

HIDDEN FROGS, LIZARDS, AND SNAKES: UNRAVELING CRYPTIC DIVERSITIES IN PHILIPPINE HERPETOFAUNA (HFLS: PHILIPPINE CRYPTIC HERPS)

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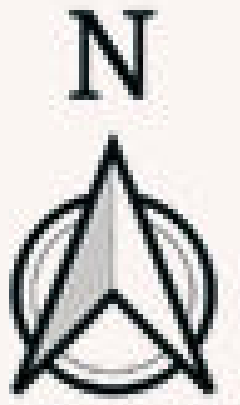
The Philippine *Philautus*

Philippine Bush Frogs



-  *P. acutirostris*
-  *P. surdus*
-  *P. leitensis*
-  *P. schmackeri*
-  *P. longicrus*
-  *P. sarrufus*
-  *P. poecilus*
-  *P. worcesteri*
-  *P. everetti*

The genus *Philautus* consists of forest obligate frogs capable of thriving in microhabitats at higher elevations (Sanguila et al. 2016). In addition, *Philautus* species can act as bioindicators of moisture in forest habitats and forest fragments since they thrive in moist environments. The genus is known to have 54 species worldwide (Frost, 2021). In the Philippines, nine species of *Philautus* are currently recognized: *Philautus acutirostris*, *Philautus everetti*, *Philautus leitensis*, *Philautus longicrus*, *Philautus poecilus*, *Philautus schmackeri*, *Philautus surdus*, *Philautus sarrufus*, and *Philautus worcesteri*.










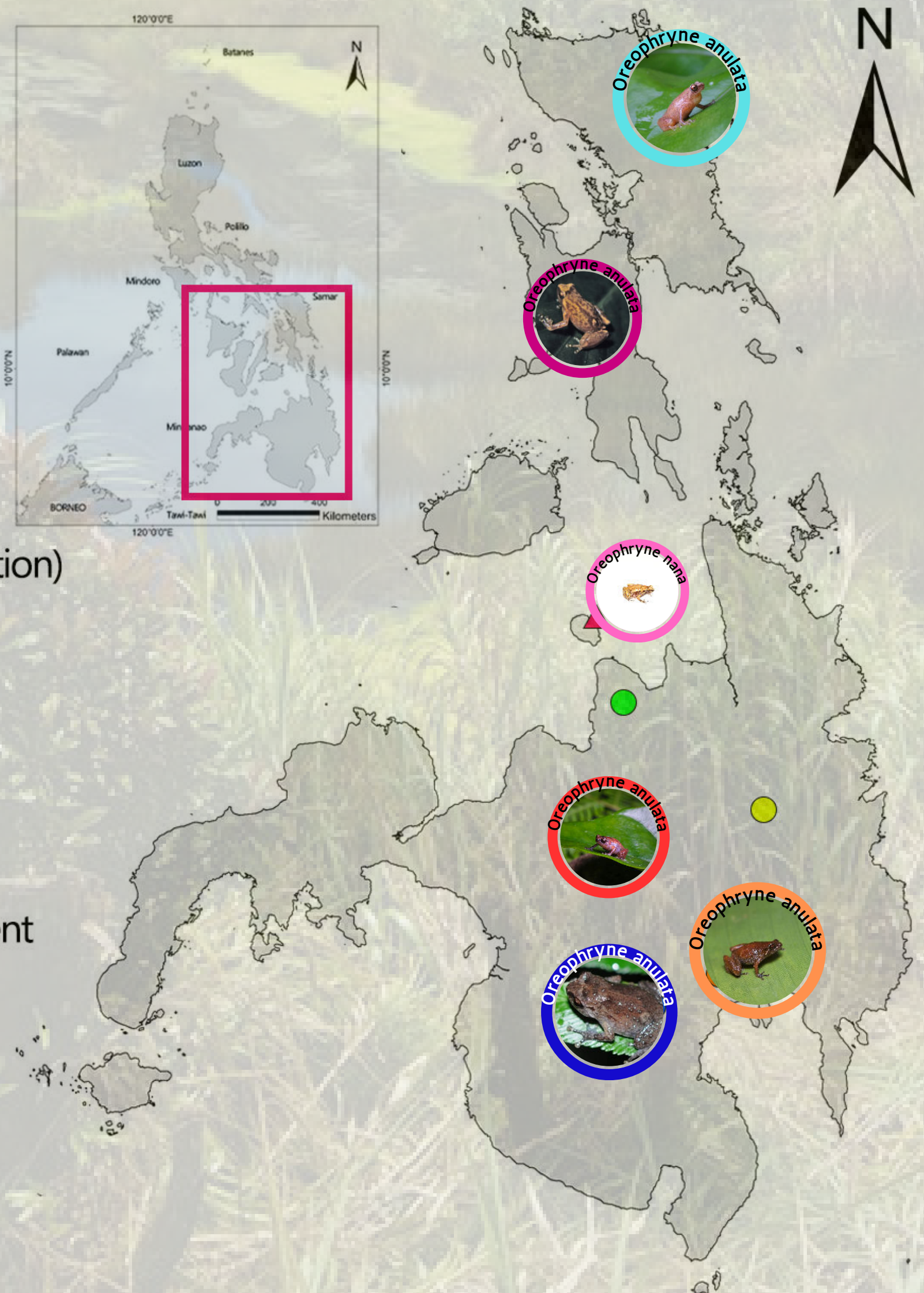
The Philippine *Oreophryne* Philippine Cross Frogs

The genus *Oreophryne* Boettger, 1895 is the most geographically widespread group in the subfamily Asterophryinae, the largest group of Microhylids, and is represented by several species whose distribution ranges from Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, and the Philippines. In the Philippines, it is one of the smallest frog species, the size of a fingernail, and currently has two species— *O. nana* is endemic to the Camiguin Sur island, while *O. anulata* which is considered to be geographically widespread throughout Mindanao Faunal Region. *O. anulata*'s type locality is found in Mt. Apo.



Distribution of Philippine Crossfrogs

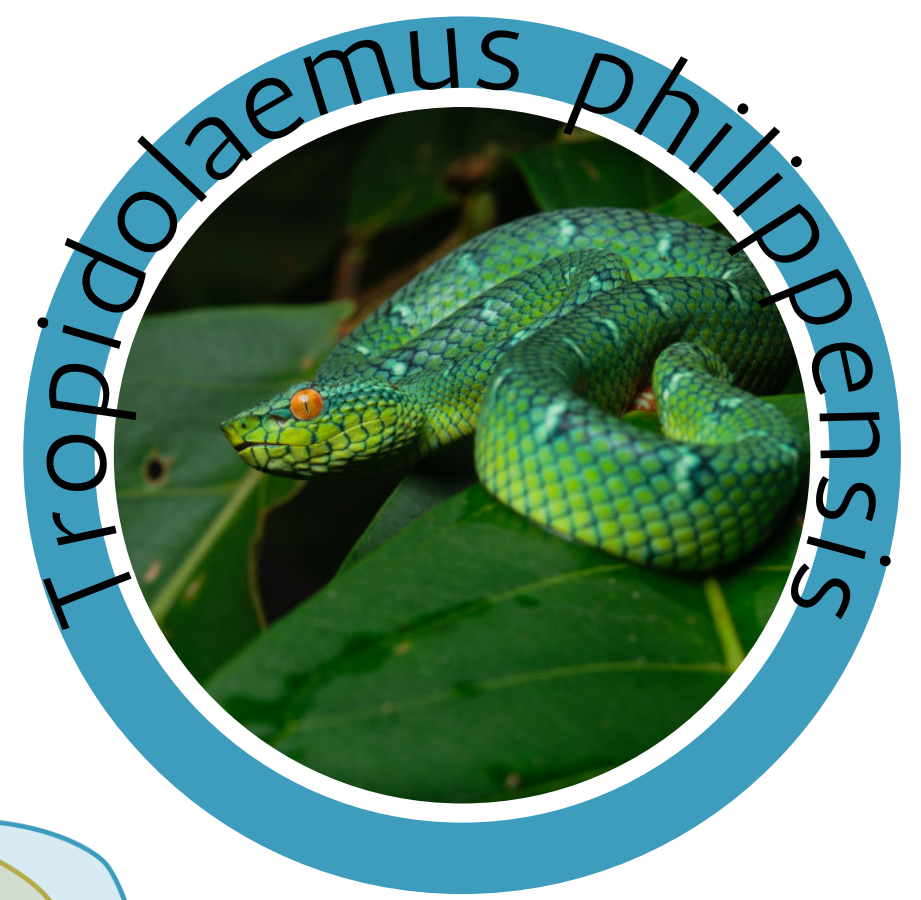
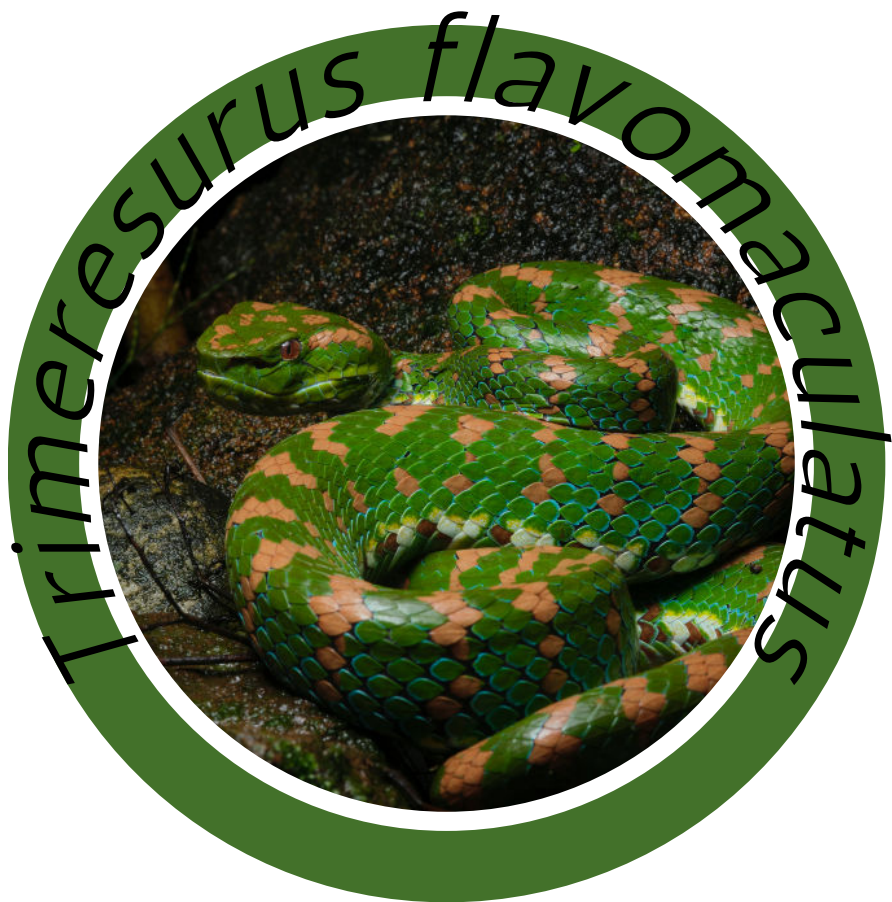
- Oreophryne anulata***
- Leyte Island**
-  Mt. Aminduen
- Mindanao Island**
-  Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary
-  Mt. Apo Natural Park
-  Mt. Balatukan Range Natural Park
-  Mt. Kitanglad Range Natural Park
-  Malagos, Davao City (Philippine Eagle Foundation)
- Samar Island**
-  Samar Island, Natural Park
- Oreophryne nana***
- Camiguin Island**
- Mt. Timpoong-Hibok-Hibok Natural Monument



The Philippine Pitvipers

Trimeresurus and *Tropidolaemus*

Pitvipers of subfamily Crotalinae hold some of the most dangerously venomous snakes of the world. Their specialized loreal pits allow them to find prey even in complete darkness, making them incredible hunters. Five species occur in the Philippines under two genera: *Trimeresurus* and *Tropidolaemus*. Of these, *T. flavomaculatus* and *T. subannulatus* are widespread throughout the Philippines, leaving questions in their taxonomy. All species are Philippine endemic except for *T. subannulatus*.



The Philippine *Draco*

Philippine Flying Lizard

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There are currently 10 described species of Philippine *Draco*. These flying lizards occur all throughout the Philippines where they can be common in forest edge habitats and even agricultural plantations. Species are often encountered on tree trunks feeding on ants, termites, and other arthropods in the wild. The overlapping distributions of some *Draco* species leave important questions in their taxonomy and ecology.

Draco jackerii



Draco spilopterus



Draco quadrasi



Draco ornatus



Draco palawanensis



Draco bimaculatus



Draco cyanopterus

