

## TWO NEW SPECIES OF *PELOPHRYNE* (ANURA: BUFOIDAE) FROM GUNUNG MURUD, SARAWAK (NORTHWESTERN BORNEO)

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**ABSTRACT.** – Two new species of bufonids of the genus *Pelophryne* are described from the Gunung Murud region of northern Sarawak State, Malaysian Borneo. *Pelophryne murudensis*, new species, adult males to 25.6 mm SVL, finger tips not wider than basal phalanges, finger tips not wider than basal phalanges, snout oblique, absence of a free phalange on Finger I, subarticular tubercles distinct, mandibular spines absent and nuptial pads absent. *Pelophryne linanitensis*, new species, adult males to 18.6 mm SVL, finger tips not wider than basal phalanges, snout vertical, absence of a free phalange on Finger I, webbing to tip of Toe V, subarticular tubercles distinct, mandibular spines absent, presence of a dark hour-glass pattern on dorsum and pale flank stripes.

**KEY WORDS.** – Systematics, new species, *Pelophryne murudensis*, *Pelophryne linanitensis*, Gunung Murud, Batu Linanit, Borneo.

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### INTRODUCTION

The bufonid genus *Pelophryne* Barbour, 1938 (type species: *Pelophryne albotaeniata* Barbour, 1938) contains at least eight nominal species that are currently considered valid, and is widespread in Southeast Asia, including Peninsular Malaysia, Borneo and the Philippine Archipelago (Inger, 1960; Frost, 1985; Duellman, 1993; Inger & Tan, 1996; Malkmus, 1996; Glaw et al., 2000; Iskandar & Colijn, 2000: 22–23). Five species of the genus have been listed from Borneo by Frost (2007), including *P. api* Dring, 1983 (from Gunung Mulu, Sarawak); *P. guentheri* (Boulenger, 1882) (from Gunung Matang and Mulu, Sarawak); *P. misera* (Mocquard, 1890) (from Gunung Kinabalu, Sabah, with a recent report from Kalimantan Timur; Veith et al., 2004); *P. rhopophilus* Inger & Stuebing, 1996 (from Bukit Lanjak, Sarawak as well as Gunung Damus, Sambas, Kalimantan Barat) and *P. signata* (Boulenger, 1895) (from lowland sites in Sarawak and Kalimantan). Two additional names based on Bornean samples, *P. exigua* Boettger, 1901 (from Sungei Baram, Sarawak) and *P. macrotis* Boulenger, 1895 (from Sungei Akah, Sarawak) have been listed as valid by Malkmus et al. (2002: 84). The validity of these species, however, are in suspect: the former has been treated as a synonym of *P. signata* by Frost (2007), the latter as a synonym of *P. guentheri* by Inger (1966: 81) and Inger & Stuebing (1996).

One additional species has been mentioned as occurring on

Borneo in the literature. *Pelophryne brevipes* (Peters, 1867), listed in Inger (1966) and Inger & Tan (1996), which was considered a Philippine Archipelago endemic (type locality: Zamboanga, in Mindanao) by Inger & Stuebing (1997: 89), who allocated Bornean populations formerly assigned to this nominal species to *signata*. Iskandar & Colijn (2000: 22) mentioned that *P. brevipes* is also found in “Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, Sumatra, Borneo, Siberut and Mindanao”, but for *P. signata*, after listing the type locality as “Aor Island” (= Pulau Aor, off the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia), rather than “Robong Mt., Kapuas district, Dutch Borneo” (= Gunung Rabong, Kapuas, Kalimantan Barat, Indonesia) as in Boulenger’s (“1894” 1895) original description, gave the range of the species as “Borneo”. This nominal species is also known from Singapore (Lim, 1990: as *P. brevipes*).

Thus, while Borneo appears to be the main centre of distribution and diversification within the genus, three extra-Bornean species of *Pelophryne* are known, all from the Philippines: *P. albotaeniata* Barbour, 1938 (from Palawan); *P. brevipes* (Peters, 1867: Zamboanga, Mindanao) and *P. lighti* (Taylor, 1920: from Mindanao and Bohol).

In this paper, I describe two new species of the genus from Gunung Murud, Sarawak’s highest mountain, in northwestern Borneo. The species contained within the genus are recognisable in showing the following suite of characters (see Inger, 1960; 1966; Malkmus et al., 2002): small adult size