

A new species of *Ansonia* Stoliczka 1872 (Anura: Bufonidae) from Central Peninsular Malaysia and a revised taxonomy for *Ansonia* from the Malay Peninsula

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Abstract

A new, montane species of *Ansonia* is described from the state of Pahang in central, peninsular Malaysia on the basis of having a unique combination of head, body, digit, and color pattern characteristics. This new species is similar to *A. malayana*, to which it is closest geographically, but differs greatly in aspects of head morphology and body tuberculation. A review of *Ansonia* from the Malay Peninsula demonstrates that the population of *A. malayana* from Tasan, Chumphon Province, Thailand is *A. kraensis* and *A. penangensis* from Ulu Tahan, Pahang in peninsular Malaysia is not conspecific with *A. penangensis* from Pulau Penang but an additional, undescribed species ranging throughout northwestern, peninsular Malaysia.

Key words: Bufonidae; *Ansonia*; Malaysia; Thailand; new species

Introduction

Ansonia are generally small, slender bufonid toads occupying primary and old secondary forests in mountainous areas up to 3000 meters in elevation. Although the adults of some species are found on the forest floor, many others are commonly observed on rocks and vegetation in the vicinity of fast-flowing streams where their specialized, torrent-dwelling tadpoles (Inger 1985, 1992) metamorphose. As currently constituted *Ansonia* contains 25 species (see Grismer 2006) which range disjunctly from western India to central Thailand and the Philippines, south through Thailand and the Malay Peninsula to Borneo. *Ansonia* has undergone a modest radiation in Borneo where 12 of the 25 species occur, 11 of which are endemic (Inger and Stuebing 2005). Outside of Borneo, the distributions of most species are localized and most are known only from their type localities. Six species, *Ansonia endauensis* (see Dring 1979, Grandison 1972), *Ansonia* sp. Grismer (2006), *A. kraensis* Matsui, Khonsue, and Nabhitabhata 2005, *A. malayana* Inger 1960, *A. penangensis* Stoliczka 1870, *A. siamensis* Kiew 1984, and *A. tiomanica* Hendrickson 1966