

Gold-ringed cat snake at Mandai

Subject: Gold-ringed cat snake, *Boiga dendrophila* (Reptilia: Serpentes: Colubridae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Mandai, forest area west of Mandai Lake Road; 22 January 2011, night.

Habitat: Secondary forest and scrub vegetation.

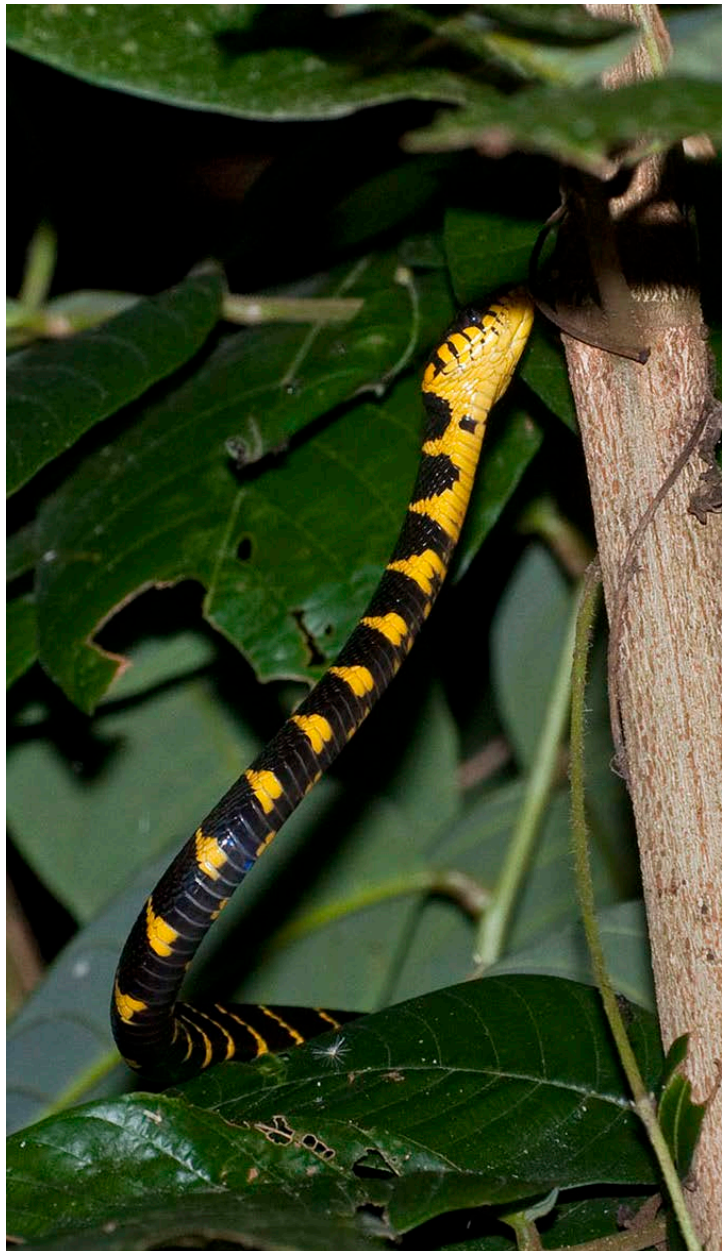
Observers: Contributor & Celine H. S. Low.

Observation: An example of about 70 cm total length was found climbing up a tree at about 1.6 m off the ground (see accompanying picture).

Remarks: The gold-ringed cat snake is a large and distinctive species that is widespread in Singapore, in forest and mangroves, but locally uncommon. It has been recorded mainly from the Central Catchment Nature Reserve (Baker & Lim, 2012: 95), and also on islands in the Singapore Straits, such as Saint John's Island (Chim, 2014: 113) and Semakau landfill (Chua, 2011: 281).

References:

- Baker, N. & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes*. Updated edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd. and Nature Society (Singapore). 180 pp.
- Chim C. K., 2014. Snakes of Saint John's Island. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 112-114.
- Chua, M. A. H., 2011. The herpetofauna and mammals of Semakau landfill: a Project Semakau checklist. *Nature in Singapore*. 4: 277-287.



Photograph by Marcus A. H. Chua

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