

A new noteworthy record of *Phrynops williamsi* Rhodin & Mittermeier (Testudines, Chelidae) in Uruguay

Claudio Borteiro, Francisco Kolenc, Carlos Prigioni

Sección Herpetología, Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, 25 de Mayo 582, Montevideo, Uruguay.

Locality.— Uruguay, Tacuarembó Department, San Gregorio de Polanco (32°36'S, 55°50'W). We report the finding of a juvenile specimen of *Phrynops williamsi* in central Uruguay (MNHN 9487). It measured 40 mm of carapace length and was collected in February 2013 by Tiago Delpino in a streamlet tributary of the Negro River. This new record suggests that *P. williamsi* is widely distributed over the Negro River basin, at the southern boundaries of the species geographic range.

Comments.— The Neotropical turtle *Phrynops williamsi* (Testudines, Chelidae) is a scarcely studied species distributed in southern Brazil, north-eastern Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay (McCord *et al.*, 2001; van Dijk *et al.*, 2011). It inhabits lotic environments with rocky beds and fast flowing waters (Hensel, 1868; Waller and Chebez, 1987). A few records of this species are available from Uruguay, mainly in the north. We present herein a new noteworthy record of *P. williamsi* in this country and review its current distribution. Known localities of *P. williamsi* in Uruguay are shown in Figure 1.

The presence of *Phrynops williamsi* in Uruguay was documented in the north by Vaz-Ferreira and Sierra (1960) and Freiberg (1972) in the Cuareim River and Arroyo Chapicuy Grande respectively. Rhodin and Mittermeier (1983) mentioned the localities Arroyo Cuñapirú also in northern Uruguay and the Yaguarón River in the northeast, with no voucher specimens being cited. The occurrence of this turtle in the Yaguarón River was confirmed a few years later by Buskirk (1989). More recently, additional localities were reported for the Arapey, Cuareim and Uruguay Rivers in northern Uruguay (Carreira *et al.*, 2005). In contrast, there is only vague information on the presence of *Phrynops williamsi* more southwards in this country. Freiberg (1972) quotes the sighting of specimens in central Uruguay by his Uruguayan colleague R. Vaz-Ferreira at Rincón del Bonete, in the Negro River but this record awaited confirmation. In addition, Rhodin and Mit-

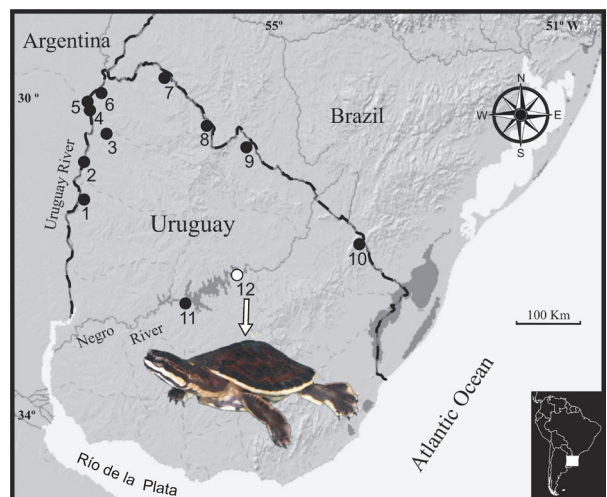


Figure 1. Distribution map of *Phrynops williamsi* in Uruguay. Localities: 1, Arroyo Chapicuy Grande; 2, Salto Grande; 3, Arapey River; 4, Arroyo Tigre; 5, Arrocería Conti; 6, Arroyo Itacumbú; 7, Yuquerí; 8, Picada del Negro Muerto (Vaz-Ferreira and Sierra 1960, Freiberg 1972, Carreira *et al.* 2005); 9, Arroyo Cuñapirú (Rhodin and Mittermeier 1983); 10, Yaguarón River (Buskirk 1989); 11, Rincón del Bonete (Freiberg 1972); 12, San Gregorio de Polanco, and specimen MNHN 9487 (present study).

termeier (1983) reported a specimen from Salto del Penitente (Lavalleja Department) in south central Uruguay deposited at the herpetological collection of Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, Montevideo, as MNHN 1582; this specimen is actually a female collected in northern Uruguay (“Artigas”) according to the MNHN database.

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