

The climber *Gymnanthera oblonga* at East Coast Park

Subject: *Gymnanthera oblonga* (Magnoliophyta: Apocynaceae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time:

Singapore Island, East Coast Park, scrubland next to jogging track near Fort Road; 1 October 2012; 1220 hrs.

Habitat: Scrubland.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: A small patch of *Gymnanthera oblonga* was seen climbing over several small shrubs growing next to the jogging track. Several opened seed pods were present, revealing feathery seeds (see photograph).

Remarks: *Gymnanthera oblonga* is a critically endangered climber in Singapore (Chong et al., 2009). This species is rarely seen as it is usually found in back mangroves or coastal forests; habitats that were largely lost to land development in Singapore.

Reference: Chong K. Y., 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. 273 pp.



Photograph by Ron K. H. Yeo

Contributor: Ron K. H. Yeo
Contact address: ronyeo@gmail.com