Juvenile Asian arowana at Lower Peirce

Subject: Asian arowana, Scleropages formosus (Teleostei: Osteoglossidae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, forest stream draining into Lower Peirce Reservoir; 3 October 2013; 1445-1455 hrs.

Habitat: Small freshwater stream flowing through secondary forest. In shallow pool with muddy substrate and leaf-litter. The pool was relatively sunlit, not overshadowed by dense vegetation.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: Two juvenile specimens, each of about 10 cm total length (Fig. 1), were seen in the same pool, alongside the native fighting fish, Betta pugnax (Fig. 2).

Remarks: The Asian arowana is an introduced species that is believed to be breeding in the MacRitchie and Upper Peirce Reservoirs (Ng & Tan, 2010). The present sighting strongly suggests that this fish is also breeding in the Lower Peirce Reservoir.


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