New locality record and distribution extension for *Pseudoboa haasi* Boettger, 1905 (Serpentes: Dipsadidae)

Felipe A. Pavan1, Álvaro A. Mainardi1, Marcelo C. da Rocha1,2, Sonia Z. Cechin2, and Victor M. Lipinski3,*

*Pseudoboa haasi* Boettger, 1905 (Fig. 1A) is a large species of *Pseudoboa* that inhabits both open and forested areas (Morato, 2005; Gaiarsa et al., 2013). Its distribution is linked to araucaria forests, but it can occur in both high and lowlands within the Atlantic rainforest. *Pseudoboa haasi* is not listed as an endangered species due its ability to persist in disturbed areas (Esteves, 2005; Morato, 2005; Gaiarsa et al., 2013); however, wood exploitation and extensive agriculture are listed as major threats to the environments where it occurs. In the present study (2009-2010) we surveyed Turvo State Park (TSP, Derrubadas municipality, 7°00’ to 27°16’ S and 53°48’ to 54°04’ W, altitude 100 – 400 m a.s.l.; Fig. 1B) and adjacent areas for the occurrence of snake species. We collected two adult *P. haasi*, both on the ground, one beside a small stream and another on a small road inside the park. The first *P. haasi* was found at night on 7 April 2009 at 22:30h when the air temperature was about 22°C at the margins of a small stream. It was an adult (sex not examined) measuring 634 mm (total length) and 47 g (body mass) and displayed no defensive behavior. The second *P. haasi* was collected on 16 January 2010 around 22:30, when the air temperature was about 26°C crossing a small road inside the TSP. It was an adult female measuring 1360 mm (total length) and 500 g (body mass) and displaying no defensive behavior. The

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2 Programa de Pós-Graduação em Biodiversidade Animal, Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Av. Roraima nº1000, Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Sul State, CEP: 97105-900, Brazil.

3 Instituto Federal Farroupilha – Campus de Júlio de Castilhos, Estrada para Tupanciretã, s/n, Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil.

* Corresponding author. E-mail: lipinskivictor@gmail.com

Figure 1. A - Geographic distribution of *Pseudoboa haasi* in Brazil and Argentina (Bailey, 1970; Giraudo and Scrocchi, 2002; Giraudo et al., 2012). Orange circles are existing records (red arrow indicates the type locality, Campos de Palmas), green diamonds are the new records. Forest type classification is based on Oliveira-Filho (2013). B - Juvenile *P. haasi* at Turvo State Park (Photo: Dra. Samanta Iop).
specimens were collected, identified, and deposited at the Herpetological Collection of the Federal University of Santa Maria (ZUFSM3009 and ZUFSM3010).

The nearest place from which this species is known is in Paraná state, about 400 km away in a straight line and within the same forest type, so the present work greatly enhances the distributional range of the species since all other known localities are equally or even more distant. This species is closely associated with Atlantic Araucaria forests, even being considered common in the state of Paraná (in the vicinity of the type locality). However, it can occasionally be found in disturbed areas (Gaiarsa et al., 2013; R. Bérnils unpublished data) as well as other forest types (Di-Bernardo et al., 2003). We found both specimens on the ground, in agreement with existing data about foraging habitat (Morato, 2005). However, both of our encounters occurred at nighttime, whereas Gaiarsa et al. (2013) described *P. haasi* as a diurnal species, suggesting that the period of activity may be broader than previously realized.

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References


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