

grooves. (18) Finger II with dermal fringe on the inner side; webbing absent. (19) Subarticular tubercles absent. (20) Prepollex absent; two prominent palmar tubercles, the inner rounded, the outer oval; supernumerary tubercles absent.

(D) Hind limbs. - (21) Shanks about four times longer (TL 11.4 mm) than wide (TW 3.11 mm), longer than thigh (FL 10.9 mm) and distance from base of internal metatarsal tubercle to tip of toe IV (FOL 10.8 mm); heel reaching nare when limb folded forward. (22) Toes rather short and rather strong; toe IV (FTL 6.35) about one third of distance from base of tarsus to tip of toe IV (TFOL 17.2 mm). (23) Relative length of toes, shortest to longest: I < II < V < III < IV. (24) Tips of toes rounded, not enlarged, without grooves. (25) Webbing absent. (WTF nm; WFF nm; WI nm; WII nm; MTF 3.89 mm; MTF 3.76 mm; TFTF 6.61 mm; FFTF 6.74 mm). (26) Dermal fringe along toe V absent. (27) Subarticular tubercles absent. (28) Inner metatarsal tubercle rather long and prominent; its length (IMT 1.67 mm) 1.32 times in length of toe I (ITL 2.20 mm). (29) Tarsal fold absent. (30) Outer metatarsal tubercle absent; supernumerary tubercles absent; tarsal tubercle absent.

(E) Skin. - (31) Dorsal and lateral parts of head and body: snout, region between the eyes, side of head and back smooth; flank with flat glandular warts. (32) Dorsolateral folds absent. (33) Dorsal parts of limbs: forelimbs, thigh, shank and tarsus smooth. (34) Ventral parts of head, body and limbs: throat, chest, belly and thigh smooth. (35) Presence of macroglands: pectoral, femoral, supra-brachial and ventro-lateral glands present.

(F) Coloration. - (a) In alcohol. - (36) Dorsal and lateral parts of head and body: dorsal parts of head and dorsum and upper part of flank grayish-brown with black band between the eyes, a black W-shaped pattern in the shoulder region and a black V in the sacral region; lower part of flank dark grayish-brown; loreal region blackish-brown; tympanic region including tympanum dark brown with white band under the tympanum; upper lip dark brown with white and blackish spots. (37) Dorsal parts of limbs: dorsal parts of forelimb, thigh, shank, and foot gray-brown with

blackish bands; posterior part of thigh blackish with small white spots. (38) Ventral parts of head, body and limbs: throat dirty white; margin of throat dark brown with small white spots; chest and belly dirty white with dark brown marbling; thigh brown with some white spots; macroglands white.

(b) In life. - Upper parts of head and dorsum, flanks and tympanic region gray brown with dark brown pattern, particularly in the tympanic and loreal regions; upper lip gray-brown with dark brown and whitish-gray bands. Upper part of fore-arm ochre, lower part gray-brown and dark brown; hind legs with dark brown and gray-brown bands; heels ochre; posterior part of thigh gray-brown with a dark brown zone ventrally. Throat transparent light gray-brown with dark brown margin bearing white spots; chest and belly gray with dark gray marbling; lower part of thigh transparent dark brown with whitish spots. Macro glands whitish gray.

(G) Male secondary sexual characters. - (39) Nuptial spines absent. (40) Vocal sacs: inconspicuous, skin of gular region not modified; inner openings of vocal sacs present located on both sides posteriorly in the mouth floor, distinct; rounded. (41) Other male secondary sexual characters: none.

Advertisement call: not recorded.

Female sexual characters: Not observed.

Variation: The two male paratypes resemble strongly the holotype in coloration and morphology.

Etymology of specific name: From Latin *pluvialis*: created by, related to or originating from the rain.

*Leptobrachium (Vibrissaphora) echinatum*  
DUBOIS & OHLER, 1998

Despite the remarks of HO et al. (1999), this species has to be considered distinct from *Leptobrachium (Vibrissaphora) ailaonicum* (YANG, CHEN & MA, 1983). In fact the specimens mentioned by HO et al. (1999) are part of the sample which includes the holotype and the paratypes of *L. echinatum* and was collected by our team. Our original field data do not