

A contribution on morphology and distribution of the Rock Toad *Duttaphrynus hololius* (Günther, 1876) with first report on deformity, calling and breeding behaviours (Amphibia: Anura: Bufonidae)

S. R. Ganesh^{1*}, S. Brihadeesh², B. Laxmi Narayana³, Shaik Hussain⁴ & G. Chethan Kumar⁵

¹Chennai Snake Park, Rajbhavan post, Chennai 60022, Tamil Nadu, India.

²Rishi Valley School, Thettu, Madanapalle, Chittoor dt. Andhra Pradesh-517352, India.

³Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad, Telangana-500064, India.

⁴H. No. 2-19-79/68, Azmathnagar, Teacher's Colony, Hyderabad, Telangana-500039, India.

⁵Flat 6C, Block-22, Greenfield City, Shibrampur, Kolkata, West Bengal -700141, India.

*Corresponding Author's E-mail: snakeranglerr@gmail.com

(Received: April 16, 2020; Revised: May 03, 2020; Accepted: May 07, 2020)

ABSTRACT

Morphology of a hitherto fore unsampled population of *Duttaphrynus hololius* from Hyderabad in mid-Deccan plateau (outlier), is presented and found consistent with that of populations characterised so far. We re-map its distribution based on further findings, since the last attempt (in 2013) and our revised analysis revealed a better resolution and refinement in the MaxEnt Species Distribution Modelling (SDM) range projections. We present the first ever information on its courtship and acoustic characterization (a mating call and a male release call), based on observations in Chittoor, Eastern Ghats. We also report the first case of deformity-macrophthalmia with red eye syndrome, in this species based on field observations in Hampi, Deccan plateau. Findings of this species in peri-urban areas and with deformity are highlighted in a conservational perspective. Put together, the new information considerably adds to our knowledge on this uncommon species.

Key words: *Duttaphrynus hololius*, calls, courtship, deformity, distribution, MaxEnt, morphology, peri-urban area

