Javan pipistrelle at Paya Lebar


Subject identified by: Marcus A. H. Chua.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Paya Lebar, Paya Lebar Mass Rapid Transport Station; 4 April 2014; around 2300 hrs.

Habitat: Urban area, on concrete train station platform, surrounded by buildings.

Observer: Sean Yap.

Observation: A male example of 32.3 mm forearm length was found dead on the train station’s platform. The attached figures show the dorso-lateral and the ventral views of the specimen.

Remarks: The specimen is preserved and catalogued as ZRC 4.9490 in the Zoological Reference Collection of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore. It is not known how the bat had died, but the skin on the right side of his abdomen was split open, indicating that he may have suffered a violent impact. It is possible that the bat may have collided with the rotating blades of the giant ceiling fans at the train station platform. This is the second confirmed record of the Javan pipistrelle in Singapore (see: Chan et al., 2009). Both local records of this species are from urban areas.


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