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LEPTODACTYLIDAE) III. A REDEFINITION OF THE GENUS
LEPTODACTYLUS AND A DESCRIPTION OF
A NEW GENUS OF LEPTODACTYLID FROGS

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ABSTRACT: Identification and subsequent study of *Leptodactylus pulcher* Boulenger indicates that *pulcher* does not belong to the genus *Leptodactylus*, nor can it be allocated to any described leptodactylid genus.

The genus *Leptodactylus* is composed of approximately 30 species distributed in the lowlands and intermediate elevations of Latin America. The genus is distinguished from all other New World leptodactylids by the following combination of characters: tympanum distinct; toes without web, or with a web vestige only; maxillary and vomerine teeth present; no posterior projection of the vomer; mesosternum a bony style; terminal phalanges claw-shaped. The genus is redefined using characters of external morphology of adults and larvae; osteology; myology; breeding call; egg morphology, placement, and development; and chromosomes.

A new genus, *Barycholos*, is described for *Leptodactylus pulcher* Boulenger. *Barycholos* is distinguished from all other New World leptodactylids by the following combination of characters: tympanum distinct; tarsal tubercle present; toe disks present and lacking a groove on the outer circumference; mesosternum a calcified style. The genus is defined using characters of external morphology, osteology, and myology. It is presently known from the single species *pulcher*, which is found along the coastal lowlands of Ecuador. *Barycholos* is most nearly related to *Eleuthero-dactylus*, but the relationship is not close. *Barycholos pulcher* is redescribed on the basis of external morphology, and a lectotype is designated from the type series.

INTRODUCTION

The determination of the limits of the genus *Leptodactylus* based on re-examination of the named species is critical to a thorough biosystematic knowledge of the genus. A series of frogs made available by Dr. James A. Peters from Ecuador including representatives of *Leptodactylus pulcher* Boulenger raised special questions regarding the limits of the genus. Subsequent study indicated that *pulcher* is not a *Leptodactylus*. In addition, the species cannot be allocated to any described leptodactylid genus. The purpose

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