



---

**AMPHIBIAN DIVERSITY OF WETLANDS OF BONGAIGAON DISTRICT OF  
ASSAM WITH A NOTE ON THE MORPHOMETRIC CHARACTERS OF  
*DUTTAPHRYNUS MELANOSTICTUS***

**CHEZIA<sup>1</sup>, D.K. SHARMA<sup>1</sup>, S. SENGUPTA<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Zoology, Gauhati University, Guwahati, Assam

<sup>2</sup>Department of Zoology, Arya Vidyapith College, Guwahati, Assam

**ABSTRACT**

Situated in the northwestern part of Assam Bongaigaon district is gifted with lot of wetlands significantly Tamranga , Konara and Dalani wetland is home of 12 amphibian species under 5 family. Of which 1 species belonged to family Bufonidae, 2 species to family microhylidae, 1 species to family Rhacophoridae, 6 species to family Dicroglossidae and 2 species to Ranidae. Significant variation was observed in the morphometric characteristics of *Duttafrynus melanostictus* with its Lectotype.

**Keywords: Amphibia, Wetland, *Duttafrynus melanostictus***

**INTRODUCTION**

Wetlands are one of the world's most productive and important ecosystems. The word 'wet-land' tell us that they are lands that are wet. These ecosystems fall somewhere between terrestrial and aquatic categories. They are more shallow and characterized by the presence of vegetation rather than open water. These water bodies are suitable natural habitat and breeding ground for variety of amphibian fauna. Amphibians play a pivotal role in wetland ecosystem

as secondary consumers in many food chains. Because of their importance in ecosystem, decline or extinction of their population has significant impact on other organisms along with them. 26% of the world's fresh water amphibian species are considered threatened. Approximately over a 4550 species of amphibians are recorded in the world, including 165 species of caecilians, 390 species of caudata and 3995 species of anura. About 220 species of amphibians