OCCASIONAL PAPERS OF THE MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor, Michigan The University of Michigan Press

A NEW GASTROTHECA FROM COLOMBIA

By HELEN T. GAIGE

Among the collections sent us for identification by Brother Nicéforo Maria, of the Instituto de la Salle, Bogotá, Colombia, was a rather dried specimen of *Gastrotheca*, which we were unable to name. A later collection included a second specimen in fine condition, which confirms our opinion that the species is apparently unknown. Mr. H. L. Parker has been of assistance in comparing the type with British Museum (Natural History) specimens. Brother Nicéforo has kindly consented to its description; it is fitting that his name should be associated with the new species.

Gastrotheca nicéfori, sp. nov.

Diagnosis.—Skin of head involved in the cranial ossification; posterior edge of casque straight or slightly concave, flat, indicated only by a slight fold of the skin of the dorsum; the extended tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the anterior corner of the eye.

Type Specimen.—Female. Cat. No. 73242, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan; Pensilvania, Colombia; collected by Brother Nicéforo Maria.

Description of Type.—Tongue large, subcircular, emarginate. Vomerine teeth in two straight, closely approximated

series on a level with the posterior edge of choanae. broader than long; skin of head confluent with the rugose bones, posterior edge of casque slightly concave, flat, covered by a slight fold of the dorsal skin. Snout high, longer than diameter of eye, which is equal to the distance between eye and nostril; canthus rostralis distinct, curved; loreal region almost vertical; interorbital space concave, at least twice the width of upper eyelid; ear distinct, round, its diameter half that of the eye. Fingers moderate, with a slight rudiment of web; first finger shorter than second; disk of third finger slightly larger than ear. Toes moderately long, 3 webbed; disks smaller than those of the fingers; subarticular tubercles moderate; one elongate metatarsal tubercle; a distinct tarsal fold. When the leg is extended, the tibio-tarsal articulation marks the front of the eye. Skin smooth above; throat smoothly granular, belly and lower surface of thighs coarsely granular, as is also the skin on either side of the vent. is a strong fold over the ear, and one on each side of the body, probably due to the folding in of the sides of the dorsal pouch. The opening to the dorsal pouch is oval, broadly rounded posteriorly, and narrowing toward the anterior end, which is just back of the sacrum. It is confluent with the skin, and, as in G. fulvorufa (Andersson), is indicated only by a ridge.

Color (in alcohol) grayish brown above, slightly deeper brown on the middorsal region, and changing to lighter gray on the sides. A black stripe, somewhat concealed by the folds of the sides, extends from the ear to the thigh, edged dorsally with light, and breaking up into black spots ventrally. The thighs and forearms show a few spots of black, and there is a faint indication of dark bars on the tibia. Ventrum gray. Snout to vent, 62 mm.

Remarks.—The paratype, Museum of Zoology No. 71218, also from Pensilvania, is in poor condition. It is a female, with the pouch opening fused, and seems structurally identical with the type, except that the posterior outline of the casque is straight. This specimen is black beneath, probably due to its preservation.

This species seems most nearly related to *G. angustifrons* (Boulenger) from western Ecuador. It differs in the greater width of the interorbital space, the larger ear, the less webbed toes, the shorter leg, the coloration, and the nature of the casque.

