

Taxonomic relationships of *Ansonia anotis* Inger, Tan, and Yambun, 2001 and *Pedostibes maculatus* (Mocquard, 1890), with a description of a New Genus (amphibia, bufonidae)

Abstract

Examination of types and recently collected specimens revealed that *Ansonia anotis* Inger, Tan, and Yambun, 2001 and *Pedostibes maculatus* (Mocquard, 1890), both described from Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, are hardly differentiated morphologically. Analyses of a total of 2,427 bp of the 12S rRNA, tRNA val, and 16S mitochondria! rRNA genes revealed that the two species are very close genetically. Thus *A. anotis* is regarded as conspecific and is synonymized with *P. maculatus*. Genetically, this species proved to form a lineage distinct from other bufonids from Southeast Asia, including species of *Ansonia* and *Pedostibes*. Because the species has also some unique morphological traits different from known bufonid genera, we propose to establish a new genus for *Nectophryne maculata* Mocquard, 1890.