

# **GUNUNG SANTUBONG**

Where Nature Meets Culture



# Amphibians

*Ramlah Zainudin, Najmi Naim, Elvy Quatrin anak Deka,  
Muhammad Fadzil Amran, Nooraina Atira Alaudin,  
Pui Yong Min, Adi Shabrani and Indraneil Das*

Gunung Santubong, being a low-hill, with strong coastal influence, supports a generalized Bornean lowland frog fauna. Despite its proximity to the city of Kuching, no published inventories of the amphibian fauna of these hills are available.

Amphibians were recorded during transect surveys along forested trails and streams, and frogs and their tadpoles collected opportunistically from habitats away from transects, such as waterfalls and tree-holes. The streams surveyed ranged from small-sized sandy gravel beds of ephemeral waterbodies, to 5–10 meters wide, rocky, fast-flowing permanent ones. We also installed pitfall traps, in association with drift fences, to sample subfossorial species that tend to escape visual encounter surveys. These were placed on the forest floor, strategically, between water-courses and large trees.

A total of 37 species were recorded. Creek Frogs (genus *Limnonectes*) dominated the fauna, both in terms of species and frog abundance, and comprised several named species, one (*L. kong*) of which was described from Santubong recently. Pitfall-trapping resulted in the capture of several poorly species of herpetofauna, among amphibians, the rarely-seen *Gastrophrynoides borneensis*. Other ecologically interesting species include the pitcher (*Nepenthes ampullaria*)-breeding *Microhyla nepenthicola* and *Philautus*



**Fig. 1.** (left) *Leptobrachium ingeri*. **Fig. 2.** (right) *Leptolalax gracilis*.





Fig. 3. *Megophrys nasuta*.

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*kerangae*, the swamp obligate *Leptobrachium ingeri* and *Pelophryne signata*, whose breeding sites are restricted to phytohelms, such as water stored in sometimes the most miniscule receptacles formed out of vegetation.

In general, the abundance and ecologically diverse amphibian fauna of Santubong, coupled with the proximity of the site to a major city centre on Borneo, make the site suitable for long-term ecological work.



**Fig. 4.** (left) *Gastrophrynoides borneensis*. **Fig. 5.** (right) *Rhacophorus pardalis*.

### Checklist of Amphibians

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Bufonidae	<i>Ansonia leptopus</i> (Günther, 1872)	Brown Slender Toad
	<i>Ansonia longidigita</i> Inger, 1960	Long-fingered Slender Toad
	<i>Ansonia minuta</i> Inger, 1960	Dwarf Slender Toad
	<i>Duttaphrynus melanostictus</i> (Schneider, 1799)	Common Asian Toad
	<i>Pelophryne signata</i> (Boulenger, 1985)	Lowland Dwarf Toad
Dicroglossidae	<i>Fejervarya cancrivora</i> (Gravenhorst, 1829)	Crab-eating Frog
	<i>Fejervarya limnocharis</i> (Gravenhorst, 1829)	Cricket Frog
	<i>Limnonectes conspicillatus</i> (Günther, 1872)	Matang Creek Frog

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Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
	<i>Limnonectes hikidai</i> Matsui & Hikida, 2014	Hikida's Creek Frog
	<i>Limnonectes kong</i> Dehling & Dehling, 2017	Santubong Creek Frog
	<i>Limnonectes leporinus</i> (Anderson, 1923)	Giant River Frog
	<i>Limnonectes malesianus</i> (Kiew, 1984)	Malaysian River Frog
	<i>Occidozyga sumatrana</i> (Peters, 1877)	Yellow-bellied Puddle Frog
Megophryidae	<i>Leptobranchella mjobergi</i> Smith, 1925	Frog
	<i>Leptobranchium</i> cf. <i>abbotti</i> (Cochran, 1926)	Lowland Litter Frog
	<i>Leptobranchium ingeri</i> Hamidy, Matsui, Nishikawa & Belabut, 2012	Inger's Black-eyed Litter Frog
	<i>Leptolalax gracilis</i> (Günther, 1872)	Sarawak Slender Litter Frog
	<i>Megophrys nasuta</i> (Schlegel, 1858)	Bornean Horned Frog
Microhylidae	<i>Gastrophrynoides borneensis</i> (Boulenger, 1897)	Bornean Narrow-headed Frog
	<i>Kalophrynus heterochirus</i> (Boulenger, 1900)	Variable Sticky Frog
	<i>Kalophrynus intermedius</i> Inger, 1966	Intermediate Sticky Frog
	<i>Kalophrynus meizon</i> Zug, 2015	Bornean Sticky Frog
	<i>Microhyla nepenthicola</i> Das & Haas, 2010	Kubah Narrow-mouthed frog
Ranidae	<i>Chalcorana raniceps</i> (Peters, 1871)	White-lipped Frog
	<i>Meristogenys jerboa</i> (Günther, 1872)	Matang Torrent Frog
	<i>Meristogenys penrissenensis</i> Shimada, Matsui, Nishikawa & Eto, 2015	Penrissen Torrent Frog
	<i>Pulchrana baramica</i> (Boettger, 1900)	Brown Marsh Frog

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Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
	<i>Staurois guttatus</i> (Günther, 1859)	Black-spotted Rock Skipper
Rhacophoridae	<i>Feihyla kajau</i> (Dring, 1984)	White-eared Tree Frog
	<i>Nyctixalus pictus</i> (Peters, 1871)	Cinnamon Frog
	<i>Philautus kakipanjang</i> Dehling & Dehling, 2013	Western Long-legged Bush Frog
	<i>Philautus kerangae</i> Dring, 1987	Kerangas Bush Frog
	<i>Polypedates colletti</i> (Boulenger, 1890)	Collett's Tree Frog
	<i>Polypedates leucomystax</i> (Gravenhorst, 1829)	Four-lined Tree Frog
	<i>Polypedates macrotis</i> (Boulenger, 1891)	Dark-eared Tree Frog
	<i>Rhacophorus borneensis</i> Matsui, Shimada & Sudin, 2013	Bornean Flying Frog
	<i>Rhacophorus pardalis</i> Günther, 1858	Harlequin Tree Frog

