

yellow or darker in colour. One or two irregular rows of white round glandular swellings exist on both the caudal crests.

Spiracle.—Sinistral, large, very slightly tubular; opens just below the parotoid; nearer to it than to the eye. The opening is directed slightly upwards, not visible from above or below, quite as large as the eye.

Vent.—Tubular, median or slightly dextral, quite as large as the spiracular opening.

Tail.—Gradually pointed or only slightly rounded at the tip. The muscular portion is very strongly developed, the membranous crests are thin and transparent. The total length of the tail is nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the length of the body and head, and the muscular part is only $\frac{1}{2}$ the total width. Both crests are strongly convex and of equal depth.

Colouration.—The young tadpoles are nearly transparent and the parotoids are bright yellow with a dark central spot. A few dots occur on the tail. In older specimens, the body is dull grey (slightly bluish in spirit specimens) with more numerous blotches on the back and the muscular part of the tail. Generally there is a ring of small dots with a bigger one in the centre on the parotoids. The central surface is dirty white, in most specimens immaculate.

Dimensions.—The measurements of (A) an individual in which the hind limbs have not sprouted, and of (B) an individual in which they have fully grown are as follows:—

	A.	B.
Total length	52 mm.	92 mm.
Length of head and body	24 mm.	36 mm.
Length of tail	28 mm.	56 mm.
Maximum breadth of body	13 mm.	25 mm.
Maximum depth of body	11 mm.	20 mm.
Maximum depth of tail	10 mm.	16 mm.

Biological.—These tadpoles occur in abundance in tanks in the vicinity of houses where fish are reared. The bottom of the tanks being more or less clayey, the tadpoles can hardly be made out in the water. Water snakes destroy them in large numbers.

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BIRDS.

An Albino Bulbul.

A very fine specimen of an Albino Bulbul, *Molpastes burmanicus*, has recently been sent to the Museum from Mr. A. H. Ricketts.

The bird was captured when only just commencing to learn to fly, and was at that time wholly white, with the typical white bill, feet and claws and bright red eyes of a true albino.

After being about six months in captivity this bird acquired the normal brilliant crimson colouring on the under tail coverts and (in the skin) a faint shade of reddish or buffy brown may be noticed both on the head and the rectrices. At the same time the bill and claws are still entirely colourless showing that, as a whole, there was no probability of increase in the pigmentation. Mr. Ricketts records that when about a year old the bird developed epileptic fits and died.

This specimen is very interesting not only in that it possesses one patch of most brilliant normal colouration in spite of the rest of the plumage remaining that of a true albino, but also in the fact that the faint tinge of colouration elsewhere discernible is buff or reddish.

Reds and yellows are the most volatile of all colours and in skins of birds exposed to sun and weather the first colours to evaporate are the yellows and then the reds, yet we find in this bulbul, as in many albino snipes, etc., the buff persisting to some extent to the exclusion of the far more permanent browns whilst the one vivid colour retained is crimson.

The conjunction of epileptic characteristics with albinism is also worthy of note as the same is known to obtain in human beings and other animals.

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