimorphism in the position of the cloacal opening: directed posteriorly at the upper level of the thighs in females, directed ventrally at mid level of the thighs in males (Angel & Lamotte, 1948: 122, fig. 5). In this species amplexus is axillary, the male is much smaller than the female and during amplexus the cloacas of male and female are brought into contact, thus enabling the direct transfer of sperm into the female's cloaca, causing internal fertilization (Salthe & Mecham, 1974: 363-4). It does not seem too far-fetched to suppose that in *O. antisana* the cloacal tube has been developed to ensure direct transfer of sperm by means of internal fertilization.

In several other African bufonids (*Nectophrynoides* sp., *Mertensophryne micranotis* (Loveridge)) internal fertilization has been established beyond doubt, but here other structures (if at all differentiated) and mechanisms are involved, though the common denominator for all pathways is that the cloacas of both sexes are brought into contact (Wake, 1980: 206). In *Mertensophryne micranotis* internal fertilization is accomplished by bringing the male's and female's cloacas into contact, the male's cloaca at the height of spermatogenesis showing spines (Grandison, 1980: 299) which provide a tight grip on the skin surrounding the female's vent and according to Duellman & Trueb (1985: 78) this might be indicative of an intromittent function. Otherwise an intromittent organ is only known in *Ascaphus truei* Stejneger. Amplexus in *M. micranotis* normally is axillary, with the male's protruding cloaca curling towards that of the female. However, sometimes an axillary belly to belly amplexus is observed, in which contact between cloacas can also be successfully established (Grandison & Ashe, 1983: 91). Belly to belly, inguinal amplexus was observed in the Ethiopian, internally fertilized, *Nectophrynoides malcolmi* Grandison (Grandison, 1978: 132), but no special adaptation of either cloaca was described.

The oviparous leptodactylid *Eleutherodactylus coqui* Thomas was shown to

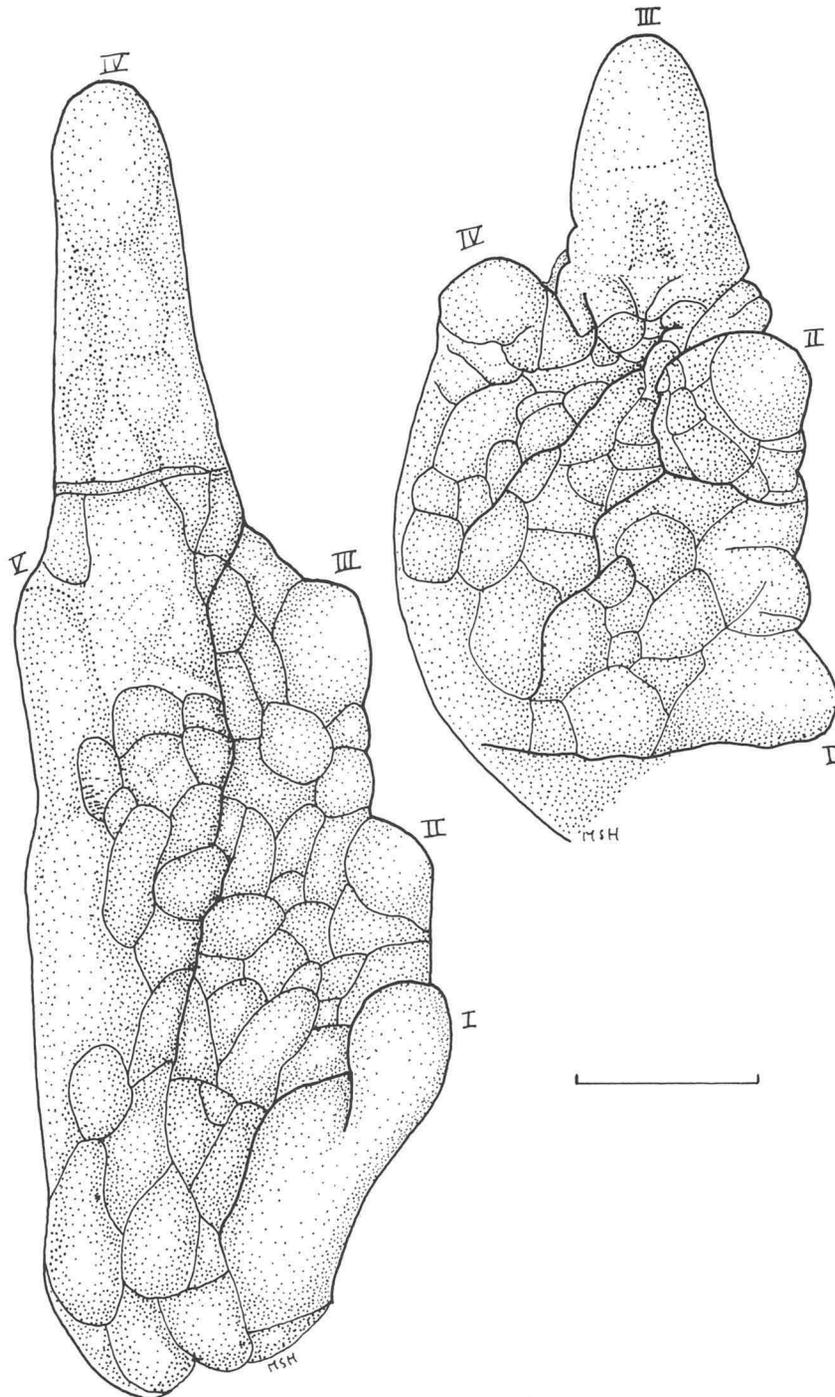


Fig. 9. *Osornophryne bufoniformis* (Peracca), ♂, USNM 193539, plantar (left), and palmar (right) surface of left foot, resp., hand. The line equals 1 mm.

have internal fertilization by cloacal apposition, without special morphological modifications to the cloacal region (Townsend, 1987: 31; Townsend et al., 1981: 470). For the ovoviviparous *E. jasperi* Drewry & Jones internal fertilization can be inferred from the development of the eggs in the oviducts (Wake, 1978: 131). For *E. orcutti* Dunn live-bearing has not yet been proved, but circumstantial evidence strongly points in that direction (Lynn & Grant, 1940: 58; Wake, 1978: 131).

Investigation of male and female *Osornophryne bufoniformis* at my disposal (USNM 193539-40) did not show any difference in position of the vent, in both it is situated at the upper level of the thighs (figs. 3, 12) and directed posteriorly, its distance from the tip of the coccyx being 10.5% of the snout-vent length in the male, 11.5% in the female. The single female of *O. percrassa* (USNM 151325) examined also had its cloaca-opening directed posteriorly, at the upper level of the thighs. Unfortunately Ruiz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976) do not provide any data on the position of the cloacal opening in males of *O. percrassa*, but there is no reason to suppose it differs from that in the females, as they would undoubtedly have noticed this and included it in their description.

Eggs in *O. percrassa* are few, large and unpigmented, which represents a derived condition (Ruiz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho, 1976: 118). Such eggs often are found in species with direct, extra-aquatic development, but several cases are known (e.g. *Rana graminea* Boulenger [= *R. livida* Blyth]) in which such eggs are deposited in water (Ruiz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho, 1976: 119). In the related bufonid genus *Atelopus*, which also has unpigmented eggs, these are deposited at the edge of streams, with the tadpoles living in the streams (Lescure, 1981: 212). *O. percrassa* apparently is unable to swim and can only float passively, reason for Ruiz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976: 119, 120) to suppose that *Osornophryne* certainly would not lay its eggs in creeks, pools or bromeliads, consequently only leaving open the possibility of laying them in small depressions that could be inundated or in wet places where direct development would be possible. The structure of the cloacal tube in *O. antisana* to me suggests an even further stage in reproduction, viz., internal fertilization, followed either by deposition of the fertilized eggs (which then could go through a (terrestrial) tadpole stage or develop directly) or even live-bearing, either through ovoviviparity or viviparity. Anyway, its external morphology suggests an interesting reproductive mode which deserves further research. Intensive sampling, covering all seasons, is necessary to obtain a good idea of the morphology, ecology, distribution, ethology and reproductive habits of this new species.

Ovoviviparity or even viviparity is not known for South American anurans,

and this new trait could yield interesting possibilities for comparisons with the African bufonid genus *Nectophrynoidea*, living in altitudinal savannas, which might be comparable to the subpáramo whence the present species came. So far in the New World ovoviviparity has only been demonstrated for the Puerto Rican *Eleutherodactylus jasperi*, whereas it is likely to occur in the Jamaican *E. orcutti*.

Comparison with other species. — Upon examination of other species of *Osornophryne* (all known species seen by me), it is immediately evident that

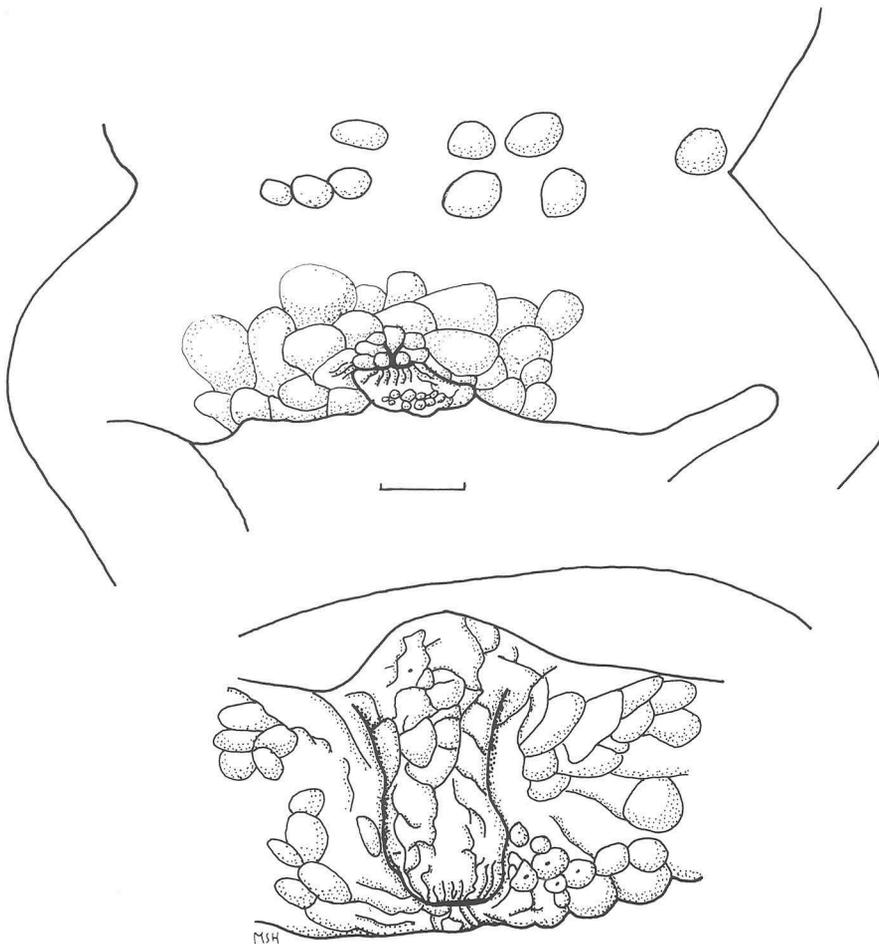


Fig. 10. *Osornophryne antisana* spec. nov., holotype, ♂, MHNG 2278.49. Ventral aspect of thighs with opening of cloacal tube (upper), and posterior aspect of thighs with cloacal tube (lower). The line equals 1 mm.

the present species is most closely related to the recently described *O. talipes* (Cannatella, 1986b: 620) with which it shares the ventrally extended cloacal tube, the pointed snout and the smooth dorsal skin with isolated warts. The other three known species differ from *O. antisana* by having the cloacal opening situated at the upper level of the thighs, by lacking an extended proboscis on the snout and by having a warty dorsal skin (cf. figs. 3, 6).

O. antisana and *O. talipes* are rather alike, but differ in a number of characters (table 1), which, though possibly partly related to the size dif-

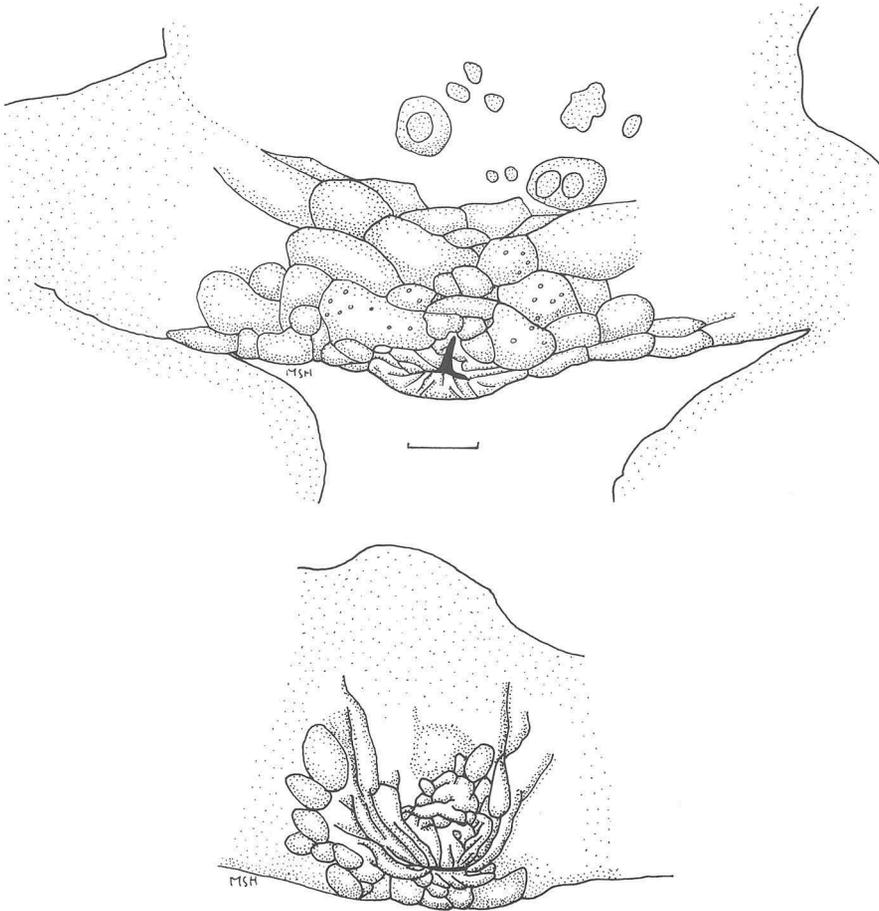


Fig. 11. *Osornophryne talipes* Cannatella, paratype, ♂, KU 131798. Ventral aspect of thighs with opening of cloacal tube (upper), and posterior aspect of thighs showing cloacal tube (lower). The line equal 1 mm.

ference, may serve to distinguish them. In addition to the tabulated characters there are some more differences, which can not easily be tabulated. E.g. the dorsal surface of the head in *O. talipes* (fig. 5) makes a rather concave impression because of the relative height of the raised ridges. In *O. antisana* these ridges are lower, consequently not dominating the picture as much as they do in *O. talipes*, and giving the dorsal aspect of the head a flat to slightly convex appearance (fig. 4). Another character is the surface of the foot. It seems to be relatively larger in *O. talipes* than in *O. antisana*, but this probably also is influenced by the way the specimens compared are postured (figs. 7, 8, 9).

Cannatella's (1986b: 620) short statement "Anal opening an inconspicuous tube, directed ventrally at lower level of thighs" at first did not give me the idea that *O. talipes* would prove to show the same structure of the cloacal tube as *O. antisana* does, but examination of the paratype of *O. talipes* immediately showed that this structure is identical in both species (figs. 10, 11).

Etymology. — Named after the volcan Antisana, east of Quito, Ecuador, on whose slopes the holotype was found. The name *antisana* thus is used as a noun in apposition.

	<i>O. antisana</i>	<i>O. talipes</i>
1. snout-vent length	18.6 mm	23.8-24.3 mm
2. toe V	hardly recognisable	recognisable
3. skin dorsal surface hand	with transverse grooves	no transverse grooves
4. interorbital distance	< width upper eyelid	= width upper eyelid
5. internarial distance/IOD	81%	109%
6. tibia/s-v length	25-26%	30-31%
7. head length/s-v length	27%	33.6-33.9% (Cannatella, 1986b: 620) 37.8% (my measurements ¹)
8. proboscis	pointed, sloping down	rounded, pointing forward
9. nostrils	round	oval
10. distance nostril-tip of snout/eye-nostril	115-125%	105%
11. eye-nostril/diameter eye	50%	78-81%
12. headwidth/headlength	95.5%	97.6%-100% (Cannatella, 1986b: 620) 88% (my measurements ¹)
13. dorsal glands	rather flat, indistinct	salient
14. canthus rostralis	converging anteriorly	parallel

Table 1. Characters differentiating *O. antisana* spec. nov. and *O. talipes* Cannatella.¹ Cannatella (1986b: 620) gives the headlength and headwidth of the paratype as 8.2 and 8.0 mm, respectively. My measurements yield 9.2 and 8.1 mm. The difference cannot easily be explained, because repeated measurements gave the same result.

***Osornophryne guacamayo* spec. nov.**
(figs. 1, 13-20)

Holotype. — ♀ (most probably), MHNG 2278.17 (fieldno. EC 709), "Guacamayo" (= Cordillera de Guacamayo or Huacamayos), 2100 m, km 60 road Tena-Quito, 0°43'S 77°50'W, Napo Province, Ecuador, 29-VIII-1985, leg. J.M. Touzet.

Paratype. — ♀, MHNG 2278.18 (fieldno. EC 797), same data as holotype, except: 10-XI-1985.

Diagnosis. — A medium-sized *Osornophryne*, with a rather large and deep head, with cranial ridges in the posterior part of the skull, a rounded snout

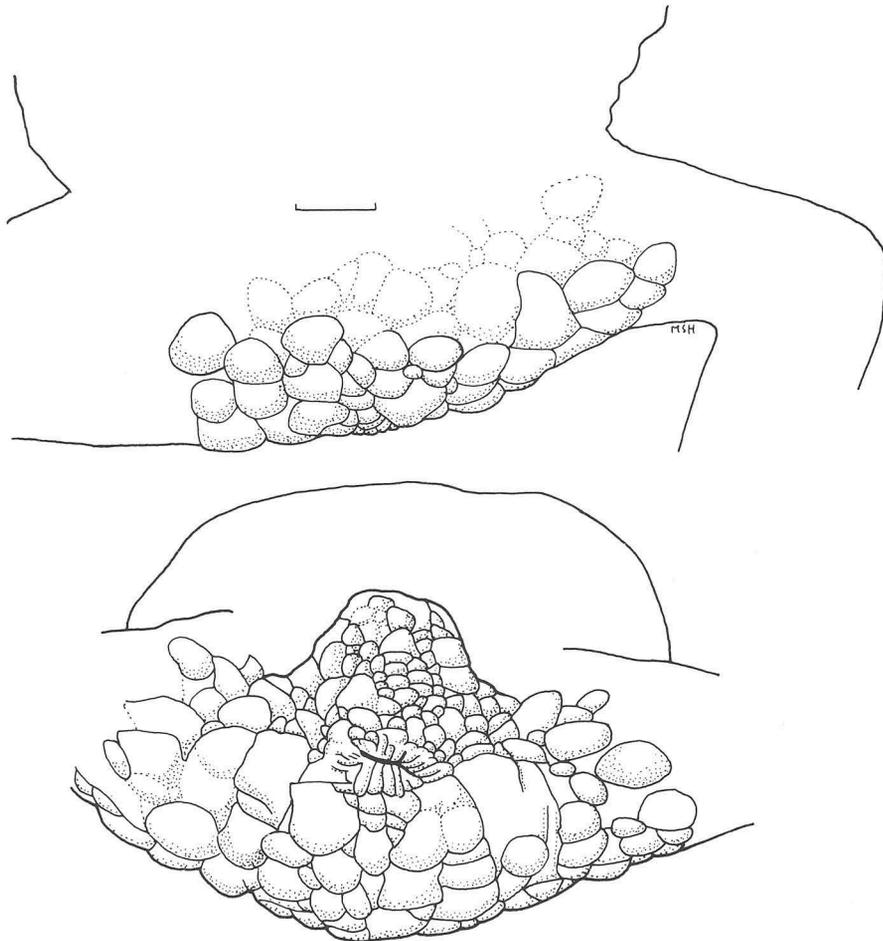


Fig. 12. *Osornophryne bufoniformis* (Peracca), ♂, USNM 193539. Ventral aspect of thighs (upper), and posterior aspect of thighs with cloacal opening (lower). The line equals 1 mm.



Fig. 13. Habitus of *Osornopiirne guacamayo* spec. nov., holotype, ♀?, MHNG 2278.17. a. dorsal, b. ventral, c. lateral aspect. The line equals 5 mm.

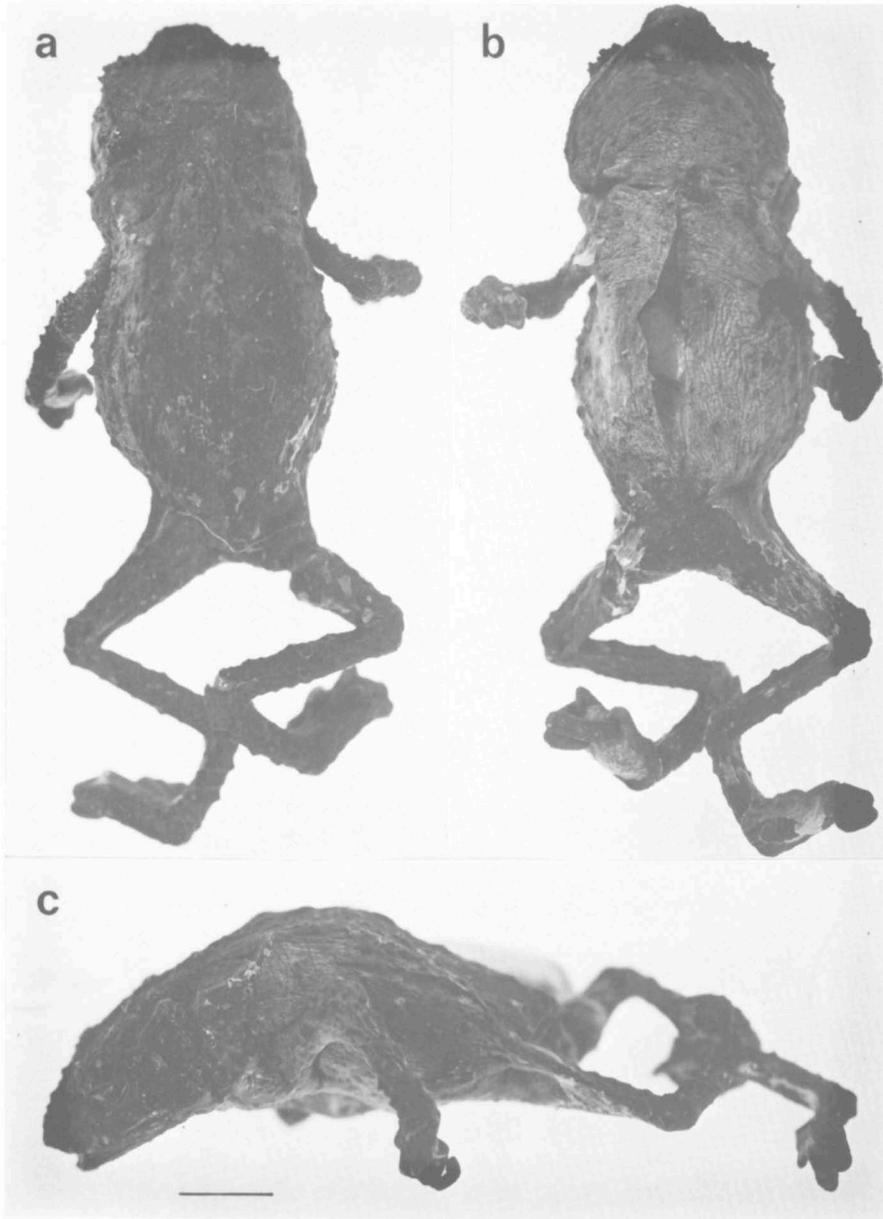
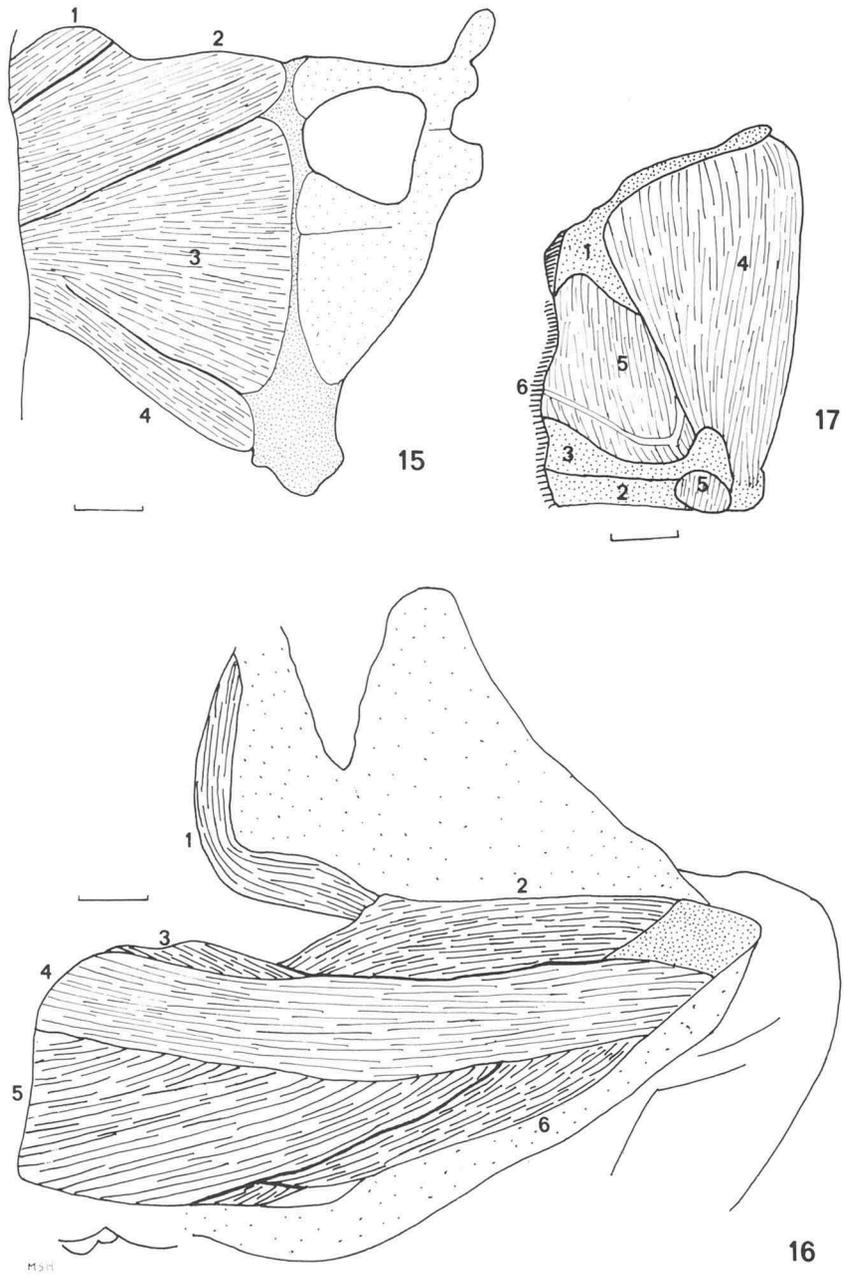


Fig. 14. Habitus of *Osornophryne guacamayo* spec. nov., paratype, ♀, MHNG 2278.18. a. dorsal, b. ventral, c. lateral aspect. The line equals 5 mm.



Figs. 15-17. *Osornophryne guacamayo* spec. nov. 15. Paratype, ♀, MHNG 2278.18, pectoral girdle. Densely stippled: cartilage; lightly stippled bone; hatched: muscles, 1. musculus deltoideus, →

with conical tip, strongly tubercular upper eyelids; no parotoids; ear absent. Limbs long and rather slender; fingers connected by thick web, with third and fourth extending well beyond the web; feet heavily webbed with fourth and fifth toe much longer than the other three, forming a unit in which the separate toes are well visible. Dorsum with many, irregularly scattered tubercles of different sizes. Temporal region with large and small tubercles, underlain by yellowish glandular tissue. Back blackish with two oblique yellow dorsolateral lines, extending from shoulders to groin; some indistinct, isolated yellow spots. Ventral parts yellow with black spots. Peritoneum black.

Description. — Snout-vent length 35.5 (31.3) mm (values for the paratype are given in parentheses, but should be considered with some reserve, because the specimen is rather buckled and hard, so not all measurements could be exact and are approximations). Head wider than long (longer than wide), slightly wider than adjacent part of body, about half as deep as wide; length 31.8 (36.1)% of the snout-vent length. Width of head at corners of jaws slightly narrower (slightly wider) than width at tympanum level, and distinctly narrower than width at the supratympanic level. Eyelids not projecting from the head. Snout rounded with an acuminate tip in dorsal profile, bluntly pointed in lateral profile. Shape of snout determined by a conical, fleshy ridge; this conical structure projecting beyond the upper jaw (rictus of mouth). Distance between nostrils 1.5 times that between nostril and eye, 71(74)% of the interorbital distance. Internarial area distinctly concave. A large, rounded tubercle over each nostril. Top of head flat, with bony protuberances, raised fleshy area around the orbits, an oblique bony ridge from the posterior corner of the eye extending posteriorly and medially, posteriorly increasing in height and ending in a bony boss at the end of the head, and isolated, large, rounded tubercles. Interorbital area 1.5 times as wide as an upper eyelid, flat between the raised circumorbital ridges, with warts. Upper eyelid with 3-4 enlarged, projecting tubercles along the outer margin, remainder with numerous conical

2. *m. coracoradialis*, 3. *m. pectoralis* (portio epicoracoidea), 4. *m. pectoralis* (portio sternalis). The line equals 1 mm. 16. Holotype, ♀?, MHNG 2278. 17. Ventral view of left thigh after removal of skin. Densely stippled: bone; lightly stippled: inner surface of uplifted skin; hatched: muscles, 1. *musculus tensor fasciae latae*, 2. *m. cruralis*, 3. *m. pectineus*, 4. *m. sartorius*, 5. *m. adductor magnus*, 6. *m. gracilis*. There is no *m. adductor longus*. The line equals 1 mm. 17. Paratype, ♀, MHNG 2278. 18. Left temporal region after removal of skin. Stippled area: bone; hatched area: muscle; heavily cross-hatched: inner surface of uplifted skin. S-condition of McDiarmid (1971: 10): 1. squamosal, 2. mandibula, 3. maxilla, 4. *musculus depressor mandibulae*, 5. *m. adductor mandibulae posterior subexternus*, 6. mandibular branch of trigeminal nerve. The line equals 1 mm.

tubercles. From the eye a prominent ridge extends posteriorly, converging with the one from the other side to a point above the shoulder (not quite meeting each other) from where they continue posteriorly as diverging ridges which soon fade out. Canthus rostralis angular, convex, with large tubercles; the canthi of both sides are nearly parallel. Loreal region flat, dropping steeply to the upper lip. Lips not flaring. Eyes with horizontally oval pupil. Lower eyelid translucent. Temporal region vertical, with isolated, large, rounded tubercles. Smaller tubercles under eye on upper lip. Ear absent. No parotoids. In parotoid region two large, round-tipped warts.

Skin of back and flanks finely areolate, rugose, with larger, round to elongate tubercles of different sizes interspersed. On flanks some widely spaced larger tubercles form an indistinct, oblique row from parotoid area to groin. Skin on dorsal part of limbs heavily tuberculate. Skin of ventral parts areolate with some flat warts on the chest, towards the flanks, near the corners of the mouth and on the limbs. All tubercles underlain by yellow glandular tissue. Anal opening at upper level of thighs, directed posteriorly.

Distinct but flat oval inner and round outer metacarpal tubercles. Palmar surface heavily creased, with flat tubercles. Subdigital and supernumerary tubercles are not recognisable. Fingers connected by thick webbing, forming a handplate, edges of web smooth with undulating margin. Webbing formula: I(0)-(0)II(0)-(2)III(2)-(2)IV. Web continued as a fleshy fringe to the tip of fingers III and IV. Fingers distinctly depressed, rounded. Length of fingers: I < II < IV < III. Phalangeal formula: 1-2-3-3 (fig. 19).

Tarsus tuberculate, without tarsal ridge or tubercle. Heel with some low tubercles. Distinct but flat, large oval inner and smaller, round outer metatarsal tubercles. Plantar surface heavily creased, with flat tubercles. Subdigital and supernumerary tubercles not recognisable. Toes connected by thick webbing, forming an elongate footplate with toes IV and V most conspicuous, toes I, II and III only forming short extensions of the plate. Edges of web smooth. Webbing formula: I(0)-(0)II(0)-(0)III(0)-(3)IV(2 $\frac{1}{4}$)-(1)V. Web continued as a fleshy fringe to the tip of toes IV and V, web between them distinctly indented. Toes distinctly depressed, rounded. Length of toes: I < II < III < V < IV. Toes IV and V very much longer than III. Phalangeal formula: 1-1-2-4-3 (fig. 19).

When the hindlimbs are flexed at right angles to the sagittal plane, the heels do not touch; when carried forward along the body the heel barely reaches the insertion of the forelimbs. When the forelimb is carried back along the body, the tip of finger III reaches the groin. Tibia 31-32 (33)% (\bar{x} = 32%, n = 4) of the snout-vent length.

Five presacral vertebrae, all of which bear transverse processes. There is a

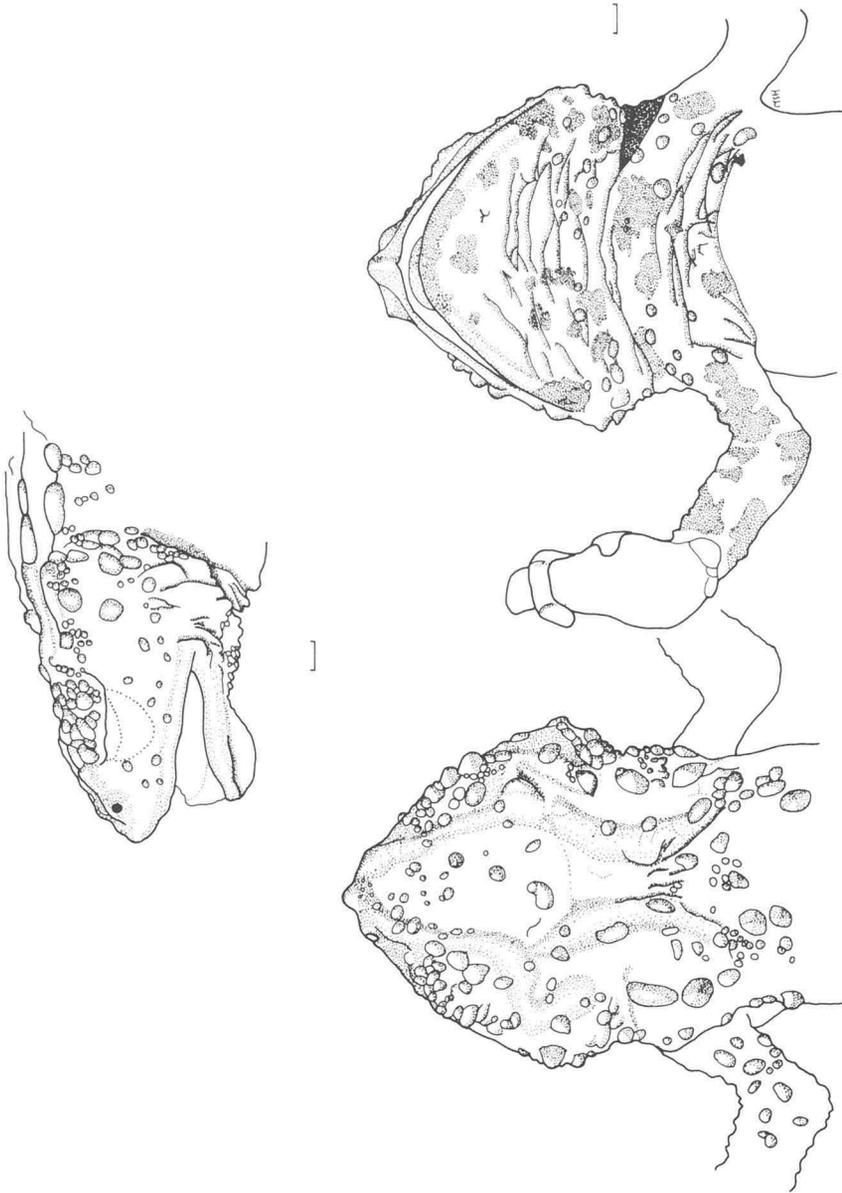


Fig. 18. Head of *Osornophryne guacamayo* spec. nov., holotype, ♀?, MHNG 2278.17, in lateral, dorsal and ventral view. The line equals 1 mm.

distinct difference in the shape of the processes of each vertebra and some variation is seen between the two specimens available. The diapophyses of vertebra 1 are dilated distally, those of vertebrae 2-5 are rod-shaped in the paratype, those of vertebrae 2 and 3 are wide and flat, tending to be slightly dilated distally in the holotype, whereas those of vertebrae 4 and 5 are rod-shaped in that specimen. All diapophyses are straight. In the holotype the diapophyses of vertebra 1 are directed anteriorly, those of vertebrae 2, 3 and 4 are directed posteriorly and those of vertebra 5 are transverse. In the paratype the diapophyses of vertebrae 1 and 5 are directed anteriorly, those of vertebra 2 are directed posteriorly and those of vertebrae 3 and 4 are transverse. Transverse width of the diapophyses in the holotype: $1 < 4 < 5 < 3 < 2$; in the paratype $1 < 5 < 4 < 3 < 2$. Bicondylar articulation with head. The atlas and the first trunk vertebra probably are fused (atlas-complex), but the X-ray pictures are not good enough to be certain of that conclusion. Sacral diapophyses flattened and strongly dilated distally. Coccyx with dilated lateral crests (fig. 20). Sacrum with four pairs of spinal nerve foramina ventrally, comparable to the situation described for *Osornophryne percrassa* (Ruiz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho, 1976: 137) and for *Oreophrynella* (Noble, 1954: 505). The femora are only slightly curved, with the concavity directed anteriorly.

Musculus tensor fasciae latae strap-like, much elongated, originating on ventrolateral anterior surface of ilium below the sacral diapophysis and running toward the middle of the musculus cruralis with wide aponeurosis.

Musculus adductor longus absent, musculus pectineus just visible under the proximal end of the sartorius (fig. 16, cf. McDiarmid, 1971: 9-10).

Muscles in temporal region showing S-condition with very large musculus depressor mandibulae (fig. 17).

Tongue large, wide, oval, free for about $\frac{1}{2}$ its length. Choanae medium-sized, round, widely separated. No prevomerine teeth.

Pectoral girdle firmistern, very deep. Bony clavicles connected by narrow strip of epicoracoidal cartilage, which extends and widens posteriorly to connect with the coracoids, which are firmly connected by a narrow strip of cartilage. At about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the length of the coracoids there is a distinct transverse groove. Clavicles and coracoids not fused laterally, which is a primitive condition. Sternum cartilaginous, without bony style (fig. 15).

In preservative the top of the head is dark brown, the back is black with a few indistinct isolated spots in the sacral area and further posteriorly. An oblique yellow stripe with irregular outline from shoulder to groin, most distinct in its anterior part. Anterior aspect of thighs black, posterior aspect black with yellow spots. Hidden surface of tibia yellow with some black. A

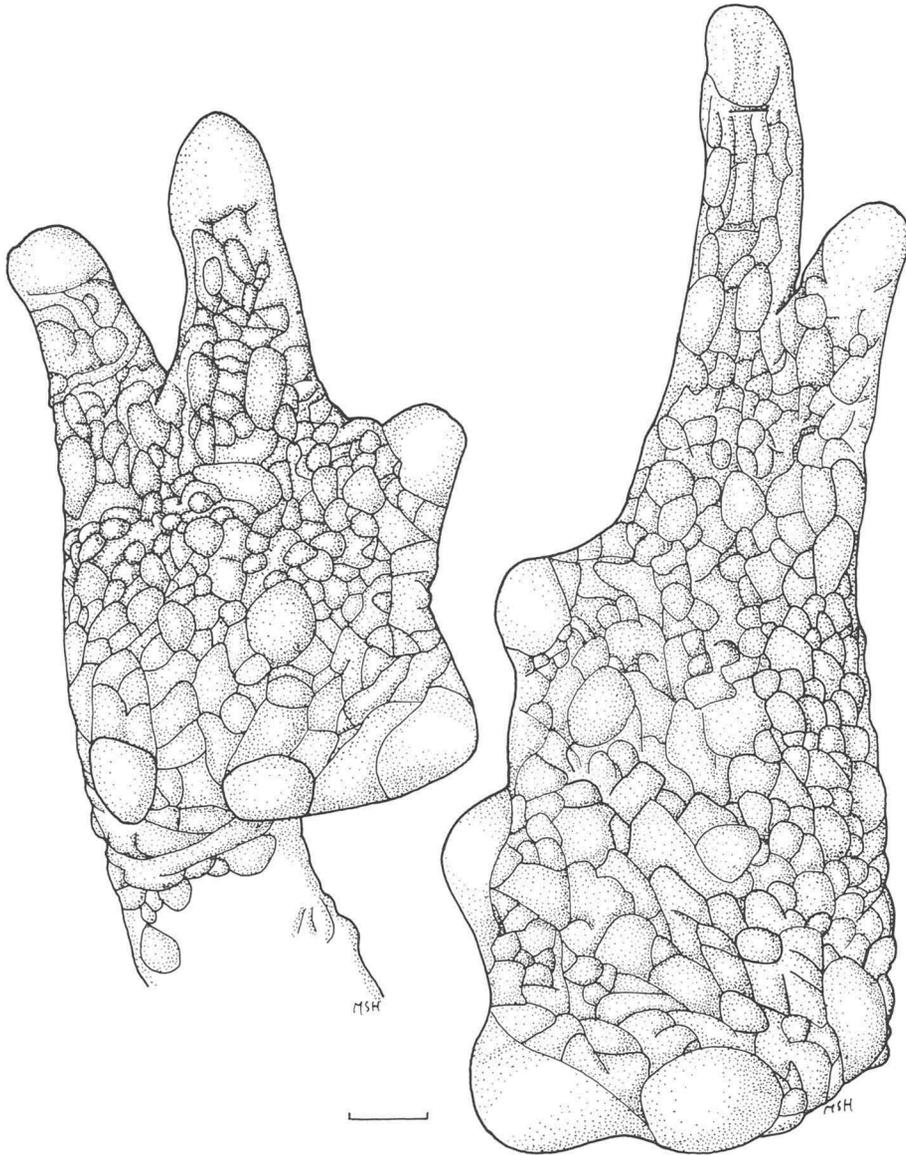


Fig. 19. *Osornophryne guacamayo* spec. nov., holotype, ♀?, MHNG 2278.17, palmar surface of right hand (left) and plantar surface of left foot (right). The line equals 1 mm.

yellow spot on base of hand (inner two fingers) and foot (inner three toes). A short yellow stripe from mouth to insertion of forelimb. Ventral parts yellow with irregular black (on venter) and brown (on chest and throat) spots. Underside of limbs variegated black and yellow. Palms and soles immaculate, grey.

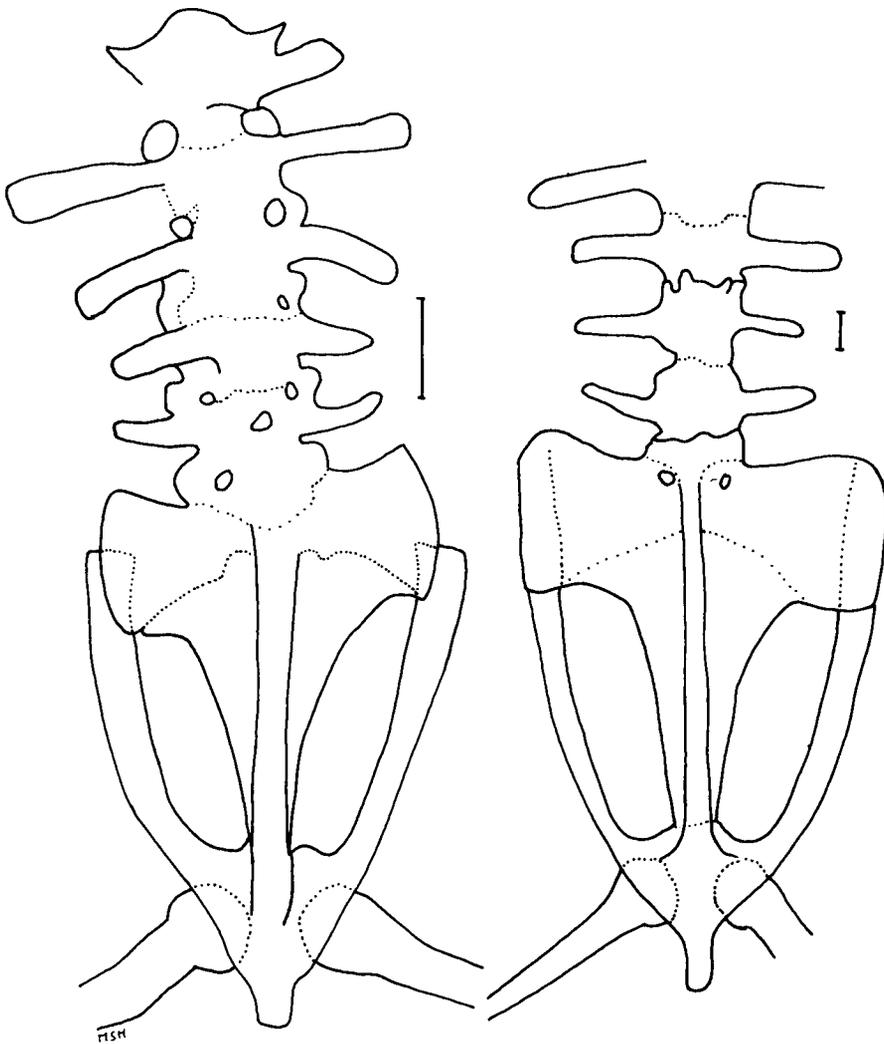


Fig. 20. Pelvic girdles and part of vertebral column of *Osornophryne antisana* spec. nov., holotype, ♂, MHNG 2278.49 (left) and *O. guacamayo* spec. nov., paratype, ♀, MHNG 2278.18 (right). Redrawn and enlarged from X-ray pictures. The lines equal 1 mm.

Peritoneum black.

Note. — The holotype is an eviscerate specimen, the viscera having been removed for parasitological research. Its sex was established by comparison with the paratype, which is a desiccated female with enlarged oviducts and an amorphous jelly-like mass in its belly.

Habitat. — Both specimens available were collected in the late afternoon along a roadside, on moss in rock crevices at an altitude of 2100 m, in very wet tropical cloud-forest on a mountain ridge. Forest-floor with many loose stones, vegetation covered by mosses and epiphytes, stones covered by about 10 cm of moss. The animals were very slow. Other herpetofauna collected here included *Bolitoglossa palmata* (Werner) and Caeciliidae (Dr. V. Mahnert in litt., based on collector's data).

Etymology. — Guacamayo is the Ecuadorian name for macaw, also it is the name of the eastern spur of the Andes whence came the type-specimens. In loose reference to the gaudy colours and to its type locality, the specific epithet "guacamayo" has been chosen. It is here used as a noun in apposition.

Remarks. — This species differs from all other known species of the genus by the remarkable shape of its feet, in which the fourth and fifth toe are well developed and separate, by the structure of its head and by its gaudily patterned belly.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *OSORNOPHRYNE*

1. Skin on back smooth with dispersed glands and glandular ridges; tip of snout with a distinct, fleshy proboscis; cloacal tube (in males) descending along the posterior aspect of the thighs, opening ventrally beneath the thighs 2
 - Skin on back rugose, with tubercles; tip of snout truncate, rounded or rounded with an acuminate to bluntly pointed tip (not fleshy); no cloacal tube, cloacal opening at upper level of thighs 3
2. Head length 27%, tibia 25 - 26% of the snout-vent length; snout-vent length 18.6 mm; distance eye-nostril 50% eye diameter *antisana*
 - Head length 34 - 38%, tibia 30 - 31% of the snout-vent length; snout-vent length 23.8 - 24.3 mm; distance eye-nostril 78-81% eye diameter *talipes*
3. Toes IV and V much longer than I-III, distinct from each other; head with prominent bony ridges in posterior part *guacamayo*
 - Only toe IV much longer than the rest, V very much reduced and forming part of the footplate; head not deep, without bony ridges 4

4. Tip of snout abruptly truncate or sloping anteriorly, not projecting beyond the mouth; head as long as wide or wider than long; anterior part of back with (para)vertebral rows of glands in contact *percrassa*
 – Tip of snout slightly projecting beyond the mouth; head about as long as wide; paravertebral lines of glands separated widely *bufoniformis*

DISCUSSION

The southermost locality recorded for *Osornophryne* by Cannatella (1986b: 621) was the type locality of *O. talipes*, Nudo de Mojanda. Both Antisana and the Cordillera de Guacamayos are further south, though in the same general area. So far *Osornophryne* was only known from elevations between 2700 m and 3700 m. The specimens of *O. guacamayo* come from an altitude of 2100 m, thus considerably expanding the vertical distribution to lower levels and consequently to another type of habitat as well. Thus, Hoogmoed's (1985: 257) statement that the genus is only known from the páramo-region, has to be changed. The genus is now known to occur from upper tropical cloud-forest on the Amazonian versant of the Andes, to páramo in its central, higher parts. The Göteborg specimen of *O. bufoniformis* from "Cerros Llanganati" (= Cordillera de las Llanganates) extends the known distribution of the genus still further south (fig. 1).

According to Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976: 103-104) *Osornophryne (bufoniformis + percrassa)* has a reduced phalangeal formula in the hand (2-2-3-2) and a normal formula in the foot (2-2-3-4-3). These data are not corroborated by my own data, which indicate that reduction in *O. bufoniformis* also occurs in the foot and there are even indications that the number of phalanges in the foot is more reduced in males (1-1-2-4-2) than in females (2-2-3-4-2) (based on the examination of X-ray pictures of one male and one female only). Alberch & Gale (1985: 10) also provide data on the phalangeal formula of the foot of *Osornophryne* different from those of Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976: 103-104) and much more in agreement with my own observations: *bufoniformis*: 1-2-3(2)-4-1-(2), *percrassa*: 1-2-3(2)-4-1 (underlined indicates that digit has lost skeletal elements). The species here described show that there are other possibilities as well. In *O. antisana* (and probably *O. talipes* as well) the reduction of the number of phalanges in digits of the hand has progressed further, with the inner digit reduced to one phalange only, the outer to two; the same occurs in the foot, where all digits except IV (four phalanges) are shortened to one or two (in toe III) phalanges. In *O. guacamayo* reduction of the digits in the hand

has only occurred in the inner finger, which has one phalange left, whereas the outer finger has three phalanges; the foot has 1-1-2-4-3 phalanges, which represents a further reduction of the inner three phalanges only. Apparently reduction in the number of phalanges was realised along different pathways. Starting from an original phalangeal formula of 2-2-3-3 for the hand and of 2-2-3-4-3 for the foot, it is possible to envisage two pathways along which reduction of the number of phalanges could occur: the first one leading to the clubfoot and the rather compact hand present in *antisana*, *bufoniformis*, *percrassa* and *talipes*, the second one leading to the two-pronged foot and rather unaltered hand of *O. guacamayo*. In both pathways reduction does not occur in the third finger and fourth toe. In the pathway leading to the clubfoot and compact hand, at least the outer digits have a reduced number of phalanges. Reduction seems to effect the outer digits first, then the inner ones, and subsequently progress toward the longest digit, without effecting this one. These observations contrast with those of Alberch & Gale (1985: 11), who, on the basis of their data (they only studied feet) concluded that reduction always effected the first toe first. The fact that in the female *O. bufoniformis* (USNM 193540) examined by me the inner toe has two phalanges upsets that pattern, because in that toe no phalangeal reduction has occurred, whereas it did occur in the fifth toe. As this only concerns one specimen, this could be the exception to the rule. However, I also have to refute Alberch & Gale's (1985: 11) conclusion that in *Osornophryne* after reduction in toes I and V has taken place, toe III is reduced. In the species and specimens examined by me this does not hold true: in *bufoniformis* reduction took place in toes I, II, III and V (all - 1 phalange) in the male, in toe V (- 1 phalange) only in the female; in *antisana* reduction took place in toes I, II, III (- 1 phalange) and V (- 2 phalanges), in *guacamayo* it occurred in toes I, II and III (- 1 phalange). Thus, the "rules" formulated by Alberch & Gale (1985: 10) on the basis of ten species with reduced phalangeal formula, are already upset by data derived from two newly described species.

Both *bufoniformis* and *percrassa* show the same (slight) degree of reduction and can be considered closest to the ancestral form, whereas in *antisana* and *talipes* reduction has progressed further. In the pathway leading to the two-pronged foot and rather unaltered hand of *guacamayo*, only the innermost digit(s) is (are) show(s) a reduced number of phalanges.

Comparing the shape of the foot and the phalangeal formulas, I come to the conclusion that *O. guacamayo* appears as the least specialised species in this respect, because its fingers and toes (despite reduction of the number of phalanges in the inner finger and the innermost three toes) are still quite well recognisable as entities. However, considering the habitat of the species and

the way reduction in digits has taken place in related species, I assume this first impression is incorrect and that on the contrary the shape of hands and feet, which probably are good grasping organs, is derived and an adaptation to the species' living in mossy crevices and the locomotion connected with this.

Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976: 111) suggest that the reduction of the length of the digits represents a major adaptation toward terrestrial habits. The fact that *O. antisana* shows the most extreme form of reduction, but allegedly was found in arboreal bromeliads, seems to refute this suggestion. On the other hand the species with the best developed digits (*O. guacamayo*), was found on moss in rock crevices, which seems to indicate a terrestrial way of life, though these crevices also may have been above the ground in vertical rockfaces.

Inguinal amplexus generally is considered a trait of the Archaeobatrachia, whereas in the Neobatrachia (to which the Bufonidae belong) it only occurs exceptionally, mostly among Australian Myobatrachidae and some pelodryadin Hylidae, but also in a few South American Leptodactylidae and African Bufonidae (Grandison, 1978). Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976: 118) and Hoogmoed (1985: 258) consider the inguinal amplexus in *Osornophryne* a remaining primitive character of great phylogenetic interest. I now only agree with part of this conclusion, namely that this trait is of great phylogenetic interest. However, contrary to what Ruíz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho (1976: 118) and Hoogmoed (1985: 258) believe, I now think the inguinal amplexus in *Osornophryne* is not a primitive but an advanced character-state and in this I concur with Duellman & Trueb (1985: 532). I come to this conclusion on the basis of the structure of the cloacal tube in male *O. antisana* and *O. talipes* and the assumption that fertilization in these species is internal (see p. 221). In that case, inguinal amplexus is a character that developed independently and secondarily from axillary amplexus as part of the complex of morphological and behavioural changes that occurred to realise internal fertilization. Inguinal amplexus and internal fertilization apparently are an adaptation to the scarcity of standing water in the environment, and parallel to it the inability of *Osornophryne* to survive in water for longer periods possibly developed. Considering the other character-states for this genus (most of which are advanced) (Hoogmoed, 1985: 258; Cannatella, 1986a: 202), this conclusion does not come as a surprise.

Apparently *Osornophryne* forms a very specialised group within the "atelopodid" toads. Cannatella's (1986a) analysis of the group shows that *Atelopus*, *Frostius* and *Osornophryne* are rather close together, whereas data provided by Hoogmoed (1985) also showed that *Atelopus* (at that stage still

including the *Frostius* to be) and *Osornophryne* were closely related. Cannatella (1985a: 204) discussed the possibility whether the three genera should be subsumed under a single genus *Atelopus*, but concluded that the genera preferably should be maintained in order to emphasize the morphological, ecological and behavioural distinctiveness of the three taxa. The new data on *Osornophryne* only strengthen his views.

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Additional material of *Osornophryne* studied

Osornophryne bufoniformis (Peracca). Ecuador: Napo Province, Santa Barbara: 1♂, ♀, USNM 193539-40, January 1963, leg. M. Olalla; Tungurahua Province, Cerros Llanganati (E. Rio San José, 3300 m): 1♀ NHMG 1962-11248 (Ba ex. 1079), 30/31 January 1960, leg. R. Blomberg.

Osornophryne percrassa Ruiz-Carranza & Hernández-Camacho. Colombia: Depto. Tolima, out of Manizales on old road to Nevada de Ruiz: 1♀, USNM 151325, 24-III-1963, leg. W.A. Thornton & C. Marinkelle.

Osornophryne talipes Cannatella. Ecuador: Imbabura Province, north slope of Nudo de Mojanda, 3400 m: 1♂, KU 131798, 2-VIII-1970, leg. J.D. Lynch & F. Ortiz.

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