



Fig. 2: Holotype of *Leptotalax pluvialis* nov. sp., dorsal view of adult male, MNHN 1998.5675, in life (SVL 22.0 mm). Photograph by ANNEMARIE OHLER.

Abb. 2: Holotypus von *Leptotalax pluvialis* nov. sp., Rückenansicht des adulten Männchens MNHN 1998.5675, im Leben aufgenommen (Kopf-Rumpflänge 22,0 mm). Foto ANNEMARIE OHLER.

surface pigmented; (3) dorsum smooth with symmetrical colour pattern; (4) forelegs distinctly bi-coloured; (5) webbing absent; (6) tibia long (TL/SVL 0.516 - 0.559); tibiotarsal articulation reaching nostril.

With only 22 mm SVL, the new species is the smallest of all *Leptotalax* species known (comp. INGER et al. 1995; INGER et al. 1999; FEI 1999). *Leptotalax pluvialis* shows dark brown marbling on the ventral surface and can be distinguished by this feature from the following species: *L. hamidi* MATSUI, 1997, *L. arayai* MATSUI, 1997, *L. pictus* MALKMUS, 1992, *L. pelodytoides*, *L. bourreti*, *L. nahangensis* LATHROP, MURPHY, ORLOV & HO, 1998, *L. sungi* LATHROP, MURPHY, ORLOV & HO, 1998, *L. liui* FEI & YE, 1991. In *L. heteropus* (BOULENGER, 1900) and *L. tuberosus* INGER, ORLOV & DAREVSKY, 1999 the dorsal skin bears distinct tubercles, and in *L. ventripunctatus* FEI, YE & LI, 1991 dorsal skin

ridges have been described. In *L. pluvialis* the dorsal skin is smooth and flattened tubercles are present on the flanks. In colour pattern and skin structure *L. pluvialis* is most similar to *L. alpinus* FEI, YE & LI, 1991 and *L. gracilis* (GÜNTHER, 1872). In both these species a basal webbing is present on the feet (FEI et al. 1991; INGER 1966), whereas in *L. pluvialis* webbing is absent. The new taxon can also be distinguished by the length of the shanks in that the tibiotarsal articulation reaches the nostril. *Leptotalax gracilis* has longer legs (tibiotarsal articulation reaching tip of snout) and in *L. alpinus* the tibiotarsal articulation only reaches the corner of eye. The latter species also shows shorter head length (FEI et al., 1991: HL/ SVL 0.367, head as wide as long), than *L. pluvialis* (HL/SVL 0.386 - 0.413, slightly lengthened head).

Holotype: MNHN 1999.5675, adult male (SVL 22.0 mm) (fig. 2).