SHINE, R., P. S. HARLOW, J. S. KEOGH & BOEADI 1998. The allometry of life-history traits: insights from a study of giant snakes (*Python reticulatus*). *J. Zool*. 244: 405-414.

STARIN, E. D. & G. M. BURGHARDT. 1992. African rock pythons (*Python sebae*) in the Gambia: observations on natural history and interactions with primates. *The Snake*. 24: 50-62.

STRIMPLE, P. D. 1993. Overview of the natural history of the green anaconda (*Eunectes murinus*). *Herp. Nat. Hist*. 1**:** 25-35.

STRUSSMANN, C. 1997. Hábitos alimentares da sucuri-amarela, *Eunectes notaeus* COPE, 1862, no Pantanal Matogrossense. *Biociências*, *Porto Alegre* 5**:** 35-52.

Mark Auliya, Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig (ZFMK), Section: Herpetology, Adenauerallee 160, 53113 Bonn, Germany.Email: M.Auliya.ZFMK@uni-bonn.de

Received: 12 March 2002.
Accepted: 20 May 2002.

Hamadryad Vol. 27, No. 1, pp: 116 – 117, 2002

First report of *Micrixalus nudis* (Amphibia: Ranidae) from Karnataka, India

The Western Ghats is one of the "hotspots" of biological diversity with high endemicity (Myers, et. al., 2000). About 123 species of amphibians (60% of the total species count for India) are found in the Western Ghats of which 93 species are endemic (Daniels, 1992; 1997a; Molur and Walker, 1998). During the course of amphibian sampling as a part of ongoing research project to assess of lesser known and functionally important taxa of Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarahole) National Park (11 45' -12 15' N; 76 5' - 76 25' E), Karnataka State, south-western India, I encountered *Micrixalus nudis* on 21 April 2001 near the Nagarahole stream, flowing through moist deciduous forest, close to the forest dormitory. The species was identified using Pillai (1978) and Daniels (1997b). The specimen collected measures 15 mm from snout to vent; its dorsum brownish with chocolate band from eye to shoulder and dark bands along the sides of the body; venter white, throat and the breast is mottled with brown and white; limbs with dark cross bands; tympanum indistinct and fingers and toes have enlarged discs; toe webbing partial. The specimen is currently deposited at the ATREE Museum (ATREE A06).

Micrixalus nudis frequents small streams with shallow bottom in wet evergreen and moist deciduous forest between 200 to 1,000 m elevations (Pillai, 1978; Inger et. al., 1982). It is one of the endemic and threatened frogs found in the Western Ghats (Anon., 1998) even though it is widely distributed (Inger, et. al., 1982). The main threats to this species are habitat loss and fragmentation (Vasudevan, et. al., 2001).

Micrixalus nudis was described by Pillai (1978) from Wynad. It has been reported from five localities from the southern Western Ghats-Silent Valley, Siruvani, Kottagiri, (Pillai, 1978, 1989) and Ponmudi (Inger, 1982), in Kerala State and Kalakkad in Tamil Nadu State (K. Vasudevan pers. comm.). This is the first report from Karnataka. This report extends the range of *M. nudis* 60 km north-west of Chedleth, the type locality of this species.

I thank Karthikeyan Vasudevan of Wildlife Institute of India for identifying the specimen collected. I also thank K. V. Gururaja, T. Ganesh and Soubadra Devy for suggestions and comments. This work was funded by the Karnataka Forest Department.

LITERATURE CITED

ANONYMOUS, 1997. Amphibian CAMP handbook. Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore. 84 pp.

DANIELS, R. J. R. 1992. Geographical distribution patterns of amphibians in the Western Ghats, India. *J. Biogeogr*. 19: 521-529

_____. 1997a. A field guide to the frogs and toads of the Western Ghats, India: Part I. *Cobra* 27:1-25.

_____. 1997b. A field guide to the frogs and toads of the Western Ghats, India: Part II. *Cobra* 28:1-24.

INGER, R. F., H. B. SHAFFER, M. KOSHY & R. BAKDE. 1984. A report on a collection of amphibians and reptiles from the Ponnmudi, Kerala, south India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 81: 406-427.

MOLUR, S. & S. WALKER. 1998. Conservation assessment of the herpetofauna of India: an overview. *Hamadryad* 23: 169-178

MYERS, N., R. A. MITTERMEIER, C. A. MITTERMEIER, G. A. B. DA FONSECA & J. KENT. 2000. Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature* 403: 853-858.

PILLAI, R. S. 1978. A new frog of the genus *Micrixalus* (Boulenger) from Wynad, South India. *Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. (Anim. Sci)* 87B: 173-177.

VASUDEVAN, K., A. KUMAR & R. CHELLAM. 2001. Structure and composition of rainforest floor amphibian communities in Kalakad-Mundhanthurai Tiger Reserve. *Curr. Sci.* 80: 406-412.

N. A. Aravind, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), # 659, 5th 'A' Main, Hebbal, Bangalore 560 024, Karnataka, India. Email: aravind@atree.org

Received: 1 February 2002.
Accepted: 27 May 2002.

Hamadryad Vol. 27, No. 1, pp: 117 – , 2002

Record of *Kaloula pulchra* (Gray, 1831) (Anura: Microhylidae) from Cherrapunjee, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya, north-eastern India

(with one text figure)

Kaloula pulchra was first reported from India by Romer (1949) from Nagaland State, north-eastern India. It was subsequently reported from Tinsukia and Cachar Districts, Assam State, north-eastern India (Dutta, 1997; Dey et al., 2000). This note reports the occurrence of *Kaloula pulchra* from a forest in the East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya State, north-eastern India, located 5 km south of Cherrapunjee.

Three adults (two males and one female) of *Kaloula pulchra* were collected from a dense forest area near a pond located at Cherrapunjee (25^{o} 5'N; 91^{o} 43'E; ca. 950 m above msl). The climate of the area is highly variable: summer is hot and wet, winter is cold and dry. The average air and water temperatures during the time of collection in the month of May were 27°C and 17°C, respectively. One of the specimens was deposited with Zoological Survey of India, Eastern Regional Station, Shillong (ZSI V/A/ERS/ZSI/322). Measurements were made with vernier calliper and mm ruler (Table 1).

All three specimens show a dark brown dorsum with a bright orange patch extending from tip of snout between eyes on either side of body up to trunk; ventral surface uniformly coloured

TABLE 1: Morphometric measurements (in mm) of adult *Kaloula pulchra* collected from East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya State, north-eastern India.

	adult female	adult male
Snout-vent length	58	55
Head length	12	12
Head width	18.5	18
Snout length	6	6
Eye diameter	5	5
Interorbital width	10	8
Internarial width	4	4
Length of forelimb	44	44
Length of first finger	10	10
Length of second finger	12	12
Length of third finger	19	19
Length of fourth finger	15	15
Length of hindlimb	62	66
Length of first toe	9	9
Length of second toe	11	11
Length of third toe	16	16
Length of fourth toe	23	25
Length of fifth toe	14	14
Length of tibia	21	25