Sumatran palm civet at Grange Road


Subject identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Grange Road; 14 September 2013; 1718 hrs.

Habitat: Suburban. Along road among low houses and gardens.

Observers: Contributors; carcass reported by Claire Smith.

Observation: An adult male of 103 cm total length, was found dead and bleeding from his nostrils at the side of the road, presumably having been hit by a motor vehicle. The carcass, in good condition without external injury, was collected and deposited in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore.

Remarks: This adaptable animal is widespread and common in Singapore. It can be found in urban areas and is known to inhabit gardens and roof spaces (Baker & Lim, 2012: 152). The common palm civet, *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*, has been split into three species by a recent study (Veron et al., 2014). The name *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* is restricted to the populations in India, southern China and Indo-china (henceforth as Indian palm civet). The form in Singapore, peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra and Java is *Paradoxurus musangus* (Sumatran palm civet), named by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1821 as *Viverra musanga* based on animals from Sumatra. Those in Borneo and the Philippines are *Paradoxurus philippinensis* (Philippine palm civet).

References:

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