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A CHECK LIST OF AMPHIBIA OF SRI LANKA

**By S. W. Kotagama, K. D. Arudpragasam and I. Kotalawala,
University of Colombo, Colombo 3.**

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INTRODUCTION

The amphibian fauna of Sri Lanka has been described by Kirtiwagla (1931). Since then a few additions to this list of fauna have been made by Senanayake, Ellis and Jayawardene (1954, 1955, 1957) and these have been included in the present check-list. The Appendix forms the component recently by Ronald A. Nooburn and Carl Hagen but their work is yet to be published.

The various publications referred to above are not readily available to the general public. The purpose of the present paper is to bring together in a single volume all the available check-list. Preliminary work on the check-list was carried out by these authors and completed the year of its starting date.

The check-list of amphibians are representative of Sri Lanka's amphibian fauna and the Appendix. This Appendix is a list of 10 genera, only one of which is recorded. The present genus is recorded.

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INTRODUCTION

The amphibian fauna of Sri Lanka has been described by Kirtisinghe (1957). Since then a few additions to this list of fauna have been made by Senanayake, F.R. and co-workers (1958, 1966, 1968, 1977) and these have been included in the present check-list. The Apodan fauna has been revised recently by Ronald A. Nussbaum and Carl Gans but their work is yet to be published.

The various publications referred to above are not readily available to the ordinary user. The purpose of the present paper is to bring together available information, in the form of a easily accessible check-list. Preliminary work on the check-list was carried out by Cruz, whose card compilation was used as a starting point.

Two orders of amphibians are represented in Sri Lanka. They are the Anura and the Apoda. They include a total of 10 genera, only one of which is Apodan. One Anuran genus is endemic and this contains 2 species. In addition there are 13 other endemic species, making up a total of 15 endemic species of amphibians for the island.

A Check List of Amphibia of Sri Lanka

by

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AMPHIBIA

LIST OF GENERA

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Bufo | 6. Kaloula |
| 2. Rana | 7. Ramanella |
| 3. Nannophrys | 8. Uperodon |
| 4. Rhacophorus | 9. Microhyla |
| 5. Philautus | 10. Ichthyophis |

INTRODUCTION

The amphibian fauna of Sri Lanka has been described by Kuhlthals (1937). Since then a few additions to the list of genera have been made by Sennarath, F.R. and co-workers (1958, 1966, 1968, 1977) and these have been included in the present checklist. The amphibian fauna has been revised recently by Ronald A. Stebbins and Carl Gans but their work is yet to be published.

The various publications referred to above are not readily available to the ordinary user. The purpose of the present paper is to bring together available information in the form of a easily accessible checklist. Preliminary work on the checklist was carried out by Gans whose kind co-operation was held as a leading point.

Two orders of amphibians are represented in Sri Lanka. They are the Anura and the Urodela. They include a total of 10 genera, only one of which is Anuran. One Anuran genus is endemic and this contains 2 species. In addition there are 10 other endemic species, making up a total of 12 endemic species of amphibians in the island.

LIST OF SPECIES

ANURA

BUFONIDAE

		Reference	Page
1.	<i>Bufo</i> Laurenti, 1768		
(Endemic sp.) 1.	<i>B. Kelaartii</i> Günther, 1858	...	3 : 16
2.	<i>B. stomaticus</i> Lutken, 1863	...	3 : 17
3.	<i>B. microtympanum</i> Boulenger, 1882	...	3 : 19
4.	<i>B. melanostictus</i> Schneider, 1799	...	3 : 20
5.	<i>B. fergusonii</i> Boulenger, 1892	...	3 : 22
(Endemic sp.) 6.	<i>B. atukoralei</i> Bogert and Senanayake, 1966	...	1 : 2-17

RANIDAE

2.	<i>Rana</i> Linnaeus, 1758		
1.	<i>R. hexadactyla</i> Lesson, 1834	...	3 : 26
2.	<i>R. cyanophlyctis</i> Schneider, 1799		
	subsp. <i>cyanophlyctis</i> Schneider, 1799	...	3 : 29
3.	<i>R. tigrina</i> Daudin, 1802		
	subsp. <i>crassa</i> (Jerdon, 1853)	...	3 : 32
(Endemic sp.) 4.	<i>R. corrugata</i> Peters, 1863	...	3 : 35
5.	<i>R. limnocharis</i> Weigmann, 1835		
	subsp. <i>limnocharis</i> Weigmann, 1835	...	3 : 38
	subsp. <i>greenii</i> Boulenger, 1904	...	3 : 40
6.	<i>R. (Tomopterna) breviceps</i> Schneider, 1799	...	3 : 43
7.	<i>R. (Hylarana) temporalis</i> Günther, 1864	...	3 : 45
(Endemic sp.) 8.	<i>R. (Hylarana) gracilis</i> Gravenhorst, 1829	...	3 : 48
(Endemic sp.) 9.	<i>R. (Hylarana) aurantiaca</i> Boulenger	...	2 : 419-421
3.	<i>Nannophrys</i> Günther, 1869		
	(Endemic genus)		
1.	<i>N. guentheri</i> Boulenger, 1882	...	3 : 50
* 2.	<i>N. ceylonensis</i> Günther, 1868		
	subsp. <i>ceylonensis</i> Günther, 1868	...	3 : 51
	subsp. <i>marmorata</i> Kirtisinghe, 1964	...	3 : 52

RHACOPHORIDAE

† 4.	<i>Rhacophorus</i> Kuhl & V. Hasselt, 1822		
1.	<i>R. leucomystax</i> (Gravenhorst, 1829)		
	subsp. <i>maculatus</i> (Gray, 1832)	...	3 : 55
(Endemic sp.) 2.	<i>R. cruciger</i> (Blyth, 1852)	...	5 : 351-354
(Endemic sp.) 3.	<i>R. eques</i> (Günther, 1858)	...	5 : 351-354
(Endemic sp.) 4.	<i>R. microtympanum</i> (Günther, 1858)	...	3 : 63
(Endemic sp.) 5.	<i>R. nasutus</i> (Günther, 1868)	...	4 : 565-570

* The 2 sub-species of *Nannophrys ceylonensis* are recognised as 2 distinct species, namely *N. marmorata* and *N. ceylonensis* by P. H. D. H. De Silva (1955) in 'A List of Amphibia Recorded from Ceylon with a Report on the Amphibia in the Colombo Museum': Spol. Zeyl. Vol. 27 (II) (pages 244-250.)

† The genus *Rhacophorus* has been revised as *Polypedates* and is already in use as such in some publications. (The exact reference by Leim could not be traced).

5. <i>Philautus</i> Gistel, 1848	Reference	Page
1. <i>P. leucorhinus</i> (Lichtenstein & Martens, 1856)	...	3 : 68
(Endemic sp.) 2. <i>P. schmardanus</i> (Kelaart, 1854)	...	3 : 71
3. <i>P. nasutus</i> (Günther, 1868)	...	3 : 73
4. <i>P. variabilis</i> (Günther, 1868)	...	3 : 74

MICROHYLIDAE

6. <i>Kaloula</i> Gray, 1831		
<i>K. pulchra</i> Gray, 1864		
subsp. <i>taprobatica</i> Parker, 1934	...	3 : 79
7. <i>Ramanella</i> Rao, 1925		
(Endemic sp.) 1. <i>R. palmata</i> Parker, 1934	...	3 : 81
(Endemic sp.) 2. <i>R. obscura</i> (Günther, 1864)	...	3 : 82
3. <i>R. variegata</i> (Stoliczka, 1872)	...	3 : 83
8. <i>Uperodon</i> Dumeril & Bibron, 1841		
<i>U. systoma</i> (Schneider, 1799)	...	3 : 85
9. <i>Microhyla</i> Tschudi, 1838		
1. <i>M. ornata</i> (Dumeril & Bibron, 1841)	...	3 : 88
(Endemic sp.) 2. <i>M. Zeylanica</i> Parker & Hill, 1948	...	3 : 90
3. <i>M. rubra</i> (Jerdon, 1854)	...	3 : 92

APODA

CAECILIIDAE

10. <i>Ichthyophis</i> Fitzinger, 1826		
1. <i>I. glutinosus</i> (Linnaeus, 1754)	3	: 95
2. <i>I. monochrous</i> (Bleeker, 1859)	3	: 97

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* (a) *Hylarana* may be used instead of the generic name *Rana*, in the case of *R. temporalis*, *R. gracilis* & *R. aurantiaca*.

† (b) *Tomopterna* may be used instead of the generic name *Rana* in the case of *R. breviceps*.

