

**KALOPHRYNUS (ANURA: MICROHYLIDAE), A NEW GENUS
FOR INDIA, WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES,
KALOPHRYNUS ORANGENSIS, FROM ASSAM STATE**

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(with five text-figures)

ABSTRACT.— The microhylid genus, *Kalophrynus*, is reported for the first time from India, and a new species, *Kalophrynus orangensis* is described from the Orang National Park, Assam in north-eastern India. *K. orangensis* is diagnosable from all other congeners in showing the following combination of characters: snout acute, projecting beyond mandible; parotid gland absent; head wider than long; an inverted 'v'-shaped mark present on dorsum from tip of snout to the inguinal region; an ocellus present on inguinal region; fingers lacking webbing; toes with rudimentary webbing; a single subarticular tubercle on finger IV; inner outer metatarsal tubercles present; and SVL of adults constituting the type series, 35.0-38.0 mm.

KEYWORDS.— *Kalophrynus*, new species, *Kalophrynus orangensis*, systematics, Assam, India.

INTRODUCTION

Orang National Park (26° 30'N; 92° 15'E, altitudinal range 40-70 m above msl), situated on the east bank of the Dhansiri River, in Darrang and Sonitpur Districts of Assam, lies in the floodplains of the Brahmaputra River (which constitutes the southern boundary), and covers ca. 78.81 sq km. About half the area comprises grassland, dominated by *Phragmites kakra*, *Saccharum* spp., *Imperata cylindrica* and *Erianthus ravannae*. A mere 15% of the area is under natural (2%) or planted forests of *Dalbergia sisoo*, *Bombax ceiba*, *Lannea grandis*, *Terminalia myriocarpa*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Albizia procera*, *Trewia nudiflora*, *Dillenia indica*, and *Oroxylon indica*. The general vegetation type comprises an admixture of dry and wet grassland and the forest type is dry deciduous. The protected area was gazetted for the conservation of various species of wet-

land-associated wildlife, including the greater Indian one-horned rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*).

During field work conducted in September 1998, a microhylid taken from the National Park, was found to represent a hitherto undescribed species of *Kalophrynus*, a genus with a known distribution ranging from eastern China south to the Sundas and the Philippines (Inger, 1999), and thus previously unreported from within the political boundaries of India (Chanda, 1994; Dutta, 1997). A total of 12 species have been described (Frost, 1985; Kiew, 1984; Duellman, 1993; Iskandar, 1998). In this paper, we describe the species from Assam as new to science.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The type series was collected on the night of 15 September, 1998, at 2130 h, the holotype photographed in life, and fixed in 4% formalin, ca. 8 h