

A NEW SPECIES OF *MICROHYLA* (ANURA: MICROHYLIDAE) FROM THE MALAY PENINSULA

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(with three text-figures)

ABSTRACT.– A new species of microhylid of the genus *Microhyla* is described from the Malay Peninsula. *M. mantheyi* new species, was formerly assigned to *M. borneensis*, and has been earlier reported from southern Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. It can be distinguished from the Bornean endemic in showing cream coloured top of snout (vs. top of snout undifferentiated from the brown forehead); a dark flank stripe on entire lateral aspect of body (vs. on only about half of lateral aspect of body); the pale postocular stripe is with a dark posterior edge (vs. pale postocular stripe lacking dark posterior edge); a thin vertebral stripe consistently present in all individuals (vs. absent); snout long, tapering (vs. rounded); and webbing on toe IV to below level of penultimate subarticular tubercle (vs. to level of penultimate subarticular tubercle). Tadpoles differ in showing greater contrast, with a dark interorbital bar and dark terminal filament of tail (missing in its Bornean congener). The new species is diagnosable from other congeners in south-east Asia in showing the following combination of characters: SVL 29.2 mm in the largest of the 22 specimens; no dermal fold across forehead; tympanum absent; toe tips with disks; webbing on toe IV broad up to median subarticular tubercle; webbing reaching tip of all toes as narrow fringes; outer metatarsal tubercle present; dorsum brown, with top of snout distinctly paler; and a pale interorbital mark.

KEYWORDS.– *Microhyla*, new species, *Microhyla mantheyi*, Microhylidae, systematics, new species, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Microhyla* (Anura: Microhylidae) includes 29 nominal species, distributed from the Indian subcontinent, Indo-Malaya and Indo-China (Frost, 1985; Inger, 1999; Iskandar and Colijn, 2000; Bain and Nguyen, 2004). Seven species have been reported from the Malay Peninsula. Because of their small size and ecologically cryptic nature, a number of species have been recognised or revived in recent years. For instance, Matsui et al. (2005) showed that the name *M. ornata* should be restricted to the Indi-

an region, and two names that were in synonymy were revived for populations extralimital to the type locality. In another landmark paper, Bain and Nguyen (2004) described two new species from Vietnam.

Microhyla borneensis Parker, 1928 was described from the “Kidi district, Sarawak” (= Bidi, Bau region of south-western Sarawak, East Malaysia). Smith (1916) discussed *M. annectans* from Patuju (now Chumphon), ca. 60 km north of the Isthmus of Kra, that Grandison (1972:58) showed to be non-conspecific with