



A new species of *Leptolalax* (Anura: Megophryidae) from Mizoram, North-eastern India

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Abstract

A new species of megophryid frog of the genus *Leptolalax* is described from the Tamdil wetlands of Mizoram State, north-eastern India. *L. tamdil* new species, is compared with congeners from India and other parts of south-east Asia. The new species is diagnosable in showing the following combination of characters: SVL 32.3 mm in the only male and 31.8 mm in the only female known; dorsum tuberculate; eyelids with tubercles; tympanum and supratympanic fold distinct; supratympanic fold extending to posterior edge of tympanum; macroglands, including preaxillary, pectoral, femoral and ventrolateral glands present; Finger II > I; toe tips not dilated, bearing dermal fringes; relatively long hind limbs, with heels in contact when limbs are held perpendicular to body; dorsum with dark blotches; flanks with small dark blotches; dark tympanic mask present; venter pale; labial bars present and limbs with dark cross-bars.

Key words: *Leptolalax tamdil* sp. nov. Megophryidae, Mizoram, north-eastern India

Introduction

With the addition of two species to north-east India's faunal list (Humtsoe *et al.* 2008; Das *et al.* 2010), the genus *Leptolalax* Dubois 1980 (Anura: Megophryidae) contains 24 species (Frost 2009; Matsui *et al.* 2009; Rowley and Trung 2009). Members are distributed in subtropical and tropical south-east Asia and east Asia, with a range from southern China and north-eastern India, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Peninsular Malaysia, in addition to Borneo (Inger *et al.* 1999; Iskandar and Colijn 2000; Humtsoe *et al.* 2008; Frost 2009).

During herpetological collections for an inventory at Tamdil, a wetland of national importance in Mizoram state, north-eastern India (Fig. 1), we collected two specimens of a hitherto undescribed species of *Leptolalax*, which is described in this paper.

Material and methods

The two adult frogs constituting the type series of the new species were collected from under rocks along a stream at night. They were photographed prior to euthanasia, fixed in formalin and subsequently transferred to 70% ethanol. Sex was determined through dissection. The following measurements were taken with Mitutoyo™ dial vernier callipers (to the nearest 0.1 mm), 27 mo after collection: SVL, snout-vent length (from tip of snout to vent); IN, internarial distance (distance between nostrils); HL, head length (distance