

## Günther's frog at Singapore Botanic Gardens

**Subjects:** Günther's frog, *Hylarana guentheri* (Amphibia: Anura: Ranidae).

**Subjects identified by:** Contributors.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Singapore Botanic Gardens by Holland Road; 7 February 2015; around 2120 hrs.

**Habitat:** Urban parkland, in shallow freshwater pond with dense emergent marsh vegetation.

**Observers:** Contributors, with Vilma D'Rozario, Noel Thomas, Serin Subaraj, Timothy Pwee and many others.

**Observation:** At least three individuals were heard calling in the marsh pond next to Swan Lake. Only one of them, about 7 cm in snout-vent length, was sighted and photographed (see accompanying picture). Earlier in the evening, two other Günther's frogs were heard nearby at the pond in the Ginger Garden.

**Remarks:** The Günther's frog, a native of southern China and Vietnam, is known to be present in Singapore at least since 1997 (Leong & Lim, 2011). It was first locally recorded from the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (Chan & Goh, 2010: 110), and subsequently from various areas in the western part of Singapore Island.

The present observation documents the occurrence of the Günther's frog in the south-central part of Singapore Island. This is an indication that this non-native species is in the process of spreading throughout the island.

### References:

- Chan S. H. & C. Goh, 2010. Frogs of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (Amphibia: Anura). *Nature in Singapore*. 3: 103-116.
- Leong T. M. & K. K. P. Lim, 2011. Occurrence of Günther's frog, *Hylarana guentheri* (Amphibia: Anura: Ranidae) in Singapore. *Nature in Singapore*. 4: 135-141.



Photograph by Kelvin K. P. Lim

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