

## AMPHIBIA: ANURA: CRYPTOBATRACHIDAE

*Stefania ackawaio*

## Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

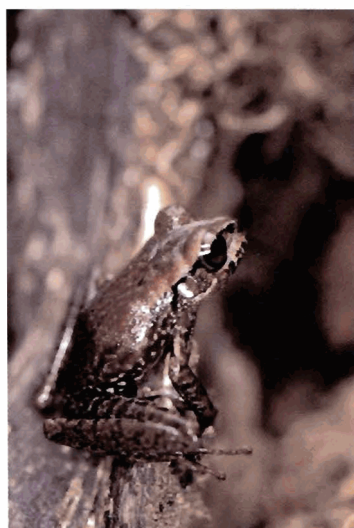
MacCulloch, R.D. and A. Lathrop. 2006. *Stefania ackawaio*.

***Stefania ackawaio* MacCulloch and Lathrop  
Ackawaio *Stefania*; *Rana* *Stefania* Ackawaio**

*Stefania ackawaio* MacCulloch and Lathrop 2002: 334. Type-locality: "northeast plateau of Mount Ayanganna, Guyana (05° 24' N, 059° 57' W) elevation 1490 m." Holotype, Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) 39473, adult male, collected by A. Lathrop, 29 October 2000 (examined by authors).

• **CONTENT.** No subspecies are known.

• **DEFINITION.** Adult males to 48 mm SVL, females to 66 mm; juveniles attain independence at about 20 mm SVL. Head length is equal to or slightly greater than width. Frontoparietal ridges are present but reduced. The canthus rostralis is distinct, angular, and concave. Diameter of the tympanum is half the diameter of the eye, separated from eye by a distance equal to the tympanum diameter. The tympanic re-



**Figure 1.** *Stefania ackawaio*, ROM 39473, from Mt. Ayanganna, Guyana (photograph by A. Lathrop).



**Figure 2.** *Stefania ackawaio*, ROM 42807, from Mt. Wokomung, Guyana (photograph by A. Lathrop).

gion has many small tubercles. Vomerine processes each bear 6–9 teeth. The dorsal skin is shagreened. The first finger is longer than the second by approximately the length of the ultimate phalange of the first finger. Well-developed discs are present on all digits; toe webbing formula is I (2–2½) - (2–2½) II 1¼–2) - (2½–3) III (2¼–2½) - (3–3¼) IV (3–3¼) - (2–2¼) V. The largest finger disc is 66–75% of the tympanum diameter. The color pattern is medium brown or grayish brown dorsally, with darker crossbands on limbs; flanks and venter are brown or gray with white mottling. In preservative the dorsum changes to gray.

• **DIAGNOSIS.** *Stefania ackawaio* can be distinguished from *S. evansi* and *S. scalae* by its reduced toe webbing (¾ webbed in *S. evansi* and *S. scalae*), from *S. percrinata* by the absence of large frontoparietal crests (present in *S. percrinata*), from *S. ayangannae* by color pattern and its short second finger, which does not contact the terminal phalange of the first finger when adpressed (reaches the first finger's disc in *S. ayangannae*), from *S. roraimae* by its low frontoparietal ridges and shagreened dorsal skin (no ridges, smooth skin in *S. roraimae*), and from *S. woodleyi* by its tubercular tympanic region (only a few small tubercles in *S. woodleyi*), color pattern and elevational distribution. *Stefania ackawaio* differs from all other members of the narrow-headed *S. evansi* group (*S. marahuaguensis*, *S. riae*, and *S. tamacuarina*) by the presence of distinct, albeit reduced, frontoparietal crests. All other species of *Stefania* are in the *S. goini* group, and can be distinguished from *S. ackawaio* by head proportions (wider than long in the *S. goini* group).

• **DESCRIPTIONS.** Descriptions of adults and juveniles are in MacCulloch and Lathrop (2002) and MacCulloch et al. (2006). Eggs and neonates and the mating call are unknown.

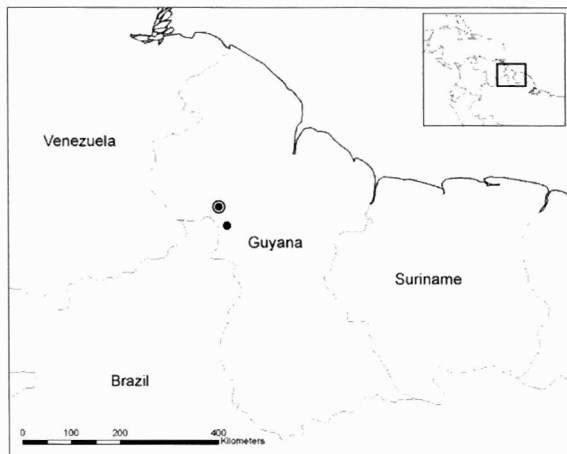
• **ILLUSTRATIONS.** Color photographs are in MacCulloch and Lathrop (2002) and MacCulloch et al. (2006).

• **DISTRIBUTION.** *Stefania ackawaio* is known only from Mounts Ayanganna and Wokomung, Pakaraima Mountains, Guyana, at elevations of 1234–1550 m. It must be noted that the Pakaraima region has not been well-studied, so the species may occur elsewhere in suitable high-elevation habitat.

• **FOSSIL RECORD.** None.

• **PERTINENT LITERATURE.** The only works covering this species are MacCulloch and Lathrop (2002) and MacCulloch et al. (2006), which provide descriptions, information on habitat, and a table of diagnostic characters useful for species identification.

• **REMARKS.** *Stefania* was placed in the new family Cryptobatrachidae by Frost et al. (2006). Rivero (1970) divided the genus *Stefania* into two species



**Map.** Distribution of *Stefania ackawaio*. The circle indicates the type-locality, Mt. Ayanganna. The solid dot indicates the other known locality, Mt. Wokomung. Map courtesy of Blake Matejowsky.

groups; *Stefania ackawaio* is in the *S. evansi* group by virtue of its head proportions (head length equal to or greater than width in the *S. evansi* group). The Spanish vernacular name is in accordance with names proposed by Barrio-Amorós (1998), and the English vernacular name follows this example.

• **ETYMOLOGY.** The specific epithet is a noun in apposition, and refers to the Ackawaio people, who live in the area where the type specimens were collected.

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