



New District Record for the Assam Snaileater, *Pareas monticola* (Cantor 1839), from Dhalai, Tripura, India

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The genus *Pareas* Wagler 1830 comprises 30 currently recognized species, five of which occur in India (Uetz et al. 2023). The Assam Snaileater, also known as the Common Slugsnake, *Pareas monticola* (Cantor 1839), was described from the Naga Hills of Assam in the present-day state of Nagaland and the Burmese Naga self-administered zone. The distribution of the species includes India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Vietnam, and Myanmar (Uetz et al. 2023). In India,

records are from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim, and Darjeeling (Ahmed et al. 2009; Uetz et al. 2023), and from a single locality in the Jampui Hills in the North Tripura District of Tripura (Vogel et al. 2021). We herein provide the first documentation of the species from Dhalai District, Tripura, India.

At 2116 h on 5 August 2023, we encountered a *Pareas monticola* (~500 mm total length) (Fig. 1) outside the bound-



Figure 1. An Assam Snaileater (*Pareas monticola*) from Dhalai, Tripura, India. Photograph by Arnab Deb.

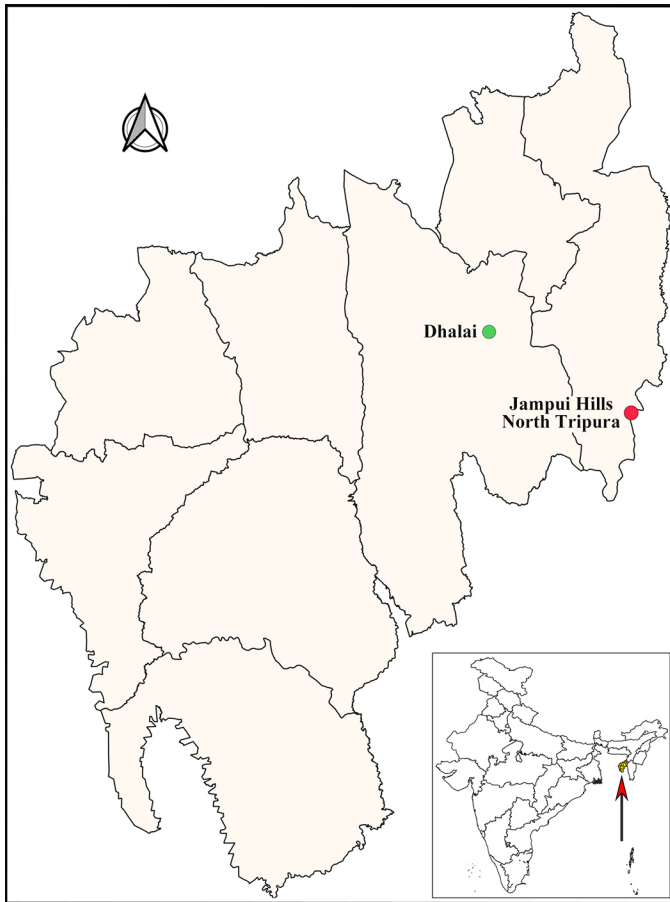


Figure 2. Map showing the new locality record of the Assam Snail-eater (*Pareas monticola*) in the Dhalai District, Tripura, India (green dot) and the previous record from the state in North Tripura District (red dot).

ary of the Government Degree College, Longtharai Valley in Mainama, Dhalai District, Tripura (23.954874, 92.006045; elev. 110 m asl; Fig. 2). The habitat consisted of mixed forest and bamboo plantations. We identified the snake based on descriptions in Smith (1943) and Ahmed et al. (2009). A photographic voucher was deposited in the Zoological Reference Collection in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore (ZRC(IMG) 2.638) and the identity of the snake was confirmed by Sanath Bohra. This new record extends the range of the species about 100 km north-eastward from the only previously recorded locality in the state.

Literature Cited

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