

Diagnosis of the status of the anuran collection at La Salle Museum, Bogotá, Colombia

Diagnóstico del estado de la colección de anuros del Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia

Julieth S. Cárdenas  and Diana A. Delgadillo 

Abstract

The anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle is one of the oldest in Colombia, with 2059 specimens collected since 1917. Its age represents a challenge for a thorough quantification of its status, considering that it may not necessarily fit current quality standards. Therefore, we implemented a methodology to evaluate the status of the collection in terms of health, data completeness, taxonomic representativeness, taxonomic identification and geographical coverage. The collection harbors 13 families, with Craugastoridae as the best represented, with 44 species and 517 specimens. The department with the largest number of specimens was Cundinamarca, with 363 records of 52 species. Most specimens are in optimal condition of conservation and preservation. The results of this research enabled the solution of problems in the collection and it could be useful for other collections.

Keywords. Biological collections. Curatorship. Health index. Taxonomic representativeness.

Resumen

La colección de anuros del Museo de La Salle es una de las más antiguas de Colombia, con 2059 especímenes recolectados desde 1917. Esa antigüedad representa un reto para cuantificar el estado de la colección de manera integral, considerando que no cumplirá necesariamente con los estándares actuales de calidad. Debido a esto, se implementó una metodología para evaluar el estado de la colección a partir de su salud, la completitud de datos, la representatividad taxonómica, la identificación taxonómica y la representatividad geográfica. Registramos 13 familias, siendo Craugastoridae la más abundante, con 44 especies y 517 especímenes. El departamento con el mayor número de especímenes es Cundinamarca, con 363 registros y 52 especies. Encontramos que la mayoría de los individuos presentan condiciones óptimas de conservación y preservación. Los resultados de esta investigación permitieron solucionar problemas de la colección, y se espera que, a partir de la metodología utilizada, el ejercicio sea de utilidad para otras colecciones.

Palabras clave. Colecciones biológicas. Curaduría. Índice de salud. Representatividad taxonómica.

Introduction

Biological collections are representations and historical archives of a region's or a country's natural heritage (Ramírez & Bernal, 2006). Collections are composed of specimens and biological material such as tissues, feathers and fingerprints, among others, that are preserved, catalogued, organized (numerically, alphanumerically, phylogenetically or according to the size of the storage unit) and taxonomically determined (Lozano, 2009; SINCHI, <http://www.sinchi.org.co/coleccionesbiologicas/index>). Collections harbor a great diversity of specimens and information that can be used for research, exhibition or teaching (Simmons & Muñoz-Saba, 2005; Corredores, 2009). One of the purposes of a collection is to spread knowledge, popularize research and serve as a reference for studies in taxonomy, systematics, ecology, biogeography and conservation (Ramírez & Bernal, 2006; Corredores, 2009).

To contribute to these studies, biological collections must have updated and complete basic data for each specimen, such as scientific name, location, geographical coordinates, collector information, and dates, in addition to including field notes and ecological and morphological information obtained at the time of capture. However, old specimens often lack this information (Forero, 2012; Instituto Humboldt, 2014). Additionally, biological collections often have gaps in geographic information (nonexistent coordinates, department, municipality and unspecific localities), possibly due to the lack of equipment that has become more popular in recent decades as geographic positioning systems (GPS) (Lozano, 2009). These conditions limit the use of information and prevent ancient specimens from being optimally used in biogeography studies (Escalante *et al.*, 2000; Fernández *et al.*, 2004).

Because the quality of old collections cannot be evaluated with the same standards imposed to recent specimens, appropriate methodologies must be used to identify aspects needing corrective actions. The collection health index is one of the methodologies most frequently used to evaluate collections (Paradell & Defea, 2017). It determines, among other aspects, the status of each

specimen thereby defining the collection's general state (Simmons & Muñoz-Saba, 2005). However, it could be useful to separately consider the various aspects that account for the state of a collection, in order to determine the specific areas needing attention.

In addition to the collection health index, other parameters are used to evaluate collections, taking into account specimen data quality. *Data completeness* indicates how complete the information associated with the collection data matrix is. The *representativeness analysis* determines the representation of a taxon in the collection (at the level of genus, family or subfamily). The *taxonomic identification index* gives information on the level of identification of the collection. Similarly, it is possible to generate a *geographical representativeness index*, showing the representation of a taxon in a geographical area, either at the level of departments, municipalities or ecoregions (Corredores, 2009). All these methods have been widely used (Camacho & Burneo, 2009; Vallejo & Acosta, 2005), even for older collections that do not have available information, yet do not necessarily have poor quality.

Because of its old age, the anuran collection of Museo de La Salle, in Bogotá, Colombia, has difficulties to meet the standards currently used to evaluate biological collections. Therefore, this collection is a good candidate for implementing assessment methods that consider the above-mentioned aspects. In this study, we included some aspects of the collection health index proposed by McGinley (1993) and adopted by Simmons & Muñoz-Saba (2005), together with indicators of geographic and taxonomic data completeness, in order to determine the status of the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle, and implement a more flexible collection evaluation methodology.

Materials and methods

Collection health index. We reviewed and evaluated 2059 anuran specimens from the amphibian collection of the Museo de La Salle. Initially we took each of the

containers in which the specimens were deposited, and, using its label, confirmed the taxonomic identity through the website Amphibian Species of the World, of the American Museum of Natural History (<http://research.amnh.org/vz/herpetology/amphibia/>).

To calculate the collection health index, we adjusted the protocol proposed by McGinley (1993) and adopted by Simmons & Muñoz-Saba (2005). Specifically, the age of each specimen in the collection, its physical state, the quality of the information on the label, and the taxonomic identification were considered. Additionally, the possibilities of expansion, and the arrangement of the specimens in the collection were assessed. These criteria were evaluated separately in order to obtain a more detailed diagnosis of the collection's state, and thus perform a curation process aimed at those categories that require it, unlike the method proposed by McGinley (1993) and Simmons & Muñoz-Saba (2005). Considering this, the health index was divided into four categories:

Category 1 (SS): State of the specimen. This category takes into account the absence or presence of the specimen and its parts. In addition, it evaluates whether the available material allows for taxonomic determination or not; in the same way, the absence or presence of pests and the state of hydration (hydrated/dehydrated) is considered. Unlike other proposals, a value can be assigned specifically for the state of the specimen, considering the conservation conditions that specimens require for their maintenance. The criteria to evaluate this category are found in Table 1.

Category 2 (SD): Specimen data. This category assesses the presence or absence of a description, locality data (department and municipality), georeferenced localities (that have additional information (DW), such as collection date and/or collector). In this category, the age of the specimens was taken into account, in order not to discriminate specimens collected before 2000 that do not meet the currently proposed standards. The criteria for evaluating this category are found in Table 2.

Table 1. Levels of curatorship for the category State of the specimen for the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia.

State of the specimen	
Value	Description
0	Specimen absent.
1	Specimen with missing parts that prevent their taxonomic determination and without appropriate preservation materials, according to the collection (ethyl alcohol, glass bottles, entomological pins, acid-free paper).
2	Specimen with missing parts that impede its taxonomic determination (e. g., legs, fingers), but with appropriate preservation materials, according to the collection (e. g., ethyl alcohol, glass jar, entomological pins, acid-free paper).
4	Complete specimen, but poorly assembled or with problems like fungi, pests or dehydration, which prevent its taxonomic determination.
6	Incomplete specimen, poorly assembled or with problems such as fungi, pests or dehydration, but taxonomic determination is possible.
7	Complete specimen that is assembled properly, and although it presents problems of fungi, pests or dehydration, its taxonomic determination is possible.
10	Specimen complete and assembled in a way that facilitates its taxonomic determination. It does not have fungi, pests or any agent that affects its preservation

Table 2. Levels of curatorship for the category “Specimen data” in the anuran collection of Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia.

Data of the specimen	
Value	Description
0	Total absence of data.
1	Specimen with some kind of information, but there is no clarity in the meaning of the information and its association with the specimen.
2	Specimen without locality data; may have other information (collection method, date or collector).
3	The location data in the matrix do not agree with the information of the physical specimen.
4	Specimen with some locality data (example: country, department); may have other information (collection method, date or collector).
6	Specimen with some data of locality to municipality; may have other information (collection method, date or collector).
7	Specimen with georeferenced location data (for specimens collected after 2005) or with an exhaustive description of the collection site (for specimens collected before 2005), with incomplete and/or absent date; collector’s name present or absent.
9	Specimen that entered the collection before 2005, with complete locality data (country, department and municipality), must have date (minimum month - year), collector and/or field data. If any physical data are missing in the matrix (dates exchanged, determiner, collector) but may be solved immediately, this category will be assigned.
10	Specimen with complete locality data (country, department, with an exhaustive description of the collection site) that entered the collection before 2005; must have date (minimum month - year), collector and/or field data.
	Specimen with data of country, department, municipality, locality, georeferenced locality (latitude and longitude), original coordinate system, and date and complete collector and/or field data.

Category 3 (RCTIO): Registration, cataloging, taxonomic identification and organization. This category evaluates if the specimen has some type of taxonomic determination (family, genus or species) and if it is cataloged. The criteria for evaluating this category are found in [Table 3](#).

Category 4 (FA): Physical aspects of the collection. This category evaluates the location of the specimens, conditions and materials of storage units, and access to specimens. This category considers also problems of humidity or radiation. The criteria for evaluating this category are found in [Table 4](#).

The first three categories were applied for each individual specimen, whereas the fourth category was applied to the whole collection, resulting in a single value for the entire collection. In order to define the state of the collection in each of the first three categories (SS, SD, RCTIO), a value was generated by category for each specimen and the three values were averaged to obtain the index for the entire collection. At the end, for the whole collection we obtained three different indexes that account for the different aspects considered by category. In each category, the index has a level of curation that goes from 0 to 10 (10 being the optimal state). The collection health index (CHI) values

Table 3. Levels of curatorship for the category Registration, cataloging, taxonomic identification and organization of specimens for the anuran collection of Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia.

Registration, cataloging, taxonomic identification and organization of the specimens in the collection	
Value	Description
0	Specimen not cataloged, without minimum taxonomic determination until division and not arranged in a logical way in the collection, preventing easy location.
1	Specimen not cataloged (MLS catalog number), with some kind of minimum taxonomic determination up to class, but not arranged in a logical way in the collection, preventing easy location.
2	Specimen not cataloged (MLS catalog number), determined taxonomically between subclass and family, but arranged in a logical way in the collection, facilitating their location.
3	Specimen not cataloged (MLS catalog number), with some kind of taxonomic determination between subfamily and subspecies, arranged in a logical way in the collection, facilitating its location.
4	Different specimens that are cataloged with the same number and that are in a different storage unit, have some kind of taxonomic determination between subfamily and subspecies, but are arranged in a logical way in the collection, facilitating their location.
	Different specimens that are cataloged with different numbers and are in the same storage unit, have some kind of taxonomic determination between subfamily and subspecies, but are arranged in a logical way in the collection, facilitating their location.
5	Specimen with some kind of logical organization that allows its location, is cataloged, and has digitized information in the database, but is not determined taxonomically (at least to family).
6	Specimen with some kind of logical organization that allows its location, is cataloged, has information digitized in the database, but is are not determined taxonomically (at least to genus).
7	Specimen cataloged and registered in the database, determined at the species level and/or reviewed by a specialist, and with some kind of logical organization that allows its location.
8	The information of the specimens is included in theses and/or monographs.
9	The information of the specimens is included in the Sistema de Información sobre Biodiversidad de Colombia (SiB Colombia).
10	The specimen is cataloged, identified (at the species level), organized, and its data are in scientific publications.

are ranked as high, medium or low level, based on the following criteria: 0-3.9, low; 4-6.9, medium; and 7-10, high (Cárdenas & Delgadillo, 2017).

For example, for category 1 (State of the specimen), the formulas is

$$CHI(SS) = \frac{\sum SS}{TS}$$

where CHI(SS)=Health index of the collection with respect to the state of the specimen, SS=Values of each individual obtained by the Category 1: State of the specimen, and TS=Total of specimens in the collection.

To calculate the general collection health index [CHI(G)], the values of each category were added, and the resulting value was divided into 40, which is the

Table 4. Levels of curatorship for the category Physical aspects of the collection, for the collection of anurans Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia.

Physical aspects of the collection	
Value	Description
0	Specimen not located in storage units like cabinets, shelves or drawers, and is in a space with humidity and ultraviolet radiation.
1	Specimen located in storage units such as cabinets, shelves or drawers, not exposed to humidity or ultraviolet radiation, but the storage units have flaws in their operation (for example doors and/or drawers do not close easily).
2	Specimen located in storage units such as cabinets, shelves or drawers, not exposed to humidity or ultraviolet radiation, and the storage units work properly, but are not labeled for an easy location of specimens.
3	Specimen located in storage units such as cabinets, shelves or drawers, not exposed to humidity or ultraviolet radiation, and the storage units work properly and are labeled but are not easily accessible.
4	The storage units are accessible, but they do not have enough room for collection growth, and they are not made of stable and non-reactive materials to minimize damage to the specimens.
5	The storage units are accessible, but they do not have enough room for collection growth. They are made of stable and non-reactive materials to minimize damage to the specimens.
6	The storage units have enough room for collection growth and are accessible, but they are not made of stable and non-reactive materials to minimize damage to the specimens.
8	The storage units have enough room for collection growth, they are accessible and made of stable and non-reactive materials to minimize damage to the specimens.
10	The specimen is located in storage units such as cabinets, shelves or drawers, that are not exposed to humidity or ultraviolet radiation, and work properly. They are labeled, have enough room for collection growth, are accessible and are made of stable and not-reactive materials, to minimize damage to the specimens. There is an integrated pest management program.

maximum value that could be obtained by adding the four categories. To transform it into a percentage the value was multiplied by 100:

$$CHI(G) = \frac{(CHI(SS) + CHI(SD) + CHI(RCTIO) + CHI(FA))}{40} \times 100$$

The *Completeness of collection data* was determined from the formula proposed by [Vallejo & Acosta \(2005\)](#) and [Instituto Humboldt \(2007\)](#), evaluating if each specimen had the minimum data required, according to the 87

fields stated in the Darwin Core 3.0 standard, published by SiB Colombia. For the Museo de La Salle, 39 fields are mandatory and the remaining 48 are recommended. Of the 39 mandatory fields, 12 are geographic (continent, country, country code, department, municipality, town center, locality, original location, original coordinate, original latitude and longitude and original coordinate system), 11 are taxonomic (scientific name, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, taxon category, original category of the taxon and authorship of the scientific name), and 8 are associated with the collection event, DW (registration number, identified by, number

of individuals, date of the event, year, month, date and original date of the event).

The number of complete or empty mandatory fields was counted and multiplied by 100. Since not all the specimens comply with the Darwin Core standard the formula was applied separately for specimens collected before the year 2000 and those collected after 2000. For collection (DW), taxonomic (T) and geographic (G) events, the formulas followed the form

$$Dc = (Ef/Tf) \times 100$$

where Dc=Data completeness, Ef=Number of empty fields, and Tf=Total number of mandatory fields.

Representativeness and taxonomic identification. To determine the taxonomic representativeness of the records, we used the formula proposed by Vallejo & Acosta (2005) and Instituto Humboldt (2007):

$$TRi = [SCi/SCe] \times 100$$

where TRi=Taxonomic representativeness, SCi=Number of taxon species in the collection, and SCe=Number of species recorded in Colombia (<http://www.batrachia.com>).

The analysis of taxonomic identification was made by means of the formula proposed by the Instituto Humboldt (2007), which relates the count of records that have not been identified to species with the total of records cataloged in the collection:

$$Tla = \left(\frac{Tlid}{BRt} \right) \times 100$$

where Tla=Taxonomic identification, Tlid=Number of species identified in the collection, and

BRt=Total number of biological records in the collection

Geographic representativeness. The identification of geographic representativeness was determined by means of the formula proposed by Vallejo & Acosta

(2005) and Instituto Humboldt (2007), which relates the number of Colombian departments registered in the collection, with the total number of departments and multiplying it by a hundred:

$$GRih = \left[\frac{GAih}{GAh} \right] \times 100$$

where RGih=Geographic representativeness, GAih=Number of geographic areas represented in the collection, and GAh=Number of total geographic areas for Colombia.

Results

Collection health index

State of the specimen. We obtained a value of 9.13, which indicates that most individuals have all their parts, do not have fungi, or any type of deterioration (Figure 1a).

Specimen data. We obtained a value of 7.58, which indicates that the majority collection specimens have the fields established according to the Darwin Core standard and the criteria adopted by the Museo de La Salle. The collection has some locality data that have a relatively detailed description of the sampled area for the specimens collected before 2000. However, of these old specimens, 2088 do not comply with the field referring to geographic coordinates and 38 specimens have all the fields established in the Darwin Core standard in terms of geographical fields (Figure 1b).

Registration, cataloging, taxonomic identification and organization of the specimens. We obtained a value of 6.70, which indicates that the collection is mostly determined up to species, is cataloged and organized which allows the easy location of the specimens (Figure 1c).

Physical aspects of the collection. We found that 1998 specimens have a value of 5, with accessible storage units, but the collection does not present enough room for collection growth (Figure 1d).

The general collection health index revealed a curatorial level of 71.06 %, with the largest number of records (1633) being in level 7 (Figure 2).

Completeness of collection data. The indicator of data completeness showed that 3.22 % of the required fields for the specimens collected before the year 2000 are empty, which correspond to 1 % of the collection event (DW). Mandatory fields were missing in 879 specimens. From these data, 1.33 % correspond to taxonomic information: 1473 specimens do not have the corresponding fields, whereas 6.36 % of the specimens do not comply the Darwin Core standard (Figure 3). For the specimens collected after 2000, 2.06 % of the fields are empty, 1.96 % of the fields of the collection event (DW) are incom-

plete, 0.87 % corresponding to the taxonomic level, that is, 960 specimens do not comply with the standard, and 3.23 % of the geographical fields do not have the required fields (Figure 4).

Representativeness and taxonomic identification.

The collection of anurans has a high representation of families (13 out of families), with Craugastoridae and Hylidae as the most representative families, with 44 species each. The family Pipidae (two species) has a low representation in the collection and the family Eleutherodactylidae is not represented. Among the most abundant subfamilies, Ceuthomantinae has 38 species, followed by Leptodactylinae, with 16 species. The least represented subfamilies are Holoadeninae and Hyalinobatrachinae, with one species each. The genus with the highest number of records and species is *Pristimantis*, with 489 records and 38 species, followed by *Dendropsophus*, with 184 records and 13 species. The genera with less species are *Minyobates* and *Sphaenorhynchus*, with three records and one species each.

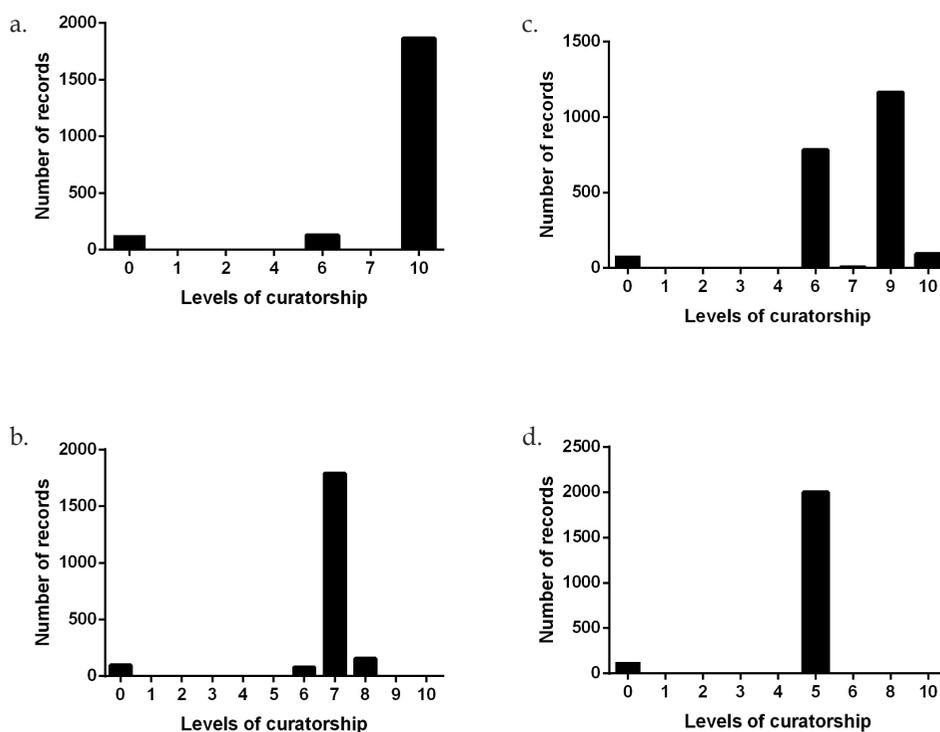


Figure 1. Health index of the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia. a. State of the specimen. b. Specimen data. c. Taxonomic determination. d. Physical aspects of the collection.

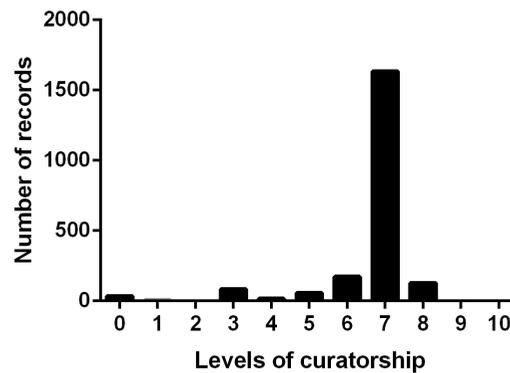


Figure 2. General health index of of the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia.

The collection is determined up to species in 92.27 %, which corresponds to 1886 specimens. There are 60 specimens determined up to genus and 186 are not determined.

Geographical representation. At the department level, the collection has a high geographical representation, showing specimens from 31 of the 32 departments (96.87 %). The department with the highest number of records and species is Cundinamarca, with 363 records and 52 species, followed by Santander, with 260 records and 33 species. The departments with the least number of records are Vaupés, Bolívar and the Archipelago de San Andrés Providencia y Santa Catalina, with one species each (Figure 5).

Discussion

The main difference of our study with indexes traditionally used is that indexes were also generated by subcategories (besides a global collection health index), thus allowing for the definition of particular areas in which actions are required for the improvement of the collection (specimen state, specimen data, taxonomic determination or physical aspects of the collection). In addition, adjustments were made within the categories, to evaluate the specimens that were collected

before 2005, as is the case of the presence or absence of geographic coordinates, since not all specimens have such information.

In general terms, the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle is in good condition in comparison with those recorded for other Colombian collections. For example, the amphibian collection at the Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad de Caldas indicates that it needs to be improved, since it had incomplete curatorship and digitization (Serna-Botero & Ramírez-Castaño, 2017) its important to clarify that this data is the result of another methodology, which means that a direct comparison cannot be made between the two studies. At the Instituto Humboldt, 4701 specimens of the amphibian collection (52.39 %) are in level 5, showing that the collection needs re-labeling, taxonomic updating and organization (Rueda, 2005). The herpetological collection of the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana had a health index of 1.46 %, which indicates that it needs improvement; the low value is due to the lack of information records for specimens, and geographic information in field notebooks, in addition to an inadequate organization of the collection (Corredores, 2009).

In 2009, the Museo de La Salle evaluated the health index of its anuran collection (strictly following the methods proposed by Simmons & Muñoz-Saba (2005).

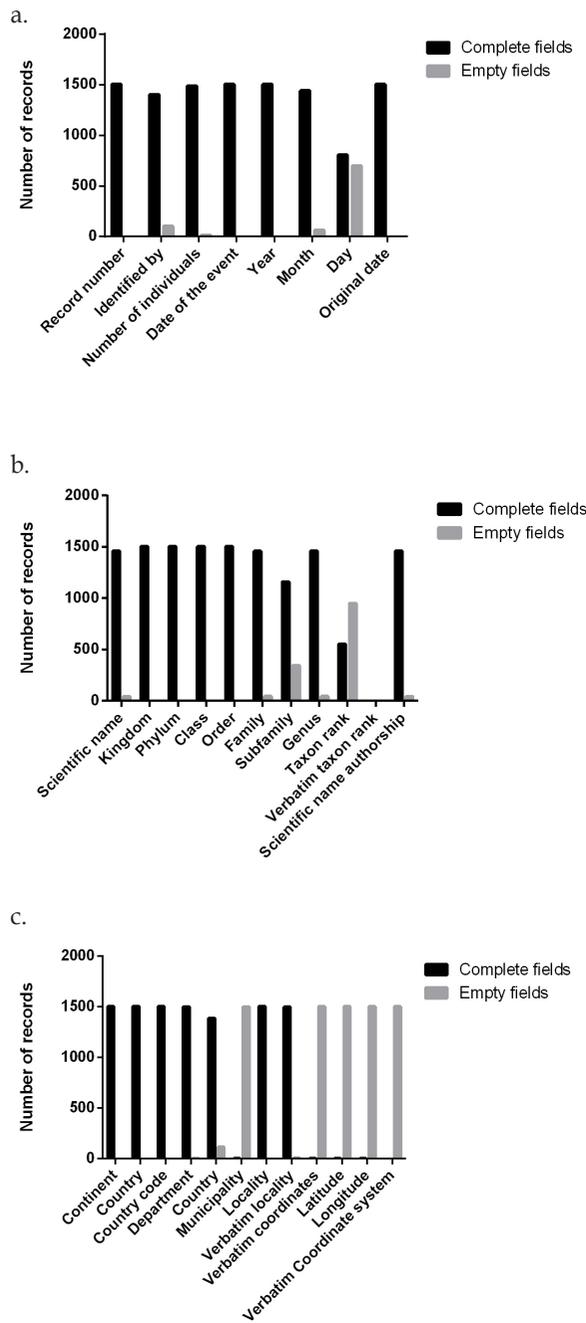


Figure 3. Data completeness of the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia, for specimens collected before 2000. a. Fields of the collection event. b. Taxonomic fields. c. Geographic fields.

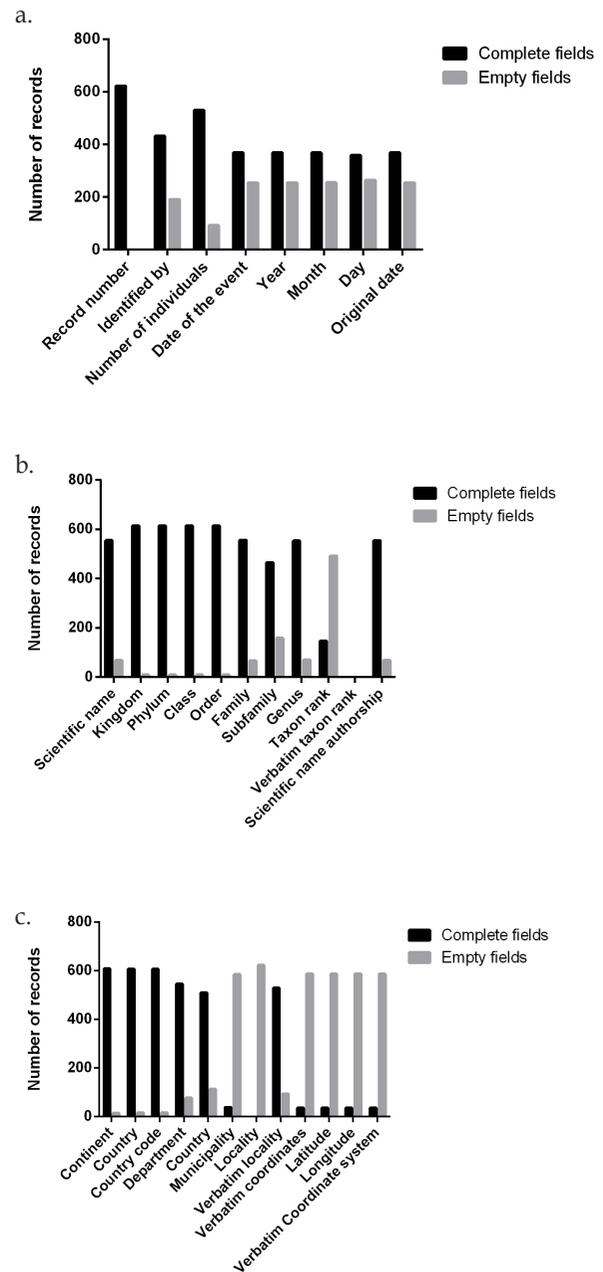


Figure 4. Data completeness of the anuran collection of the Museo de La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia, for specimens collected after 2000. a. Fields of the collection event. b. Taxonomic fields. c. Geographic fields.

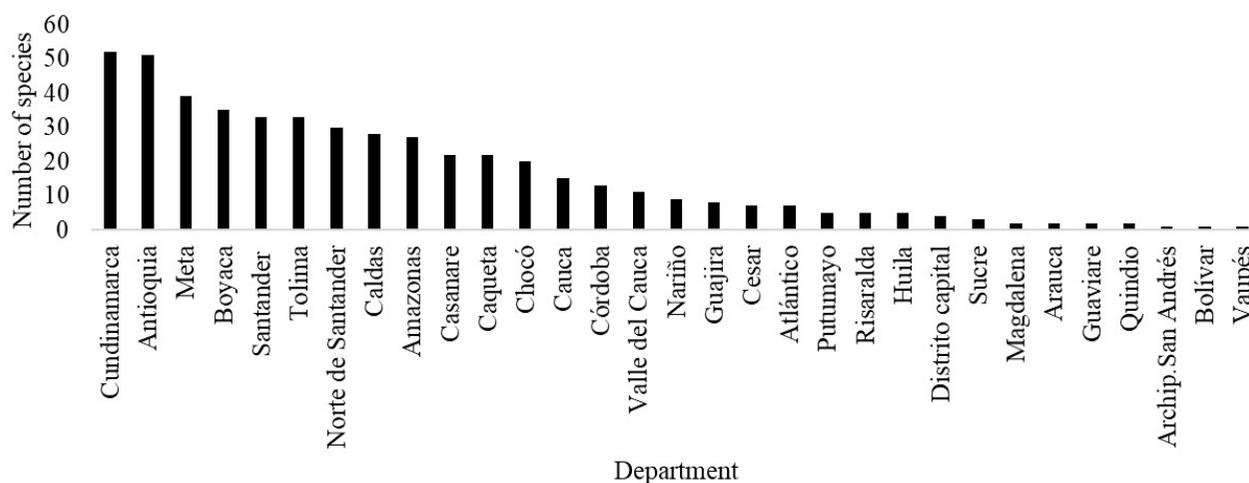


Figure 5. Geographical representativeness of the species by department in the collection of anurans of the Museo de La Salle, Bogotá.

In that study, the general health index obtained was 1.21 % (Contreras, 2009), evidencing a low level of curatorship, the lack of cataloging, the need to improve storage conditions, verification and updating of taxonomic determinations, standardization of localities and georeferencing, as well as reviewing if the specimens were reported in scientific publications.

The current health index of the La Salle collection shows that its curatorship has improved. In 2009 the collection was arranged taxonomically, and today it is completely based on a catalog number system and numerically arranged. In the new method proposed here, specific aspects of the specimens were considered and not only general aspects that could cause a conflict when deciding the assignment of a curatorial level (Appendix 1). When analyzing each category separately, it is possible to see that not all categories are at the same level, which allows proposing management strategies and determining improvements for each category.

A method similar to the one proposed in this paper was proposed by the Museo de Zoología de la Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (QCAZ). The authors

describe by subcategories the criteria to evaluate the status of the specimens (Camacho & Burneo, 2009), obtaining a value roughly similar to that of Museo de La Salle (79 %).

The figure of 3.22 % of fields empty for the specimens collected before 2000 reflects the fact that the collection has old specimens which do not fulfill the Darwin Core standard. This emphasizes the need of a special analysis for specimens older than 10 years. Even if they do not meet modern standards, those specimens are of vital importance, because they can be used for genetic studies involving species and populations already extinct (Burrell *et al.*, 2015). These collections also offer the opportunity to do future research in taxonomy and evolutionary history of species located in remote areas, using modern techniques (Besnard *et al.*, 2016).

In the specimens with records, the figure of 2.06 % of specimens obtained after the year 2000, which do not comply with the Darwin Core standard is low compared to that found by Corredores (2009), in which a value of 92.7 % empty mandatory fields was obtained. On the other hand, in the collection of Museo de Historia

Natural de la Universidad de Caldas, 50 % of the fields corresponding to microhabitat and description were empty (Serna-Botero & Ramírez-Castaño, 2017). Additionally, the collection of Museo Javeriano (MUJ) presented a percentage of 76.6 % with critical fields, due to the methods used to enter the information into the databases (Vallejo & Acosta, 2005). These fields prevent the information contained in the databases from being used efficiently, thus limiting their scope (Villarreal *et al.*, 2006; Trujillo *et al.*, 2014).

The collection of the Museo de La Salle has 8.82 % of specimens without information in geographical fields, limiting the utility of the collection. However, many of these specimens have the description of locality, allowing for a future georeferencing process (Besnard *et al.*, 2016). The results of this research show the enormous possibility of using the collection of anurans at the Museo de La Salle in different studies.

The anuran collection has 1607 specimens that comply with all the obligatory taxonomic fields. Their information can strengthen the national biodiversity inventory (MADS, 2013). The lack of geographic data, specifically in terms of georeferences for Museo de La Salle and the data obtained for the Museo de Historia Natural de La Universidad de Caldas, in which of the

information was complete (data collector, locations, georeferencing, among others). That collection, unlike the one of the Museo de La Salle, has morphometric information. However, in both institutions the microhabitat information, field descriptions and additional observations are not present in the database or in the specimen (Serna-Botero & Ramírez-Castaño, 2017). However, those specimens and their information may be useful data sources about the country's biodiversity (Donato *et al.*, 2015).

Because of its high geographical representativeness (96.87 %) the anuran collection of Museo de La Salle plays an important role as an information repository for the country (Besnard *et al.*, 2016). In addition, this information allows for the identification of sites where species can potentially be found and areas with high specific richness (Flores-Maldonado *et al.*, 2015).

The indices used in this study may generate a diagnosis in which all the necessary aspects for the conservation of biological collections are considered, and thus monitoring, maintenance and improvement strategies may be developed. In this way, the role of collections as sources of information for different types of research about taxonomy, biological diversity, geographic distribution or genetics, among others, may be enhanced.

Appendix 1. Results of the Health Index (CHI) from the anuran collection of the Museo La Salle, Bogotá, Colombia, developed in 2009 with the proposal put forward by Simmons & Muñoz-Saba (2005), compared with those obtained in the present study.

HEALTH INDEX OF THE COLLECTION					
Simmons & Muñoz-Saba (2005)			ISC adjusted to Museo de La Salle 2016		
2009			2016		
Category	Percentage	Level	Level	Percentage	Category
Health Index	1.21 %	NA	NA	71.06 %	General health index
Date, location but with loose parts without label	25.11 %	2	10	9.13	State of the specimen
Information of date, location and are cataloged	66.66 %	6	9	7.58	Data of the specimen
Not date or location data, no data tag	6.78 %	1	7	6.70	Taxonomic determination
They have data on location and date, do not have a taxonomic determination	2.45 %	4	5		Physical aspects of the collection

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Julieth S. Cárdenas

Universidad de La Salle

Bogotá, Colombia

juliethscardenas@gmail.com

<http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1076-5798>

Diana A. Delgadillo

Universidad de los Andes

Bogotá, Colombia

alexandradelgadillo@gmail.com

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8144-193X>

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