



Interspecific Amplexus of a Male Terai Treefrog, *Polypedates teraiensis* (Dubois 1897), and a Female Cope’s Assam Frog, *Hydrophylax leptoglossa* (Cope 1868), at Pualreng Wildlife Sanctuary in Mizoram, India

Lal Muansanga, Saisangpuia Sailo, Lalbiakzuala, Gospel Z. Hmar, John Zothanzama, Ht. Decemson, and H.T. Lalremsanga

Department of Zoology, Mizoram University, Aizawl, 796004, Mizoram, India (muanapunte16@gmail.com)

During the breeding season, anuran males often fail to discriminate between receptive conspecific females and males or spent females (most species employ release calls to signal that the “partner” is incapable of reproducing; Duellman and Trueb 1986). Indiscriminate males might even attempt to mate with frogs of other species. Some recent reports of interspecific amplexus (sometimes intergeneric or interfamilial or, in one instance, interordinal) from around the world include Harpalani et al. (2015), Müller (2016), Beranek (2017), Mudrek et al. (2017), Groffen et al. (2019), Ma at et al. 2019), Bringsøe (2020), Decemson et al. (2020), and Perata-García et al. (2020). Interspecific amplexus can cause reproductive interference and result in negative demographic consequences (Pearl et al. 2005; Amore et al. 2009). This is most likely to occur in the absence of niche segrega-

tion between sympatric species (e.g., Höbel 2005; Streicher et al. 2010).

The Terai Treefrog (*Polypedates teraiensis*) is a rhacophorid with a distribution that includes Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and possibly China, whereas the range of Cope’s Assam Frog (*Hydrophylax leptoglossa*) includes India, Bangladesh, southern Myanmar, and adjacent western Thailand (Frost 2020).

During fieldwork in the Pualreng Wildlife Sanctuary located in Kolasib District, Mizoram, India, we encountered a male *P. teraiensis* (SVL = 44.9 mm) in amplexus with a female *H. leptoglossa* (SVL = 62.5 mm) (Fig. 1) in the vicinity of a paddy pool (24°12'21.01"N, 92°49'0.02"E; elev. 399 m asl) at ca. 2000 h on 22 July 2020. The amplexing pair remained perched on a rock wall beside the pool until we left at 2030 h without disturbing them. Air temperature and relative humidity at the site were 23 °C and 76%, respectively.

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Fig. 1. Interspecific amplexus of a male Terai Treefrog, *Polypedates teraiensis* (Rhacophoridae), and a female Cope’s Assam Frog, *Hydrophylax leptoglossa* (Ranidae), at Pualreng Wildlife Sanctuary in Mizoram, India. Photograph by Lal Muansanga.

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