

PHILIPPINE AMPHIBIANS. AN ILLUSTRATED FIELD GUIDE by Angel C. Alcala and Walter C. Brown.
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This delightful little (Ca. 15 x 13 cm) book introduces readers to the world of Philippines amphibians. a fauna that continues to reveal remarkable new species every year. The contents include: a foreword (by Robert C. Drewes). a preface. an "Ice-age map of the Philippines" (when sea levels were at their lowest), an introduction. a section on how the work should be used. microhabitats of Philippine amphibians (with photographs of representative microhabitats. from tree crevices to bird's nest ferns), species accounts, selected references (listing a dozen papers and monographs. from the classical works to the more recent papers describing new taxa by the authors of the present work and their associates), an index to popular (English) names, an index to scientific names and acknowledgments and credits. Each species account comprises an English name, the scientific

name and authority, size (i.e.. snout-vent length, in mm). habitats, diet, mode of reproduction,

time of activity, substratum of activity of adults, conservation population status, frequency of occurrence). miscellaneous remarks (including similar species, diagnostic characters, conservation status. etc.) and geographic range (within the Philippines and extraliminally). Nearly every species is illustrated with a colour photo, which ranges from passable to good, except for the often artificial background. Seven families and 79 species are dealt with. Essential reading on a diverse herpetofauna.

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