

**Studies on the metamorphic stages of the endemic frogs  
*Limnonectes greeni* (Amphibia : Ranidae) and *Microhyla*  
*zeylanica* (Amphibia : Microhylidae) from Sri Lanka**

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A study on some of the development stages of the endemic frogs *Limnonectes greeni* (Boulenger 1904) and *Myrohyla zeylanica* (Parker and Hill 1949), collected during March 1998 from the water bodies outside the Horton Plains Nature Reserve, was carried out to determine the stages of metamorphosis of these frogs.

The adults of *L. greeni* were observed to be copulating during March. Some adults of this species were collected in copulating position. The tadpoles of *L. greeni* of different developmental stages, with black markings on the tail as described by Kirthisinghe (1957), were collected with the adults from the water body.

A large number of tadpoles of *M. zeylanica* of different development stages, mostly transparent with black markings on the dorsal surface as described by Kirthisinghe (1957), were collected along with the adults.

The adults and tadpoles of these frogs were killed, preserved in 5% formalin and immediately identified. The tadpoles were removed to the laboratory for identification of the development stages.

The smallest stage of tadpoles of *L. greeni* were collected from the water bodies measured 13 mm and the largest tadpole before the tail was resorped, measured 47.6 mm while the smallest stage of *M. zeylanica* measured 7.9 mm while the largest before the tail resorped - was 19.5 mm.

Stage of tadpoles was categorized according to Gosner (1960). Some important stages of *L. greeni* were staged for growth and 10 stages were identified while 15 stages of tadpoles were identified for *M. zeylanica*.