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Leea angulata at Seletar Country Club: new locality record for Singapore

Subjects: Leea angulata (Magnoliophyta: Vitales: Vitaceae).

Subjects identified by: Yeoh Yi Shuen.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Seletar Country Club; 9 February 2015; 12.30 hrs.

Habitat: Open country, amongst grassy vegetation at the edge of a freshwater body (Lower Seletar Reservoir).

Observers: Contributors & Ryan Chisholm.

Observation: Three young shrubs showing pinkish young leaves were observed at the edge of Lower Seletar Reservoir (Fig. 1). A mature plant with compound leaves and thorny stem was observed near the edge of the water between the golf greens and secondary forest (Fig. 2). None of the plants were flowering or fruiting.

Remarks: These findings represent a new locality for *Leea angulata* in Singapore. Lok et al. (2011) reported the shrub to be found only along Temenggong Road in southern Singapore. The conservation status of the plant is listed as 'Critically Endangered' in Chong et al. (2009). There is likely to be a larger number of plants in the vicinity of the Lower Seletar Reservoir and in the secondary forests of the Seletar area. Propagation by cuttings of *Leea angulata* has been successfully carried out by Joseph Kwok.

References:

Chong, K. Y., Tan, H. T. W. Tan & R. T. Corlett, 2009. *A Checklist of the Total Vascular Plant Flora of Singapore: Native, Naturalised and Cultivated Species*. Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore, Singapore. 273 pp.

Lok, A. F. S. L., W. F. Ang, B. Y. Q. Ng, S. M. Suen, C. K. Yeo & H. T. Tan, 2011. *Leea* L. (Vitaceae) of Singapore. *Nature in Singapore*. 4: 55-71.



Fig. 1: Young specimen of Leea angulata.

Fig. 2: Mature example of Leea angulata.

Photographs by Yeoh Yi Shuen

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