

### A new amphibian record for the Transvaal

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The distribution of *Hyperolius tuberilinguis* Smith 1849 (Tinker Reed Frog) was previously confined to the Natal and Mozambique coastal plains, the Shire basin and Lake Malawi (Poynton 1964, *Annals of the Natal Museum* 17: 1-334) and to Swaziland (W.D. Haacke, Transvaal Museum, *pers. comm.*). There are no known records of this species from the Transvaal (N.H.G. Jacobsen, Transvaal Directorate of Nature Conservation, *pers. comm.*).

A specimen of this frog was collected on 15 March 1989 at 20:20 in the Kruger National Park approximately five kilometres south-east of Lower Sabie Restcamp. The locality is described as: RSA/Tvl : KNP-Mabyandzawu stream/Nhlowa tourist road crossing, 165 m a.s.l. The coordinates are 25°10'S, 31°36'E.

The frog was one of approximately 20 others of the same species calling from amongst aquatic grasses growing in a shallow seasonal stream pool formed by the concrete drift over the Mabyandzawu stream. The specimen was identified locally and subsequently sent to Professor J.C. Poynton (University of Natal, Durban) who confirmed it to be *H. tuberilinguis*.

This specimen consequently represents the first record of this species in the Transvaal, increasing the amphibian list of the Kruger National Park (Pienaar, Passmore & Carruthers 1976, *The Frogs of the Kruger National Park*. Pretoria: National Parks Board) to 34 species. It is also interesting to note that the locality where the specimen was found is approximately six kilometres west of the Lebombo Mountains, which generally form the western boundary of this species' distribution. The locality is, however, only one kilometre from the Sabie River, indicating that the occurrence of this species in this area can possibly be ascribed to a westerly extension of its range along the Sabie River through the Sabiepoort from the coastal plain of Mozambique. It can consequently be concluded that elsewhere in the Transvaal, the species can possibly occur immediately west of the Lebombo Mountains along drainage systems (such as the Komati and Pongola rivers) which flow through these mountains.

During the period 5-9 March 1990, a *H. tuberilinguis* was heard calling on several occasions at night from the Crocodile River directly opposite Crocodile Bridge Restcamp in the Kruger National Park (25°22'S, 31°54'E, 155 m above sea level).