Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.


**Pseudacris clarkii** (Baird)  
Spotted Chorus Frog

*Helocastes clarkii* Baird, 1854:60. Type locality "Galveston and Indianola, Texas." Restricted to Galveston, Galveston County, Texas by Schmidt (1953). Syntype, National Museum of Natural History (USNM) 3313, date of collection unknown. Collected by M. Dean in Galveston, Galveston County, Texas (examined by authors). Location of other syntype unknown, but may be near the specimen described in Baird, 1859. See Nomenclatural History.

**Choropiakos trierata burri**: Cope, 1875:30.

**Pseudacris trierata burri** Stejneger and Barbour, 1933:31.

**Pseudacris clarkii**: Smith, 1954:462.


*Content.* No subspecies are recognized.

*Definition and Diagnosis.* *Pseudacris clarkii* is a relatively small hylid frog with a pointed snout in lateral view and poorly developed webbing between the toes. Adults range in size from 25-35 mm snout-vent length. Digital disks are greatly reduced, only slightly wider than digits. Vomerine teeth are present in two small, round patches. A conspicuous tympanum is in contact with or only very slightly separated from the angle of the jaw. Dorsal pattern and coloration are important in distinguishing *P. clarkii* from other members of the genus; dorsal color is light brown or gray, with large, irregularly arranged spots or blotches. Spots are green with a thin, dark border in live specimens. A distinct lateral green stripe runs through the eye to midbody, and a white labial stripe is present. Typically, a triangular mark is found between the eyes. The venter is whitish, although the gular pouch is dark in mature males.

In larvae, the snout is bluntly rounded, eyes directed dorsolaterally, the anal tube short and dextral. The spiracle is on the left side of the body and is directed posteriorly. Lips are bordered by 1-2 rows of small papillae with a wide gap on the upper lip. There are 2 rows of upper teeth and 3 rows of lower teeth; the second upper row is interrupted medially and the third lower row is much shorter than the other two lower rows.

*Descriptions.* Descriptions of adults are in Burt (1936), Lord and Davis (1955), Kennedy (1958), and Littlejohn and Michaud (1959). Eggs are described by Wright and Wright (1949), embryos and larvae by Eaton and Imagawa (1948) and Duellman (1970), vocalizations by Wright and Wright (1949) and Duellman (1970).


*Distribution.* *Pseudacris clarkii* occurs primarily in prairie habitats from the Rio Grande north to central Kansas.

*Fossil Record.* Chantell (1964) reported a left ilium from an upper Miocene site in Brown County, Nebraska, and Holman (1978) identified two left ilia from the late Miocene Fort Randall Formation in South Dakota. Two right ilia from the Pleistocene found in Lubbock County, Texas were described by Holman (1969).

*Pertinent Literature.* Jameson (1956), Blair (1961), and Weist (1982) described breeding habits. Call discrimination was dis-
delphia 7:59-62.
——. 1859. Reptiles of the boundary. U.S. Mexico Boundary Sur-
vey, Vol 2. 35 p. + 41 plates.
Blair, W. Frank. 1961. Calling and spawning seasons in a mixed
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Figure 3. Audiospectrogram of advertisement call of *Pseudacris clarkii* from near Webberville, Bastrop County, Texas, 13 April 1988; water temperature 21.2°C, air temperature 11.4°C; 300 Hz bandwidth. Specimen USNM 285115, collected and recorded by Reginald Cocroft.

Figure 4. Waveform analysis of middle four pulses of a call of *Pseudacris clarkii*. Collection data is the same as that for the audiospectrogram. Sampling frequency = 10 kHz; Nyquist frequency = 5 kHz.


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Primary editor for this account, David M. Hillis.

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