

## Some fishes in a stream at Bukit Batok Nature Park

**Subjects:** Common walking catfish, *Clarias batrachus* (Teleostei: Clariidae); Fig. 1.  
Banded panchax, *Aplocheilus lineatus* (Teleostei: Aplocheilidae); Fig. 2.  
Swordtail, *Xiphophorus helleri* (Teleostei: Poeciliidae); Fig. 3.  
Sunda swamp-eel, *Monopterus javanensis* (Teleostei: Synbranchidae); Fig. 4.

**Subjects identified by:** Contributors.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Bukit Batok Nature Park; 19 & 26 April 2013, 6 June 2013; evening.

**Habitat:** Shallow freshwater stream with silty sand substrate, flowing through secondary forest and open parkland.

**Observers:** Ron K. H. Yeo and others.

**Observations:** The four fishes were recorded on three separate visits. The banded panchax was photographed on 19 April 2013 (Fig. 2) and the walking catfish on 6 June 2013 (Fig. 1), respectively. Both species were present in some numbers (not more than 10 individuals of either species) at the stream on all three evenings. One example of the swordtail was seen only on 26 April 2013; and the lone swamp-eel, only on 6 June 2013.

**Remarks:** The fish fauna of the stream at Bukit Batok Nature Park has been documented by Yeo & Lim (2010: 330). Apart from the banded panchax, two introduced livebearers, the guppy (*Poecilia reticulata*) and the platy (*Xiphophorus maculatus*) were also recorded. The swordtail and swamp-eel are new records for the stream. Both the banded panchax and the swordtail are introduced species in Singapore, with the former having established a self-sustaining population at the stream. The swordtail appears to be an isolated individual most likely liberated by people. The walking catfish and swamp-eel are nocturnally active, and are usually seen only after sunset.

**Reference:** Yeo, D. C. J. & K. K. P. Lim, 2010. *Aplocheilus lineatus*, a non-native killifish (Actinopterygii: Cyprinodontiformes: Aplocheilidae) in Singapore. *Nature in Singapore*. 3: 327-332.



Fig. 1. *Clarias batrachus* of about 20 cm total length on 6 June 2013. Photograph by Ron K. H. Yeo





Fig. 2. Dorso-lateral view of female *Aplocheilus lineatus*, about 5 cm total length, on 19 April 2013.



Fig. 3. Dorsal view of female *Xiphophorus helleri*, about 5 cm total length, on the evening of 26 April 2013.



Fig. 4. Head of *Monopterus javanensis*, about 50 cm total length, on the evening of 6 June 2013.

Photographs by Ron K. H. Yeo

Contributors: Ron K. H. Yeo & Kelvin K. P. Lim

Contact addresses: [ronyeo@gmail.com](mailto:ronyeo@gmail.com) (Yeo), [dbslimkp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:dbslimkp@nus.edu.sg) (Lim)