



Predation on a Slender-legged Horned Frog (*Grillitschia longipes*) by a Perak Horned Frog (*Grillitschia aceras*) in Malaysia

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With nearly 9,000 currently recognized species, amphibians are among the most diverse vertebrate classes (Frost 2025). As predators, they feed on a variety of prey and play vital roles in many food webs (Womack et al. 2022; Huang et al. 2023; AmphibiaWeb 2025). Most anurans are generalist predators that consume various small invertebrates. However, adults of some of the larger species also feed on mammals, birds, reptiles, and other anurans. Frog-eat-frog predation includes both intra- (cannibalism) and interspecific predation — and can target eggs, tadpoles, metamorphs, and adults (Measey et al. 2015; Vogt et al. 2017; Muñoz-Saravia et al. 2020; Caicedo-Martínez et al. 2021; Cambronero et al. 2022; Badjedjea et al. 2023; Dugas et al. 2024). The Perak Horned Frog (*Grillitschia aceras*) (Megophryidae) is native to Malaysia and Thailand (Lyu et al. 2023; Frost 2025). The species inhabits closed-canopy evergreen forests, with tadpoles developing in forest streams (IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group 2021a).

The Slender-legged Horned Frog (*Grillitschia longipes*) (Megophryidae) is distributed in parts of Malaysia and Thailand, where it inhabits undisturbed evergreen rainforests and montane moss forests, with larvae developing in small, clear, slow-flowing streams (Frost 2025; IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group 2021b).

At 2202 h on 10 November 2024, during a herpetofaunal survey in Fraser's Hill, Malaysia (3.717363, 101.752040), we observed a *G. aceras* that had caught a *G. longipes* by its head (Fig. 1). We identified the latter by its slender and long hindlimbs, long toes with moderate webbing, and rounded toe tips. Complete ingestion took eight minutes. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of *G. aceras* preying on *G. longipes*.

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Figure 1. A Perak Horned Frog (*Grillitschia aceras*) eating a Slender-legged Horned Frog (*Grillitschia longipes*) in Fraser's Hill, Malaysia. Photographs by Kerry Kriger.

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