

## First record of the Greenhouse Frog *Eleutherodactylus planirostris* in Batanes island group, Philippines

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**Observer:** Charls Lee Ibañes.  
**Photograph by:** Charls Lee Ibañes.  
**Subject identified by:** Emerson Y. Sy.

**Location:** Batan Island, Barangay Ihubok I (Kaychanarianan), Municipality of Basco, Batanes Province, Philippines.  
**Elevation:** 20 metres ASL.  
**Habitat:** Moist ground in a residential area.  
**Date and time:** 16 June 2020, 20:30 hrs.

**Identity of subject:** Greenhouse Frog, *Eleutherodactylus planirostris* (Amphibia: Anura: Eleutherodactylidae).

**Description of record:** A small frog was observed on the ground in a residential area (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1.

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**Remarks:**

The frog was identified as *Eleutherodactylus planirostris* based on (i) its small size (ca. 25mm snout-vent length), (ii) dorsal colour is brown with mottled tan, (iii) head as broad as body, and (iv) slender and long toes without webbing (Olson et al., 2012). The Greenhouse Frog is native to Cuba and the Bahamas, an introduced species in the Philippines, and has been documented on the following islands: Camiguin Sur (Venturina et al., 2020), Cebu (Sy and Salgo, 2015), Leyte (Sy and Del Prado, 2019), Luzon (Sy, 2015a), Mactan (Sy, 2017a), Mindanao (Bukidnon, Davao del Sur) (Ducao et al., 2017), Negros (Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental) (Bucol and Bucol, 2019; Sy et al., 2015b), and Palawan (Sy, 2017b). The most likely introduction pathway is through contaminated ornamental plants (Pili et al., 2019).

The Batanes island group is situated north of Luzon and is the northern-most islands of the Philippines. Prior to this record, the Common Tree Frog *Polypedates leucomystax* was the only frog documented in the island group and this was hypothesized to be introduced recently on the islands of Batan and Sabtang (Oliveros et al., 2011).

This note provides the northern-most record of the introduced Greenhouse Frog in the Philippines to date and the first record on Batan Island and Batanes island group.

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