

Redclaw crayfish at Mandai Lake Road

Subjects: Redclaw crayfish, *Cherax quadricarinatus* (Crustacea: Decapoda: Parastacidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, stream flowing into inlet of Upper Seletar Reservoir at the end of Mandai Lake Road; 22 May 2014; ca. 2020 hrs.

Habitat: Small, shallow forest stream with sandy-clay banks, riparian vegetation, leaf litter and clear freshwater flowing into Upper Seletar Reservoir.

Observers: Contributor, with Razak and Jonathan Ho.

Observation: Around five individuals, each of about 10 cm body length, were observed along the stream bed amongst plant debris and roots. The crayfish were seen in crevices among tree roots and concrete artificial structures. The accompanying photograph shows the cheliped of an example in a crevice.

Remarks: The redclaw crayfish is a well-established non-native species in Singapore, having been recorded in many parts of Singapore Island (Ahyong & Yeo, 2007). The pathway of introduction there is believed to be the ornamental pet trade (Belle et al., 2011).

References:

- Ahyong, S. T. & D. C. J. Yeo, 2007. Feral populations of the Australian red-claw crayfish (*Cherax quadricarinatus* von Martens) in water supply catchments of Singapore. *Biological Invasions*. 2007, DOI 10.1007/s10530-007-9094-0.
- Belle, C. C., J. Q. H. Wong, D. C. J. Yeo, S. H. Tan, H. H. Tan, E. Clews & P. A. Todd, 2011. Ornamental trade as a pathway for Australian redclaw crayfish introduction and establishment. *Aquatic Biology*. 12: 69-72. Doi: 10.3354/ab00324.



Photograph by Tan Heok Hui

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