

RANA CATESBEIANA (American Bullfrog). **DIET.** On 2 January 2006 we observed *Rana catesbeiana* ingesting a native Haitian tree frog, *Osteopilus dominicensis*. The incident took place in an area of canal runoff near Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Deschapelle, Haiti at 2130 h. In Haiti, *R. catesbeiana* is an exotic, invasive species (Schwartz and Henderson 1988. Milwaukee Publ. Mus. Contr. Biol. Geol. No. 74, 264 pp.). *Rana catesbeiana* were first reported in Haiti in 2002 by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG). Surprisingly, *R. catesbeiana* is not listed as an invasive species threat in the Caribbean (Kairo and Ali 2003. Rept. to the Nature Conservancy. CAB International, Trinidad and Tobago). In other areas, introduced *R. catesbeiana* may be responsible for significant levels of predation on native anurans and other aquatic herpetofauna (Rosen and Schwalbe 1995. In Laroe et al. [eds.], U.S. Dept Interior, Natl. Biol. Serv., Washington, D.C. 530 pp.). Until recently, the range overlap of *R. catesbeiana* with any member of the genus *Osteopilus* has been limited to the Caribbean. However, the latest northward expansion of *O. septentrionalis* in Florida, USA has brought these two species together (P. Moler, pers. comm.). Thus, opportunities for such a predatory observation have been limited and this observation represents the first documented case of *R. catesbeiana* preying on a member of the genus *Osteopilus*. The *R. catesbeiana* appeared to foam at the mouth while ingesting the *O. dominicensis*, probably due to the toxic skin secretions, but this reaction did not appear to deter the act of ingestion. Several male and female *R. catesbeiana* were encountered at this site suggesting establishment in the immediate area.

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FIG. 1. *Rana catesbeiana* ingesting *Osteopilus dominicensis*.

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RANA CATESBEIANA (American Bullfrog). **PREY.** *Rana catesbeiana* is known to be an efficient predator of small vertebrates. Although amphibians can make up a large part of the diet, predation on snakes has been noted by several authors. Here we report *Liophis p. poecilogyrus* as prey of a female *R. catesbeiana* (SVL 109.2 mm). The frog was collected by S. L. Lima on 17 Aug 1983, in the municipality of Coimbra, Minas Gerais State, southeastern Brazil. The frog was fixed opened to show the whole prey (Fig. 1). The snake (TL 336.1 mm) was well preserved and its tail was hanging out of the frog's mouth, suggesting that it was swallowed just before collection. *Liophis poecilogyrus* is a terrestrial snake that feeds on anurans. It is well distributed over South America, with diurnal and nocturnal habits.

Rana catesbeiana is a nonnative species in Brazil, where it was introduced in the 1930s for commercial harvest. Because of poor management practices and high survival of individuals in wild habitats, this species established feral populations in many regions of the country. The voucher specimens currently are deposited at Museu de Zoologia João Moojen, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, Viçosa, Minas Gerais State, Brazil (*R. catesbeiana* MZUFV 202, *Liophis p. poecilogyrus* MZUFV 1380).

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FIG. 1. A female *Rana catesbeiana* (MZUFV 202) showing a whole specimen of *Liophis p. poecilogyrus* in its stomach.

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