

Systematics of the *Litoria citropa* (Anura: Hylidae) Complex in Northern New South Wales and Southern Queensland, Australia, With the Description of a New Species

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ABSTRACT. We describe a new hylid frog, *Litoria daviesae* n.sp., from the highlands of mid-eastern New South Wales, Australia. The new species was formerly included in *L. subglandulosa*, from which it is now distinguished by allozyme and mitochondrial DNA profiles, colour and adult size. The geographic ranges of both species include several widely spaced conservation reserves. The conservation status of *L. subglandulosa* requires further investigation in the light of recent reported declines. *Litoria daviesae* n.sp. occurs in a series of apparently disjunct populations above 400 m altitude along the eastern escarpment and adjacent tablelands of the Great Dividing Range. The larvae of *L. daviesae* n.sp. occur in permanent streams and the adults are closely associated with the riparian zone.

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The forests of the coast and Great Dividing Range of eastern Australia contain a number of endemic hylid frog radiations. One of these, the *Litoria citropa* species group (Tyler & Davies, 1978, 1985), presently comprises a number of smaller leaf green coloured species and two larger species, *L. citropa* and *L. subglandulosa* both with prominent submandibular glands. Except for a nomenclatural issue concerning the usage of a species epithet (Tyler & Anstis,

1983), the systematics of the two larger species has been stable since *L. subglandulosa* was described by Tyler & Anstis (1975). The reproductive and larval biology and distributions of the species are well described (Anstis & Littlejohn, 1996).

Several species of frogs from eastern Australia have either disappeared or have suffered notable declines in their abundance and range (Ingram & McDonald, 1993; Richards