

## An intertidal beetle at Lazarus Island

**Subject:** *Laius* sp. (Insecta: Coleoptera: Malachiidae).

**Subject identified by:** Michael Geiser.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait, Lazarus Island, eastern shore; 18 August 2012; around 0735 hrs.

**Habitat:** Natural rocky shore, on rocks in the intertidal zone.

**Observer:** Contributor.

**Observation:** An example of about 4 to 5 mm (see accompanying pictures) was found moving about on a damp sedimentary rock alongside marine snails of the family Neritidae during morning low tide.

**Remarks:** These beetles inhabit rocky seashores from Asia and Australia to east Africa, and presently around 250 species are known. The species of *Laius* are distinguished from each other with morphological characters found on adult male beetles (Yoshitomi, 2008; Yoshitomi & Lee, 2010). The featured example, without enlarged sections on its antenna, is apparently a female. It was not collected.

### References:

- Yoshitomi, H., 2008. Contribution to the taxonomy of the genus *Laius* Guerin-Meneville in Indonesia, with description of a new species, *Koleopterologische Rundschau*. 78: 285-290.  
Yoshitomi, H. & C.-F. Lee, 2010. Revision of the Taiwanese and Japanese species of the genus *Laius* (Insecta: Coleoptera: Malachiidae), *Zoological Studies* (Taiwan). 49 (4): 534-543.



Dorsal (left) and dorso-lateral (right) views of the intertidal beetle on rock. Photograph by Marcus F. C. Ng

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