

MEGOPHRYS KOBAYASHII (Montane Horned Frog). ATYPICAL HABITAT AND MAXIMUM SIZE. *Megophrys kobayashii* is endemic to the mountainous western Sabah, Bornean Malaysia between 1230–1675 m elev. (Inger and Stuebing 2005. A Field Guide to the Frogs of Borneo. 2nd ed. Natural History Publications [Borneo] Sdn. Bhd. Kota Kinabalu. 201 pp.; Frost 2010. Amphibian Species of the World: an Online Reference. Version 5.4 [8 April 2010]. Electronic database accessible at <http://research.amnh.org/vz/herpetology/amphibia>. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York. Accessed 1 February 2011), and is listed as Near Threatened in the 2010 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Inger et al. 2004. *In* IUCN 2010. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2010.4. <www.iucnredlist.org>. Accessed 1 Feb 2011). The species has been reported to dwell in leaf litter of primary montane forests with small rocky-bottomed streams for breeding; maximum size reported to be SVL 109 mm (Inger and Stuebing 2005, *op. cit.*; Malkmus et al. 2002. Amphibians and Reptiles of Mount Kinabalu [North Borneo]. A.R.G. Gantner Verlag K.G. Ruggell. 424 pp.).

On 8 Dec 2010 at 1915 h, a gravid female *M. kobayashii* was found at the foot of a leaf-littered hill in the compound of Haleluyah Retreat Centre (6°N, 116.536°E; 1518 m elev.), Bundu Tuhan, Ranau District, West Coast Division, Sabah, Bornean Malaysia. Air temperature was 19.9°C, and relative humidity was 75.7%. The individual was found ca. 25 m from an artificial pond. However, the compound lacks a stream or brook thought to be necessary for breeding in *M. kobayashii* (Inger and Stuebing 2005, *op. cit.*; Malkmus et al. 2002, *op. cit.*). It is possible that an attempted escape from a predator might explain the presence of *M. kobayashii* in the compound although no predators were observed; additionally the species normally lives in permanent colonies (Malkmus et al. 2002, *op. cit.*). This observation suggests that *M. kobayashii* might utilize a wider variety of habitats than currently known.

This individual was 118 mm SVL and 151 g, and thus a new maximum size for *M. kobayashii*. Measurements were taken with a standard metric tape and an electronic balance. The individual was photographed *ex-situ* indoors and released on site the following day.

We thank Haleluyah Retreat Centre for permission to sample and lodgings support, as well as the Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Universiti Malaysia Sabah for support.

KUEH BOON-HEE (e-mail: kbhkelvin@hotmail.com), **NORASMIL ISMAIL** (e-mail: norasmilismail@yahoo.com.my), **MOHAMAD SYAZWAN FAIS MOHAMAD RODZI** (e-mail: darkcry_90@yahoo.com), **DANIEL CHIN ZHI HAO** (e-mail: danzhchin@gmail.com), **ANDREW WONG BAK HUI** (e-mail: andrew_88_wbh@hotmail.com), and **SURESH ARUMUGAM** (e-mail: ar.shura06@yahoo.com), Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Jalan UMS, 88400 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia.

PLEURODEMA TUCUMANUM. PREDATION. Water bugs (Belostomatidae) are well known to prey on anuran larvae (Giarretta and Menin 2004. *J. Nat. Hist.* 38:1711–1722; Hinshaw and Sullivan 1990. *J. Herpetol.* 24:196–197; Kher and Schnack 1991. *Alytes* 9:61–69; Menin et al. 2005. *Phyllomedusa* 4(1):39–47) and adults (Bastos et al. 1994. *Herpetol. Rev.* 25:81; Haddad and Bastos 1997. *Amphibia-Reptilia* 18:295–298; Mijares-Urrutia et al. 1997. *Herpetol. Rev.* 28:84; Toledo 2003. *Phyllomedusa* 2[2]:105–108). Water bugs eat more frogs than invertebrates because anurans are better food items from an energetic viewpoint (Hidai and Hidaka 2002. *Ecol. Res.* 17:655–661); they use their piercing-sucking mouthparts to eat them (Lopez et al. 1998. *Rev. Nica. Entomol.* 46:1–5).

Herein we report predation of a juvenile *Pleurodema tucumanum* by the water bug *Belostoma discretum*. This observation took place during the night of 9 April 2009 in the vicinity of the Rio Claro (32.613°S, 66.139°W), near San Francisco, Ayacucho, San Luis 5570, Argentina, in a large pool enclosed by rocks at the river's edge. A juvenile *P. tucumanum* (19.6 mm SVL) was observed floating on the surface of the pool (no deeper than 0.2 m), with a *B. discretum* (24.8 mm long) attached to its abdomen. The water bug was holding the frog with its forelegs while piercing the frog's left hindlimb with its proboscis. At regular intervals the water bug swam with apparent difficulty carrying the frog to the bottom of the pool, where it rested for an instant before emerging for air and repeating these actions.

These individuals were photographed, collected, and preserved in 70% ethyl alcohol. The *B. discretum* was deposited in the UNSL Entomological Collection and the *P. tucumanum* (CH-UNSL 0429) in the Herpetological Collection of Universidad Nacional de San Luis. This is the first record of *B. discretum* preying on juvenile *P. tucumanum*.

This work was supported by PROICO 9401 UNSL. We are grateful to A. C. Armúa de Reyes for identifying the water bug and L. Alcalde for assistance. We thank C. Morgan for the English translation.

JUAN MANUEL PÉREZ IGLESIAS (e-mail: juanmapi@gmail.com), **FLAVIA R. GUTIERREZ** (e-mail: f.rominagutierrez@gmail.com), **G. ROMINA MARTI, LILIANA E. MORENO** (e-mail: lmoreno@unsl.edu.ar), PROICO 9401 Área de Zoología, Facultad de Qca, Bioqca y Fcia, Universidad Nacional de San Luis, Argentina; **GUILLERMO S. NATALE**, PROICO 9401 Área de Zoología, Facultad de Qca, Bioqca y Fcia, Universidad Nacional de San Luis, Argentina and Centro de Investigaciones del Medio Ambiente, Departamento de Química, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina (e-mail: gnatale@quimica.unlp.edu.ar).

POLYPEDATES LEUCOMYSTAX (Java Whipping Frog). COMMUNAL NESTING. Communal egg-laying is widespread in amphibians yet the exact reasons for it remain unclear (Doody et al. 2009. *Quart. Rev. Biol.* 84[3]:229–252). In nest building species, there appears to be plasticity within a population for nesting communally versus individually (Agostini et al. 2007. *Herpetol. Rev.* 38:441; Zina 2006. *Amphibia-Reptilia* 27:148–150), indicating that perhaps in certain contexts one method is more advantageous than another. Here we report communal nesting activity in *Polypedates leucomystax* at the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanic Garden, Xishuangbanna Prefecture, Yunnan Province, China, during one of the driest rainy seasons on record (Qiu 2010. *Nature* 465[13]:142–143).

In weekly breeding site surveys, we recorded instances of communal nesting on 9 July and 12 Aug 2009. On 9 July, we encountered two large foam nests, the larger nest measuring ca. 59 cm × 48 cm, and the smaller one measuring 62 cm × 39 cm. In addition, at the same site but several meters away from the larger nest, we observed a single female actively mating with 4 males as has been recorded in this species before (Feng and Narins 1991. *Naturwissenschaften* 78:362–364), however, when we approached the group, the males dispersed. On 12 Aug we recorded an additional large nest at the same site as the first two, and slightly smaller in size measuring 32 cm × 46 cm. On both dates we also observed multiple individual nests at the same site (see Fig. 1 for comparison of nest sizes). These communal nests are no doubt the product of multiple females ovipositing in the same location, but since we did not observe it, we do not know if oviposition happened simultaneously or separately.