

New distributional records of introduced frogs on Leyte Island, Philippines

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Subjects identified by: Emerson Y. Sy.

Location: Baybay City, Leyte Province, Leyte Island, Philippines.

Elevation: 5-20 metres ASL.

Habitat: Built-up areas within the grounds of the Visayas State University.

Date and time: 13-16 August 2019, between 21:00 and 01:00 hrs.

Identity of subjects:

- i) Asiatic Painted Narrowmouth Frog ('Banded Bullfrog'), *Kaloula pulchra* (Amphibia: Anura: Microhylidae).
- ii) Greenhouse Frog, *Eleutherodactylus planirostris* (Amphibia: Anura: Eleutherodactylidae).
- iii) East Asian Bullfrog, *Hoplobatrachus rugulosus* (Amphibia: Anura: Dicroglossidae)

Description of records: Two introduced frog species previously undocumented on Leyte Island were observed in an ornamental plant garden, and another introduced species was observed in a drained swimming pool, all within the grounds of the Visayas State University.

Remarks:

The first frog (Fig. 1), with a snout-vent length (SVL) of 65mm, was identified as *Kaloula pulchra* based on (i) dorsal colour is brown, (ii) two light brown dorsolateral bands (iii) head is narrow and (iv) fingertips are not expanded. It is an introduced species in the Philippines and is currently known to occur on the following islands: Boracay, Cebu, Luzon, Marinduque, Mindanao, Mindoro, Palawan (Quibod & Sy, 2018; Pili et al., 2019).

The second frog (Fig. 2) was identified as *Eleutherodactylus planirostris* based on (i) its small size (SVL = 21mm), (ii) brown in colour, (iii) head as broad as body and (iv) toes are slender and long without webbing (Olson et al., 2012). It is an introduced species in the Philippines and is currently known to occur on the following islands: Cebu, Luzon, Mactan, Mindanao, Negros, and Palawan (Ducao et al., 2017; Sy, 2017a, Sy 2017b).

The third frog (Fig. 3) was identified as *Hoplobatrachus rugulosus* based on (i) its large size (SVL = ca. 80 mm), (ii) broad triangular head, (iii) greenish grey in colour, (iv) short ridges on the back, (v) fingers are not webbed and (vi) toes are completely webbed. It is an introduced species in the Philippines and is currently known to occur on the following islands: Caluya, Luzon, Masbate, Mindanao, Mindoro, Palawan, Panay (Diesmos et al., 2015; Peralta et al., 2016).

Aside from the new record of the three introduced frogs, we also observed the presence of the previously documented introduced Marine Toad *Rhinella marina* and Green Paddy Frog *Hylarana erythraea* within the campus grounds.



Fig. 1.

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Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

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