

AMFIBI JAWA DAN BALI (English language edition: The amphibians of Java and Bali) by Djoko Iskandar. 1998. Puslitbang Biologi- LIP! and GEF- Biodiversity Collections Project, Bogor. xviii + 117 pp; 26 p1. ISBN 979-579-015-3. English edition, 1998. Research and Development Centre for Biology- LIP! and GEF- Biodiversity Collections Project, Bogor. xix + 117 pp; 26 p1. Available from Gramedia, Asri Media, Jalan Merdeka 43, Bandung, Indonesia and Yayasan Hay ati, LIPI, Bogor, Indonesia. Price: US\$ 30-35 or Indonesian Rupiah 15,000-20,000.

Strangely, the better-explored Indonesian *islands* of Java and Bali (relative to Borneo) were not to have a field guide to the amphibian fauna before this. The author of the present work, Djoko Iskandar is a respected Indonesian herpetologist, is naturally the appropriate person to write such a work.

The text includes the following sections: a general account of the biology of amphibians of Java and Bali (including systematics, morphology, ecology, reproductive biology, dietary patterns, defence mechanisms and role in economy); classification of Javanese amphibians; a dichotomous identification key to the adult

amphibians and a separate one for their larval stages (including line drawings of body forms of both life history stages); species accounts; a bibliography (including references in Bahasa Indonesian, English and German), a glossary of technical terms used; checklist of local species; acronyms of museum and other systematic institutions cited in the text, and index of scientific, Bahasa Indonesian and English names.

One new species is described in the work *Kalophrynus minisculus* Iskandar, 1998 (distribution: Cieunteur, Ujung Kulon, Java). *Fejervarya* Bolckay, 1915, given as "jenis barn" (= gen. nov.) on p. 74, is obviously in error, as on

p. 72, the appropriate authorship is provided. Seven families of local amphibian species are covered, comprising 37 species. Three exotic species are also dealt with- *Rana catesbiana*, *Xenopus laevis* and *Hymenochirus* sp.

Typos are dealt with in the form of a slip of paper inserted into the book that, given the nature of typos (e.g., species names, labial tooth row formulae and measurements), will need to be kept next to the work and referred to alongside the text. Colour plates of habitats and of frogs have been gathered at the back of the book, in 26

plates. each usually with two photographs that have printed well.

Given Djoko's extensive work on the herpetofauna of Sulawesi. perhaps one can now look forward to a field guide to the frogs, toads and caecilians of that remarkable island.

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