

Three non-native fishes in stream at Lorong Banir

Subjects: Peacock bass, *Cichla orinocensis* (Teleostei: Cichlidae); Fig. 1
Spotted sailfin catfish, *Pterygoplichthys joselimaianus* (Teleostei: Loricariidae); Fig. 2
Oriental river goby, *Rhinogobius giurinus* (Teleostei: Gobionellidae); Fig. 3.

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Thomson, Lorong Banir, stream between Upper Seletar Reservoir and Lower Seletar Reservoir; 14 May 2014; 0800-2200 hrs.

Habitat: Stream with earth banks, riparian vegetation and clear flowing freshwater, in scrubland.

Observers: Tan Heok Hui & Low Bi Wei.

Observations: Three species not native to Singapore are reported.

1) Two juvenile peacock bass, the larger of about 10 cm total length, were observed in the shallows in the evening with, nocturnal colour pattern (but not photographed) of mottled dark brown blotches over the entire body. They were collected, and one of them is illustrated in Fig. 1 showing diurnal colouration.

2) A large (about 30 cm length) example of the spotted sailfin catfish was observed at the bottom of the stream (Fig. 2).

3) About ten individuals of the Oriental river goby were netted. A male example of 34.8 mm standard length is shown on Fig. 3.

Remarks: The peacock basses and Oriental river gobies were collected and deposited as voucher specimens in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore. Both species are known from both Upper Seletar Reservoir and Lower Seletar Reservoir (Ng & Tan, 2010; Tan, 2013, 2014).

The sighting of the spotted sailfin catfish represents a new record for the stream at Lorong Banir. The species has been recorded from Lower Seletar Reservoir (Ng & Tan, 2010). *Pterygoplichthys joselimaianus* is distinguished from its two congeners in Singapore (*Pterygoplichthys pardalis* and *Pterygoplichthys disjunctivus*) in having the upper part of its dark brown body densely covered in pale brownish spots. The other two species are brown with blackish spots.

References:

- Ng H. H. & H. H. Tan, 2010. An annotated checklist of the non-native freshwater fish species in the reservoirs of Singapore. *COSMOS*. 6 (1): 95-116.
Tan H. H. 2013. Peacock bass in Upper Seletar Reservoir. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2013: 97.
Tan H. H. 2014. Non-native fishes at inlet of Upper Seletar Reservoir. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 91-92.

Contributor: **Tan Heok Hui**

Contact address: nhmthh@nus.edu.sg



Fig. 1. Juvenile peacock bass of 82.4 mm standard length.



Fig. 2. Adult spotted sailfin catfish of about 30 cm total length in stream at Lorong Banir.



Fig. 3. Male Oriental river goby of 34.8 mm standard length.

Photographs by Tan Heok Hui