

Notes on Date of Publication and Generic Identity of *Leptobrachium nokrekensis* Mathew and Sen, “2009” 2010 (Amphibia: Anura: Megophryidae)

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Abstract: The published work making available the nomen *Leptobrachium nokrekensis* Mathew and Sen, “2009” 2010, bearing a date of publication of 2009, is shown to have been published on 3 June 2010. The taxon is further shown to be a member of the genus *Leptotalax* Dubois, 1983. *Leptotalax nokrekensis* (Mathew and Sen, 2010) is compared with the three known congeners from India (*L. khasiorum*, *L. lateralis*, and *L. tamdil*). A table of comparative data for all recognized species of *Leptotalax* is presented.

Key words: *Leptobrachium nokrekensis*; *Leptotalax*; India; dating; nomenclature; taxonomy.

The nomen *Leptobrachium nokrekensis* became available in a work by Mathew and Sen, dated 2009, and was included in a field guide by these authors (Mathew and Sen, 2010). The taxon is based on material from “Didari Kchibama, Nokrek Biosphere Reserve, East Garo Hills district, Meghalaya (25°29'0.09" N, 90°18'55.2" E, 1054 m asl” (holotype and two paratypes), and “Ganol river, Nokrek Biosphere Reserve, East Garo Hills district, Meghalaya

(25°30'19.6" N, 90°18'20.7" E, 964 m asl” (four paratypes), in Northeast India, and was compared with a single species, *Leptobrachium smithi* Matsui, Nabhitabhata and Panha, 1998, in the original description. The nomen *Leptobrachium nokrekensis* has been included in databases of amphibian names (AmphibiaWeb, 2010; Frost, 2010). In this communication, we discuss: i) the date of publication of the original name; ii) the generic identity of the species; and finally, iii) make comparisons with its congeners.

We examined the original description of *Leptobrachium nokrekensis* Mathew and Sen (“2009” 2010), as well Mathew and Sen (2010), and images provided therein (the type series was not available for our study), and conclude that it is a member of another megophryid (Anura: Megophryidae) genus, *Leptotalax* Dubois, 1983. We then compare the description with those of congeneric species from India, China, and Southeast Asia (Table 1). Comparative materials examined are listed in Das et al. (2010), Sengupta et al. (2010), in addition to data in Rowley et al. (2010a–c).

i) Dating of species names.—According to Article 21.4 of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (1999; subsequently, The Code), “If the date of publication specified in a work is found to be incorrect, the earliest day on which the work is demonstrated to be in existence as a published work is to be adopted”.

The Publications Unit of the Zoological Survey of India (subsequently, ZSI), located at 234/4, Acharya Jagadeesh Chandra Bose Road, 2nd MSO Building, 13th Floor, Nizam Palace, Kolkata 700 020, West Bengal State, India, in charge of receiving and mailing out copies of the ZSI publications (including its books, journals and other periodicals) received the copy of the Records of the Zoological Survey of India, volume 109, part 3, on 3 June 2010. This is therefore the date of publication of the nomen *Leptobrachium nokrekensis* Mathew and Sen, “2009”, despite a printed year of 2009. An account of the species, containing brief morphological description and images of

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