

of tall-grass prairie pothole habitat. The surface of the pond was covered with thick mats of filamentous algae between the central open water and the surrounding belt of cattails. Toads were observed calling at this location on 3 June, and on 5 June numerous toads were visible floating at the water's surface, perched on the algal mat, or sitting in shallow water amongst the cattails. The weather at the time of observation was sunny with a slight breeze and an air temperature of 29°C, above average for this date.

We noticed many damselfly nymphs (suborder Zygoptera) emerging from the water. These aquatic nymphs crawled up onto the surface of the algae and made their way shoreward towards the cattails. Eight or 10 toads were visible in our corner of the pond, seated on top of the algal mat. Each toad was generally stationary, only roaming a few body lengths in one direction or another and would orient towards the closest moving zygopteran nymph and snap it up when it was close enough (Fig. 1). The toads appeared to incidentally ingest small amounts of the algae along with the invertebrate prey.

We believe this is the first record of adult *A. hemiophrys* feeding diurnally on aquatic invertebrates, albeit still in a mostly terrestrial context. Terrestrial invertebrates are likely to be the most important food items for this species, but as described for other species (Clarke 1974, *op. cit.*), toads can take advantage of local ephemeral increases in prey access and abundance to supplement their diet.

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**BOANA PUGNAX (Chirique-Flusse Treefrog). PREDATION.** The hylid frog *Boana pugnax* occurs in the open lowlands from southern Central America to northern South America (Frost 2021. Amphibian Species of the World: An Online Reference. Version 6.1; <https://amphibiansoftheworld.amnh.org>; 15 March 2021). In Colombia, it can be found in the Caribbean region, northern Chocó biogeographic region, in the Cauca and Magdalena river valleys, and in the Orinoco and Amazon drainages, at altitudes of 0 to 1200 m (Méndez-Narváez et al. 2014. Check List 10:409-410; Frost 2021, *op. cit.*). Despite *B. pugnax* being a widely distributed species, little is known about its predators. To date, the only known predator of *B. pugnax* is the river shrimp *Macrobrachium carcinus* (Mendoza-Roldán 2015. Rev. Colomb. Cienc.

Anim. 7:84-87). Here, I present the first record of *Donacobius atricapilla* (Black-capped Donacobius) preying on *B. pugnax*.

At 0900 h on 15 December 2020, I observed an adult *D. atricapilla* capturing and ingesting, headfirst, a juvenile *B. pugnax* (Fig. 1) in the Municipality of Puerto Wilches, Santander, Colombia (7.46811°N, 73.85032°W; WGS 84; 54 m elev.). This event lasted ca. 30 sec. Both species are known to inhabit riparian vegetation associated with lakes and rivers. Information on predator-prey interactions is key to understanding both the natural history of species and the flow of energy and nutrients in ecosystems (Westoby 1978. Am. Nat. 108:290-304; Wells 2007. The Ecology and Behavior of Amphibians. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois. 1148 pp.).

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**DUTTAPHRYNUS HIMALAYANUS (Himalayan Toad).**

**PREDATION.** *Duttaphrynus himalayanus* is a widely distributed species along the Himalayas including Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, and Myanmar (Frost 2021. Amphibian Species of the World: an Online Reference. Version 6.1. <https://amphibiansoftheworld.amnh.org>; 23 May 2021). It is a high-altitude species that occurs between an altitudinal range of 1000–3500 m (Schleich and Kastle 2002. The Amphibians and Reptiles of Nepal. Koeltz Scientific Books, Koenigstein, Germany. 1201 pp.). Despite being a nocturnal species it is often seen moving in search of prey in daylight (AmphibiaWeb 2021. *Duttaphrynus himalayanus*: Himalayan Toad. <https://amphibiaweb.org/species/193>; 23 May 2021), exposing themselves to a wide range of avian as well as other predators. Bufonids are known to secrete cardiac glycosides known as bufadienolides to defend themselves against predators (Flier et al. 1980. Science 208:503–505) but there have been instances of predation of bufonids by many vertebrate and invertebrate predators (Bastos and Haddad 1997. Amphibia-Reptilia 18:295–298; Banci et al. 2013. Herpetol. Notes 6:339–341; Muscat et al. 2018. Herpetol. Notes 11:449–450). *Duttaphrynus himalayanus* tadpoles have been reported as prey for birds, insects, anurans, and an unidentified colubrid snake (Spath 1990.

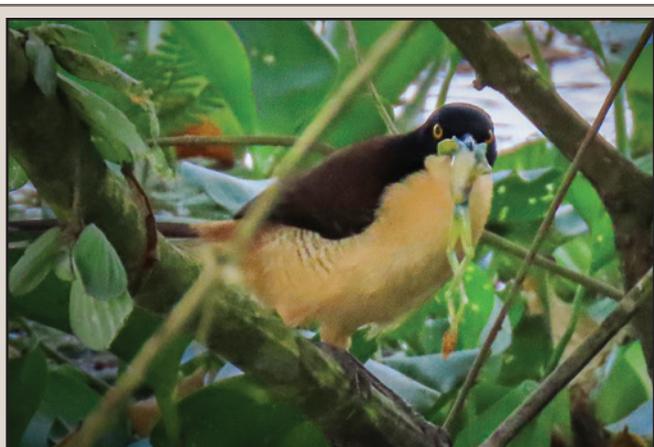


FIG. 1. Predation of *Boana pugnax* by *Donacobius atricapilla* in Puerto Wilches, Colombia.



FIG. 1. *Spilornis cheela* holding an adult *Duttaphrynus himalayanus* at Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary, India.