MEMOIRS
OF THE
QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

BRISBANE
31 December 2005

NOTE
Papers published in this volume and in all previous volumes of the Memoirs of the Queensland Museum may be reproduced for scientific research, individual study or other educational purposes. Properly acknowledged quotations may be made but queries regarding the republication of any papers should be addressed to the Director. Copies of the journal can be purchased from the Queensland Museum Shop.

A Guide to Authors is displayed at the Queensland Museum web site www.qmuseum.qld.gov.au/resources/resourcewelcome.html

A Queensland Government Project
Typeset at the Queensland Museum
THE TYPE LOCALITY OF THE SPHAGNUM FROG

Philoria loveridgei

(ANURA: MYOBATRACHIDAE).

Memorials of the Queensland Museum 51(2): 524. 2005. - The Sphagnum Frogs (Philoria) of N NSW and SE Qld (Anura: Myobatrachidae) were revisited by Knowles et al. (2004). Using allozyme and mitochondrial nucleotide sequence data supported by multivariate morphological analysis, the authors identified two new species from the MacPherson Range, Queensland, collected by Dr. P.J. Darlington in 1932.

Their multivariate morphological analyses identified the holotype of *P. loveridgei* Parker, 1940 within the range of populations from the MacPherson Range, 3-4000 ft., S. Queensland (Parker, 1940) to be sufficiently imprecise to be anywhere within the extent of the Family Setalidae, as being from MacPherson Range, 3-4000 ft., S. Queensland. Parker, 1940 to be sufficiently imprecise to be anywhere within the extent of the Family Setalidae, as being from MacPherson Range, 3-4000 ft., S. Queensland. Parker (1940) did not indicate a collector or date of collection for the holotype but did provide a chain of evidence, apparently overlooked by Knowles et al. (2004), that associates the holotype with Philip Jackson Darlington, with Lamington National Park, and with further specimens from the type locality.

Parker noted that the holotype (Natural History Museum, London 1947.2.1994) was derived from a series previously reported by Loveridge (1935) as *P. frosti* (now known to be restricted to Mt Baw Baw, Victoria). Loveridge (1935) reported 6 specimens of *P. frosti* (18433-25) in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University from “MacPherson Range, Q.” collected by P.J. Darlingtonte in 1932. In his papers on the Australian amphibian and reptile collections in the MCZ, Loveridge (1934, 1935) noted that Darlingtonte visited Australia on the 1931 Harvard collecting expedition, and continued to collect in E Australia, from Sydney to Cape York, in 1932.

Loveridge (1934, 1935) reported 1 reptile species and 3 amphianian specimens in the MCZ, from the MacPherson Ranges by Darlingtonte in 1932. 9 specimens of the skink *Eulamprus tryoni* (as Sphenomorphus tryoni) from 3,000-4,000 ft. (Loveridge, 1934), the 6 *Philoria* specimens, 11 *Litoria caerulea* (as Hyla caerulea) and 3 types of *Crinia darlingtoni* Loveridge 1935 (now Assa darlingtoni), stated by Loveridge (1935) as being from “National Park, Q.” In his description of the latter, Loveridge (1933) gave the type locality as “between 3,000 and 4,000 feet in the Queensland National Park, MacPherson Range, Queensland, collected by Dr. P.J. Darlingtonte, March 10-16, 1932.” Darlingtonte (1953) described a carabid beetle, *Setalis sloanei*, from his 1932 collections. The label on the holotype states “Nat. Park, Q. McPherson Rge Mar. 1932 3-4000ft. Australia Harv. Exp. Darlingtonte” (F.D. Perkins, pers. comm.).

While I have been unable to trace diaries for Darlingtonte’s 1931-32 visit (J. Rosado, B.D. Farrell, P.D. Perkins, pers. comm.), it is apparent that his visit to the MacPherson Ranges was via Lamington National Park, declared in 1915, and often referred to in the literature of the time as “the National Park” (Jarrott, 1976, 1980). Not only is there clear evidence that Darlingtonte collected the *Assa darlingtoni* and *Setalis sloanei* types in Lamington National Park, but *Eulamprus tryoni* is not known to occur further west in the MacPherson Ranges than Lamington National Park (Sadlier, 1998).

It is likely that when visiting Lamington National Park, Darlingtonte accessed the area from O’Reilly’s Guest House, opened in 1926 and the only regular point of access to the National Park in March 1932. Access at the time was via Lahey’s Road, ascending the Cairnoble Range from Stockyard Creek, a trip taking several hours along a track mostly travelled by horse (Jarrott, 1990).

Other localities visited by Darlingtonte in 1932 are (S to N): National Park (= Royal National Park), Megalong Valley, Blackheath, Hartley Vale, Mt Wilson, Salisbury, Barrington Tops, Dorrigo, Cascade (NSW), Vine Creek, Ravenshoe, Millaa Millaa, Lake Barrine, Mt Carbine, Mt Spurgeon, Port Steward, Coen, Lacelip Creek. Records from Rocky Scrub (Qld) (Loveridge, 1934, 1935). None of these are near Lamington National Park.

Without evidence that Darlingtonte collected in the MacPherson Ranges other than in Lamington National Park, and recognising a lack of access tracks between Lamington National Park and the Richmond Range (known distribution of *P. richmondensis*), I consider the type of *P. loveridgei* was collected in Lamington National Park, within the known range of the species, and not within the distribution of *P. richmondensis*. Topotype material of *P. loveridgei* may confirm the identity of the typical population.

I thank J. Rosado, P.D. Perkins and B.D. Farrell of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, for searching for Darlingtonte’s field notes from his 1931-32 Australian visit, and for providing key literature citations.

Literature Cited


Loveridge, A. 1933. Four new cri nine frogs from Australia. Occasional Papers of the Boston Society of Natural History 8: 55-60.


Glenn Shea, Faculty of Veterinary Science B01, University of Sydney, 2006, Australia.