

Notes on Costa Rican Opalinids.

II. *Zelleriella antillensis* (Metcalf) and *Z. bufoxena* Metcalf.

by

Armando Ruiz* and Mario Alfaro*

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Four species of zelleriellae are known in Costa Rica, all described from local anurans. *Zelleriella opisthocarya* Metcalf, 1923, from *Bufo coniferus* Cope (collection place not indicated), *Z. atelopyxena* Metcalf, 1923, from *Atelopus varius* Stannius, collected at Pico Blanco, *Z. dendrobatidis* Metcalf, 1923, from *Dendrobates tinctorius* (Schneider), (collection place not indicated) and *Zelleriella* sp., a second species found by Metcalf in *Atelopus varius* but not named by this author. Unfortunately we have not had the opportunity of examining specimens of this frog so that we might encounter again the latter species of *Zelleriella* and proceed to redescribe it. With this note we increase the number of known species with the following: *Z. antillensis* (Metcalf, 1914) Metcalf, 1923 and *Z. bufoxena* Metcalf, 1923.

Z. antillensis was originally described by Metcalf from specimens of *Bufo marinus* from Jamaica. *B. marinus* is the most widely distributed toad in our country. We have examined 33 animals of this species of which 22 harbor zelleriellae. No differences were found with Metcalf's description (*U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.*, 120, 1923). The largest form we found measured 194 μ in length and 121 μ in width. In our preparations there are present a great variety of sizes from the largest trophozoites to the smallest pre-cystic forms. The cysts appear as uninucleated, irregular or rounded bodies. These elements measured 21 - 30 μ in diameter. *Zelleriella artagasi* Unti (*Rev. Biol. Hyg.*, 6: 39, 1935) is another species described from *Bufo marinus*. At present we have not been able to find it in our material.

Zelleriella bufoxena was found in a specimen of *Bufo haematiticus* collected at Turrialba. The scanty forms encountered corresponded well to Metcalf's description (*U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.*, 120, 1923). No cysts were observed. This species was described by Metcalf from specimens of *Bufo haematiticus* collected at Nicaragua.

* Departamento de Parasitología, Facultad de Microbiología, Universidad de Costa Rica.