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### ***Short Communication***

## **FIRST RECORD OF THE TERAI CRICKET FROG, *FEJERVARYA TERAIENSIS* (DUBOIS, 1984) FROM UTTAR PRADESH**

Terai Cricket Frog, *Fejervarya teraiensis* (Dubois, 1984) is a small sized frog having a maximum SVL of 56.00 mm in females and 51.0 mm in males. It is the largest species of *Fejervarya* found in Nepal with an ovoid, stocky body. The development of a middorsal line is highly variable. The dorsum has more or less patches of orange, red, or green and males have characteristic W-shaped dark marking on the throat (Schleich and Kastle 2002). The forelimbs are more or less darkly spotted. The hindlimbs have no stipes but has oval spots. The toe webbing is faintly marbled. The males have a thickened metacarpal tubercle at the base of the first finger. The finger tips are rounded. The relative finger length is  $2 = 4 < 1 < 3$  with the first finger longer than the second and fourth.

*Fejervarya teraiensis* is recorded from the entire Terai zone of Nepal. The species was first described in 1984 (Dubois, 1984) and earlier records of *Limnonectes* in the region may include this species (Schleich and Kastle, 2002). In India, there is a record from Nagaland (Ao *et al.*, 2003) and from Loktok lake, Manipur (Ningombam and Bordoloi, 2007) and from Assam (Borthokur *et al.*, 2007).

On 9th August 2007, 4 examples of *Fejervarya teraiensis* (Dubois, 1984) were collected from Katerniaghat Wildlife Division, near Nishanagadha Forest Range (28° 14' 26.2" N and 81° 13' 43.8" E and Altitude of 150-183 metre above MSL) which is on the India-Nepal border in district Behraich of Uttar Pradesh. This forest division has total area of 551.64 sq. km, wherein combinations of grasslands, wetlands and dense forests are found. Part of the Wildlife division is declared as Wildlife Sanctuary in 1976 having an area of 400.00 sq. km. The present collection constitutes the first record of the species from Uttar Pradesh.

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Fig. 1. *Fejervarya teraiensis* (Dubois, 1984)

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