

A case of hyphema in the common toad *Bufo bufo* from eastern England

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The common toad *Bufo bufo* is the most widespread and populous toad species in Britain (Sterry, 2005). On 23 March 2016, during a routine amphibian survey, a common toad with a blood red left eye (Fig. 1), due to hyphema, was observed at Regatta Court, Cambridge, England (52.214397, 0.145655). None of the other toads in the same population were found with any form of injury. It is not known what caused this hyphema but given a nearby busy road and cycle path, trauma seems likely, although a bacterial or parasitic infection can produce the same result.

This is possibly the first record of a wild common toad affected by hyphema. Nearly all records of hyphema in amphibians are from captive anurans suffering bacterial or parasitic infection. Hyphema induced by the bacteria *Aeromonas hydrophila* and *Citrobacter freundii* is known in captive oriental red-bellied toads *Bombina orientalis* (Brooks et al., 1983) and induced by nematode infection in captive Asian horned frogs *Megophrys montana* (Imai et al., 2009). It would be of interest to record cases of hyphema in wild toads to establish its frequency and possible causes.

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Figure 1. An adult common toad *Bufo bufo* with hyphema of the left eye, observed in Cambridge, England (image slightly blurred)

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