

Eight-spotted crab-spiders at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve

Subjects: Eight-spotted crab-spider, *Platythomisus octomaculatus* (Arachnida: Araneae: Thomisidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, near Observation Screen 1.12; 30 June & 13 September 2013; late morning and early afternoon.

Habitat: Mangrove, on sea hibiscus plant (*Talipariti tiliaceum*).

Observer: Contributor.

Observations: Two records are herein featured.

1) An example of about 2 cm total length (picture on left) was found on a leaf of a sea hibiscus at about 1.3 m off the ground, on 30 June 2013, 1010 hrs.

2) One of about 1.5 cm total length (picture on right) was found also on a leaf of a sea hibiscus at about 1 m off the ground, on 13 September 2013, 1230 hrs.

Remarks: *Platythomisus octomaculatus* is one of the world's largest crab spiders. It appears to be rare with only a few female individuals found in coastal locations (Court & Wang, 2011). In Singapore, it is classified as an 'endangered' species (Koh & Court, 2008: 109).

References:

- Court, D. J. & L. K. Wang, 2011. Crab spiders. Family Thomisidae. In: Ng, P. K. L., R. T. Corlett & H. T. W. Tan (eds.). *Singapore Biodiversity. An Encyclopedia of the Natural Environment and Sustainable Development*. Editions Didier Millet and the Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, Singapore. p. 279.
- Koh, J. K. H. & D. J. Court, 2008. Spiders. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. C. Ho (eds.). *The Singapore Red Data Book. Threatened Plants & Animals of Singapore*. Second edition. The Nature Society (Singapore). pp. 105-109.



Eight-spotted crab-spiders at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve: on 30 June 2013 (left); on 13 September 2013 (right). Photographs by Ron K. H. Yeo

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