

Two additional fish records from Semakau Landfill

Subjects: Slender ponyfish, *Photolateralis stercorarius* (Teleostei: Leiognathidae) [Fig. 1];
Yellow-stripe scad / ikan kuning, *Selaroides leptolepis* (Teleostei: Carangidae) [Fig. 2].

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, Semakau landfill; 12 May 2015; between 0900 and 1100 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Within a lagoon that has been completely enclosed, and all access to the sea severed since March 2015, at water depth of about 2 to 3 m.

Observers: Contributor, with Tan Siong Kiat.

Observation: An example each of the two fish species featured here (Fig. 1 & 2) were collected from within the enclosed lagoon with a cast net (with diameter of about 360 cm and mesh size of 2.5 x 2.5 cm). These are kept as voucher specimens in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore.

Remarks: Although they are known in Singapore waters (Fowler, 1938: 109 and 118 as *Leiognathus stercorarius* and *Carnax* [sic] *leptolepis*; Lim & Low, 1998), the slender ponyfish and yellow-stripe scad were previously not recorded from Semakau Landfill (Ng, 2012: 146; Tan & Lim, 2014). Formerly known as *Leiognathus stercorarius*, the slender ponyfish is placed in a separate genus following Sparks & Chakrabarty (2015).

Despite earlier concerted efforts at surveying the fish diversity within the artificial lagoon at Semakau landfill, it is obvious that more species remain to be documented there. However, this needs to be carried out urgently as the lagoon is now fully closed off from the sea. The drastic changes in water salinity expected in the lagoon is likely to cause many fish species in there to become extirpated.

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References:

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Fig. 1. *Photolateralis stercorarius*, 73.6 mm standard length (right side reversed).



Fig. 2. *Selaroides leptolepis*, 107.8 mm standard length.

Photographs by Tan Heok Hui