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Dressed in black. A New *Ansonia* Stoliczka, 1870 (Lissamphibia: Anura: Bufonidae) from Gunung Murud, Sarawak, East Malaysia (Borneo)

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Abstract

A new species of stream toad of the genus *Ansonia* is described from Gunung Murud, Pulong Tau National Park, of northern Sarawak, Malaysia, Borneo. *Ansonia vidua*, **sp. nov.**, is morphologically distinguished from its Bornean congeners by the following combination of characters: medium size (SVL of adult females 33.5–34.4 mm); body uniformly black-brown in life; absence of a visible pattern on dorsum or limbs; presence of two low interorbital ridges; shagreened skin on dorsum, sides and upper surfaces of the limbs with numerous homogeneously small, rounded warts; first finger shorter than second; reduced webbing between the toes and an absence of a sharp tarsal ridge. Uncorrected genetic distances between related taxa of > 4.3% in 16S rRNA gene support its status as a hitherto undescribed species.

Key words: Amphibia, *Ansonia vidua* **sp. nov.**, Pulong Tau National Park, systematics

Introduction

The bufonid genus *Ansonia* Stoliczka 1870 comprises 26 nominal species known from Myanmar to Sundaland and the Philippines (Frost 2013). Larval synapomorphies, including a large ventral oral disc and a dorsoventrally flattened body, are associated with a rheophilic lifestyle in streams with a moderate to strong current (Inger 1966, 1992; Haas *et al.* 2009; Haas & Das 2008; Matsui 2005; Matsui *et al.* 2010).

With a total of 12 species described and additional undescribed species recognised, the island of Borneo is a centre of diversity for the genus *Ansonia* (Matsui *et al.* 2010). Recent studies using molecular markers reveal that the Bornean species of *Ansonia* do not form a monophyletic group (Matsui *et al.* 2010, 2012). Instead, the genus is divided into two major clades: the first occurs on Borneo, some of the islands of the Philippines and the Malay Peninsula; the second clade is known from Myanmar, Thailand and Sundaland, including the Malay Peninsula and Borneo (Matsui *et al.* 2010). This latter clade includes a monophyletic Bornean group, consisting of *Ansonia hanitschi* Inger, 1960, *A. spinulifer* (Mocquard, 1890), *A. minuta* Inger, 1960 and *A. platysoma* Inger, 1960, as well as two genetically distinct lineages from the Kelabit Highlands in Sarawak and from the Crocker Range in Sabah that probably represent species that have not been formally described (Matsui *et al.* 2010). While a few species, such as *A. leptopus* (Günther, 1872), *A. longidigita* Inger, 1960 and *A. spinulifer*, are widespread on Borneo, the majority of *Ansonia* are distributed in small and isolated areas in mountain ranges or even on a single mountain range (Inger & Stuebing 2005). *Ansonia fuliginea* (Mocquard, 1890), for instance, is a micro-endemic species of Gunung Kinabalu, Sabah. *A. latidisca* Inger, 1966 is only known from Gunung Penrissen, Sarawak and the adjacent Gunung Damus, near Sambas, Kalimantan (Inger & Stuebing 2005, Pui *et al.* 2011). Relatively recently, *A. echinata* Inger & Stuebing, 2009 was described from Bukit Kana, a low, isolated hill near the coast of Sarawak (Inger & Stuebing 2009). The number of species of *Ansonia* will likely grow in the future as sampling of new localities continues.