

AN ACCOUNT OF COLLECTIONS OF FROGS FROM CENTRAL NEW GUINEA

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(Figs. 1 and 2)

(Plates 1-5)

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Summary

In an account of frogs in the Australian Museum collected in Central New Guinea, two new Hylid species (*Nyctimystes disrupta* and *N. foricula* from the Schrader Mountains), and one new Ranid (*Rana jimienensis* from the Jimi River Valley) are described. Variations within the paratype series are reported, and the relationships of the species are discussed.

Series or individual examples of four additional species of the genus *Nyctimystes*, four *Hyla*, three *Rana*, and one *Cophixalus* are represented, and notes on their morphology, ecology, parasites, distribution and vernacular nomenclature are included.

The representation of the family Microhylidae by a solitary specimen is discussed, and assumed to indicate selective rather than representative sampling of the herpetofauna by the collectors.

Introduction

In 1954, Mr. E. L. Troughton and Mr. N. Camps, of the Australian Museum, visited the Central Highlands of the Australian Trusteeship Territory of New Guinea, and collected a large number of specimens of animals which occur in that region, including several hundred frogs. A few specimens were also obtained near the Jimi River, north of the Central Highlands. Additional specimens from the Central Highlands were collected by Dr. R. N. H. Bulmer (currently of the Department of Anthropology, The University of Auckland) in 1955 and 1959. Dr. Bulmer also collected frogs in the course of anthropological field work in the Kaironk Valley of the Schrader Mountains in 1959 and 1960, and subsequently presented his collections to the Australian Museum.

The present paper is a composite account of the frogs obtained by Troughton, Camps and Bulmer. Three species are new to science, whilst the records of a further three species which have not been previously found in the Trusteeship Territory provide valuable supplements to the existing knowledge of their distribution. Amongst the Troughton/Camps collection are approximately 60 specimens of *Hyla* whose specific identity remains undetermined, and which have therefore been excluded from the present paper. It is hoped to include identifications in a taxonomic revision of the New Guinea Hylidae which is being currently undertaken by the author.