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Short Communication

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON *XENOPHRYS ZUNHEBOTOENSIS* MATHEW & SEN, 2007 (AMPHIBIA: ANURA: MEGOPHRYIDAE) AND RANGE EXTENSION IN MEGHALAYA, INDIA.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Xenophrys* is represented by 9 species (*X. boettgeri, X. glandulosa, X. kempii, X. major, X. parva, X. robusta, X. serchhipii, X. wuliangshanensis,* and *X. zunhebotoensis*) in North East India (Mathew & Sen, 2010). Recently, 2 new species of *Xenophrys, X. serchhipii and X. zunhebotoensis* were described from Mizoram and Nagaland, respectively (Mathew & Sen, 2007). So far, these 2 new species are known from their type locality only. The authors came across a specimen of male *Xenophrys* collected from East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya and present in the unidentified holdings of NERC/ZSI, Shillong. After thorough study it was identified as *X. zunhebotoensis* (V/A/ERS/1009) **(Plate-I)**. This is the first record outside its type locality, after the species was described more then 4 years ago. Besides, both the Holotype and Paratype of this species present in the holdings of NERC/ZSI, Shillong were also studied for proper identification and comparison.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

MATERIAL EXAMINED

One specimen of *X. zunhebotoensis* (V/A/ERS/1009) was studied. The specimen was collected by one survey team of NERC/ZSI, Shillong from Mawmluh, (N 25°13'54", E 91°41'0.8", Altitude 739 meters ASL) near Cherrapunjee, from East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya on 25/10/ 2010.

DIAGNOSIS

Head is broader than long, nostril is closer to eye, supratympanic glandular fold is white and distinct, curving on the anterior region of the tympanum to give it a round shape. Fingers free with swollen disc. Hind limbs slender, TTA reach middle of eye, digits free with swollen discs. Dorsum is smooth with few ridges and warts. A dark triangular patch between the orbit; a broad incomplete 'V' shaped ridge behind the eye, another similar ridge of inverted 'V' towards the posterior side making an indistinct and incomplete hourglass pattern on the dorsum. 2 parallel lines on either side of the 'V' shaped ridge. Flanks with small round tubercles. Ventrally abdomen and thighs are off white with light round blotches. Axial and femoral glands are prominent (Mathew & Sen, 2009).

DISCUSSION

Although in the original description the SVL was between 30 mm to 39 mm, the new specimen is having SVL of 55 mm. Another difference that was noticed was the distinct ridges on the dorsum of the specimen unlike the smooth ridges of the types described. Moreover, the body of the specimen was stout, whereas the type specimens were soft and weak.

DISTRIBUTION

Nagaland and Meghalaya

REMARKS

This is the first record of the species from Meghalaya and outside its type locality in Nagaland.

ABBREVIATION

ASL	: Above Sea Level
NERC/ZSI	: North Eastern Regional Centre/ Zoological Survey of India
SVL	: Snout Vent Length

V/A/ERS : Vertebrate/Amphibia/Eastern Regional Station (Erstwhile name of NERC)

TTA : Tibio Tarsal Articulation

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A. *Xenophrys zunhebotoensis* Mathew and Sen Dorsal view

B. *Xenophrys zunhebotoensis* Mathew and Sen Ventral view

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