

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina* in Narra Municipality, Palawan, Philippines

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Observer: Emerson Y. Sy.

Photograph by: Emerson Y. Sy.

Subject identified by: Emerson Y. Sy.

Location: Palawan Island, Barangay Atipuluan, Municipality of Narra, Palawan Province, Philippines.

Elevation: 5 metres ASL.

Habitat: inside the compound of the Katala Institute; surrounded by agricultural land.

Date and time: 5 November 2023, 11:00 hrs.

Identity of subject:

(i) Cane Toad, *Rhinella marina* (Amphibia: Anura: Bufonidae).

Description of record:

A female Cane Toad (SVL = ca. 75mm) (Fig. 1) was observed in the plant nursery of the Katala Institute, a conservation organization based in Palawan Province.



Fig. 1.

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Remarks:

The toad was identified as a female *Rhinella marina* based on (i) its large size, (ii) dorsum is brownish tan with dark blotches, (iii) a large pair of parotid glands, (iv) tubercles on the body and limbs and (v) absence of parietal crests (Alcala and Brown, 1998).

On Palawan Island, the introduced Cane Toad was first reported in Puerto Princesa City (Diesmos et al., 2015) and subsequently in the Municipality of Quezon (Sy & Heredero, 2019). This record extends the distribution by 46 km in air distance from the nearest location in Barangay Tabon, Municipality of Quezon.

References:

Alcala, A.C. & Brown, W.C. (1998). Philippine amphibians: an illustrated field guide. Bookmark, Inc. Makati City, Philippines. xii + 116pp.

Diesmos, A. C., Watters, J. L., Huron, N. A., Davis, D. R., Alcala, A. C., Crombie, R. I., Afuang, L. E., Gee-Das, G., Sison, R. V., Sanguila, M. B., Penrod, M. L., Labonte, M. J., Davey, C. S., Leone, E. A., Diesmos, M. L., Sy, E. Y., Welton, L. J., Brown, R. M. & Siler, C.D. (2015). Amphibians of the Philippines, part I: checklist of the species. Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences series 4, 62: 457-539.

Sy, E.Y. and Heredero, J.S. (2019). The occurrence of the invasive Marine Toad *Rhinella marina* on Palawan Island, Philippines. Southeast Asia Vertebrate Records 2019: 68-69.