

Predation on *Leposternon microcephalum* Wagler, 1824 (Squamata, Amphisbaenidae) by *Cariama cristata* Linnaeus, 1766 (Cariamiformes, Cariamidae)

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Leposternon microcephalum occurs in Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil (Pérez and Ribeiro, 2008). Many predation records by different groups of vertebrates upon amphisbaenians have been reported, such as birds (Rajão et al., 2013), mammals (Oliveira, Ribas and Moura-Leite, 2004), snakes (Marques and Sazima, 1997; Barbo and Marques, 2003; Caramaschi and Niemeyer, 2012) and lizards (Marques and Sazima, 2004; Ubaid, Nascimento and Maffei, 2009). Here, we present the first documented report of predation upon the species *L. microcephalum* by *Cariama cristata*, a bird species known as seriema.

On 17 February 2015, at 17:15 pm, we observed an individual of *Cariama cristata* feeding upon an adult of *L. microcephalum*, near an Atlantic Forest fragment (lat=-20.783333°; long=-42.866672°; datum=WGS84), in Municipality of Viçosa, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil (Figure 1). During our observation, when the individual of seriema noted our approach, it flew and dropped the individual of smallhead slow worm on the ground. After this, we collected it (license permit ICMBio 45889-1) and deposited it in Coleção Zoológica de Referência da Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul (ZUFMS-2288).

Since predation events are dependent on fortuity observations, especially in species with fossorial habits like amphisbaenians, our record contributes to the predator list of *L. microcephalum*, contributing to the knowledge of its natural history and ecological interactions with predators.

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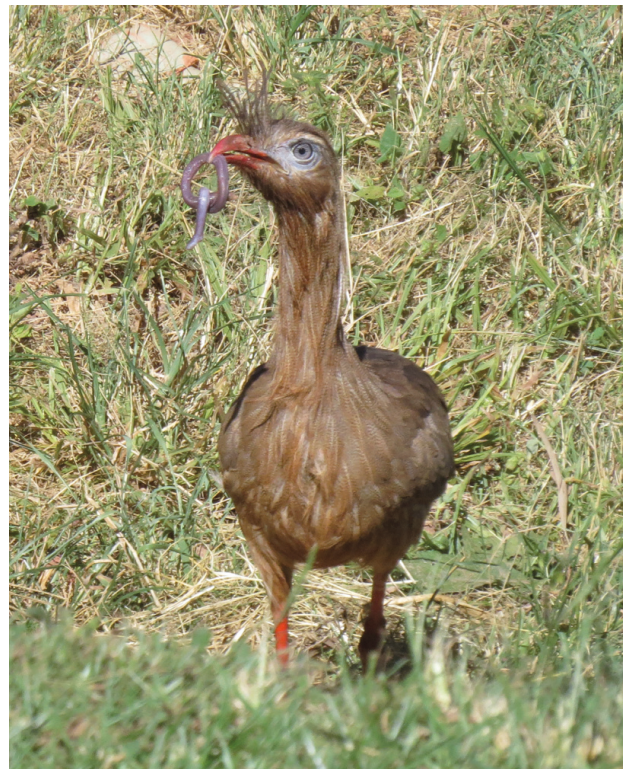


Figure 1. Individual of *Cariama cristata* preying on *Leposternon microcephalum* in the municipality of Viçosa, state of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

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