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A NEW SPECIES OF THE PRISTIMANTIS ORESTES GROUP (AMPHIBIA: ANURA: STRABOMANTIDAE) FROM NORTHERN PERU (RÍO ABISEO NATIONAL PARK)

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In South America frogs of the genus Pristimantis are most diverse and can be found from lowland forests to elevations of about 4000 m in the Andes. The 440 known species of Pristimantis belong to 16 species groups. One of them is the Pristimantis orestes Group whose 14 members inhabit paramo and upper montane forests in southern Ecuador (3 species) and Peru (11). Species of the orestes Group are characterized by having snout-vent lengths ranging from 18.0 to 29.4 mm, short, robust bodies, relatively short snouts, narrow digital discs, areolate ventral skin and some species have variously colored pale spots in the groin. Herein, we describe a new, diminutive species of Pristimantis from the Andes of northern Peru that we assign to the Pristimantis orestes Group. The new species has a snout-vent length of 18.8–29.1 mm (n = 49) in adult females, and 14.4–21.0 mm (n = 30) in adult males. It differs from all other members of the orestes Group in having prominent scapular tubercles.