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DENDROBATES PUMILIO (Strawberry Poison-dart Frog).
COLORATION

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DENDROBATES PUMILIO (Strawberry Poison-dart Frog). **COLORATION.** *Dendrobates pumilio* of Central America is noted for its exceptionally high level of color polymorphism (Savage 2002. *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica*. Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago and London. 954 pp.). For decades this species has been the focus of numerous studies to elucidate the function, evolution, and maintenance of this color variation (Wang and Shaffer 2008. *Evolution* 62:2742–2759). An integral aspect of this research is to develop a detailed knowledge of the geographical range and description of all the color morphs.

The purpose of this note is to expose the existence of a previously unknown population of *D. pumilio* that differ from previously described populations. The existence of this population is based on numerous individuals that were consistently encountered during the years of 2005–2007, while the author was conducting unrelated research in the region. This new color morph is all blue, similar to the previously described morph found in the Cerro Brujo region, but has the large black spotting on the dorsum like those morphs found on Bastimentos (Fig. 1).

Individuals from this population were encountered on the mainland of the Bocas del Toro Province, Panama in the foothills between the Rio Changuinola and the Rio Risco within the vicinity of 9.218863°N, 82.460632°W. Although individuals of the nominate color morph were often encountered in adjacent areas along the Rio Changuinola, the two morphs were never seen within the area.



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FIG. 1. The newly discovered color morph of *Dendrobates pumilio* differs from the nominate color form in being uniformly dark blue with large black spots on the dorsum.

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