LEPTODACTYLUS MELANONOTUS (Sabinal Frog). DIET. Some species of the Leptodactylidae are known for diverse diets (Savage 2002. Amphibians and Reptiles of Costa Rica. Univ. Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois) and have tadpoles known for their intraspecific cannibalism (Silval et al. 2005, J. Nat. Hist. 39[7]:555-566). Herein we document a previously unknown scavenging habit of Leptodactylus melanonotus. In November 2005 in a Lowland Tropical Wet Forest in the northeastern coast of Costa Rica near Barra del Colorado, an adult male L. melanonotus was found advertising on the periphery of a desiccated ephemeral pool. The pool contained 48 dead, newly hatched Rana vaillanti tadpoles. Upon capture the L. melanonotus exhibited signs of a recent meal, and while being measured regurgitated 17 newly hatched R. vaillanti tadpoles. Among the stomach contents was an assortment of small springtail (Collembola) body parts and an intact aquatic Belostomatidae (Hemiptera). The adult frog weighed 3.5 g after regurgitating the tadpoles, and the regurgitated tadpoles totaled 2.3 g wet weight (the frog consumed 65% of its own body weight in tadpoles). The specimen and its stomach contents were deposited in the University of Costa Rica (UCR) collections within the Cãno Palma Biological Station specimens. To our knowledge this is the first record of consumption of tadpoles of another anuran species by adult L. melanonotus.

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