

# A FURTHER CONTRIBUTION ON THE "AMPHIBIA OF TRINIDAD"

by J. S. Kenny

Since publication of my monograph on the "Amphibia of Trinidad" (Kenny, 1969) I have been in touch with herpetologists both in Europe and the Americas and it is now clear that some of the names applied to Trinidad forms must be changed. This note records the changes which have become necessary and confirms some conclusions which have been drawn by myself concerning problem species. Some additional distributional records are also given on *Pseudis paradoxus caribensis*.

*Leptodactylus pentadactylus pentadactylus* (Laurenti). It is now clear that this name is misapplied. The large leptodactylid referred to on page 72 and plate XIb is *Leptodactylus bolivianus*, (Boulenger). *L. pentadactylus* and *L. bolivianus* both occur in South America in the same general habitat. *L. pentadactylus* is very much larger than *L. bolivianus* and the dorso-lateral dermal folds do not reach the inguinal region as they do in *L. bolivianus*. *L. pentadactylus* also has an inter-orbital bar of equal width between the eyes and either three or four similar bars on the back. *L. bolivianus* has a triangular marking between the eyes as well as transverse black bars on the back of the tibia, lacking in the former species. The original material was identified by Miss Grandison of the British Museum and myself. I am indebted to Dr. Marinus Hoogmoed, Curator of Reptiles and Amphibians, of the Rijksmuseum, Leiden, for drawing this problem to my attention.

*Hyla misera* Warner. On the basis of collections made in Venezuela and field observations of tadpoles and adult voices I synonymized *H. misera* and *H. goughi*. *H. goughi*, it will be recalled, appears in Parker's list (1933). Dr. Hoogmoed informs me that he agrees with this proposal but points out further that *H. misera* is now considered to be a subspecies of *H. microcephala*.

*Hyla maxima* ((Laurenti). Dr. Morris, Royal Holloway College, informs me that the correct name should be *H. boans*. I do not agree with this nor have I received any other comment on the species.

*Hyla orophila*. Lutz and Lutz. There is no doubt that this species is a problem species likely to remain so for some time. It is not so much a question of identification at the specific level, but rather a question of agreement among taxonomists as to the status of the species at the generic level. I am not about to add to the general confusion and will list below the names applied by various people.

*Hyla aurantiaca* Daudin 1803.

*Dryomelictes orophila* Goin 1961.

*Hyla orophila* Lutz and Lutz 1938.

*Sphoehyla aurantiaca* Goin 1957.

*Hyla orophila* Rivero 1961.

*Sphoehyla aurantiaca* Hoogmoed 1969.

*Sphaenorhynchus aurantiacus* Goin and Cochran 1970.

*Sphaenorhynchus orophila* Tuck 1970.

***Pseudis paradoxus caribensis*** Gallardo. It was recorded elsewhere, (Kenny 1956, and 1969) that ***Pseudis paradoxus*** did not occur naturally in the Caroni drainage but had only been introduced accidentally into this drainage in 1957. Since publication of "Amphibia of Trinidad" I have been able to obtain some additional data on the spread of this species. It has now been collected at Centeno at the Central Experimental Station of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries, at the north side of the Beetham Highway on reclaimed lands which, until recently have been saline, and in rice fields to the east of Montrose Village, Chaguanas. The impression I now have is that this frog has spread throughout the less elevated parts of the Caroni Drainage, but has yet to invade the valleys of the Northern Range. Although common in flat swampy areas, it is not confined to these areas and it would be no surprise to find it eventually in possibly the Santa Cruz, Maracas and Caura Valleys.

**References :**

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