

ANNANDALE'S SEASNAKE, *KOLPOPHIS ANNANDALEI*
(LAIDLAW, 1901): A NEW RECORD FOR BORNEO
(REPTILIA: SERPENTES: HYDROPHIIDAE)

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ABSTRACT. - A specimen of Annandale's seasnake, *Kolpophis annandalei*, collected from Tungku Beach, Brunei Darussalam, constitutes the first record of the species from the island of Borneo. The snake was previously known from the waters off peninsular Thailand and Malaysia, Kampuchea, Vietnam and probably Sumatra.

On June 6, 1993, a juvenile hydrophiid was obtained from Tungku Beach (ca. 4° 59' N 114° 51' E), Brunei-Muara District, Brunei Darussalam. It was identified as *Kolpophis annandalei* (Laidlaw, 1901), Annandale's seasnake (Fig. 1). The snake was reportedly caught by hook-and-line baited with fish. The specimen was preserved and deposited in the herpetological collection of the Department of Biology, Universiti Brunei Darussalam (Reg. No. ID/NBD 655).

Measurements. - Snout-vent length 277 mm; total body length 315 mm; head width (at jaws) 9.1 mm; head length 11.8 mm; width at midbody 10.5 mm; rostral length 3.5 mm; rostral depth 2.0 mm.

Pholidosis. - Body scales 64 (neck), 97 (midbody); ventrals 363; subcaudals 65; postoccipitals 2; supralabials 11 (4th touching eye); infralabials 16; anterior temporal 1.

Other diagnostic characters. - dorsally-oriented nostrils, relatively stout body, small head (head length/snout-vent length ratio 0.04), a small interparietal (1.4 by 1.4 mm), 46 dark body bands, an exposed triangular mental, a W-shaped rostral which is longer than deep (rostral depth/rostral length ratio 0.57), a large scale separating supralabials 5 and 6 from the eye and small but distinct ventrals. The large number of midbody scale rows - 70-90 according to Lim (1991) and 89-100 (De Rooij, 1917) distinguish the present species from the closely-related *Thalassophis anomalus* (Schmidt, 1852), which has 31-35 rows at midbody (Lim, 1991).

Interestingly, the diagnostic features of the present material and the descriptions of the species contained in the aforementioned works differ markedly from that given by Tweedie (1983), who give scale counts for midbody as 74-93 (as opposed to 97 in the present specimen), 5-6 supralabials, of which the 3rd and 4th touch the eyes (11 in the Brunei material, the 4th touching

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