

Red jungle fowl at Fort Canning Park

Subjects: Red jungle fowl, *Gallus gallus* (Aves: Galliformes: Phasianidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Fort Canning Park, behind the Registry of Marriage building; 21 June 2015 at 1600 hrs (Fig. 1) & 24 June 2015 at 1715 hrs (Fig. 2).

Habitat: Urban parkland.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: Two separate sightings at around the same area on two different days.

- 1) An adult female in the grass lawn on 21 June 2015 (Fig. 1).
- 2) Adult male running in grass lawn and along a brick wall on 24 June 2015 (Fig. 2).

Remarks: Although regarded as nationally endangered in Singapore, the red junglefowl seems to be gradually colonizing secondary woodland on mainland Singapore (Lim et al., 2008: 178; Yong et al., 2013: 20). The individuals featured here are free ranging in an urban park. They are capable of flight and do not appear to be domestic fowl. Despite bearing the white ear-patches and grey legs that are indicative of wild birds (Yong et al., 2013: 20), the male featured here (Fig. 2) is yellowish, stocky in appearance, and relatively unafraid of people. These suggest that he is not a pure bred wild junglefowl.

References:

- Lim K. S., H. C. Ho, K. K. Lim, K. C. Lim, L. K. Wang & G. Davison, 2008. Birds. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. H. Chew (eds.). *The Singapore Red Data Book. Threatened Plants & Animals of Singapore*. Second edition. Nature Society (Singapore). pp. 177-189.
- Yong D. L., K. C. Lim & T. K. Lee, 2013. *A Naturalist's Guide to the Birds of Singapore*. John Beaufoy Publishing, Oxford, England. 176 pp.



Fig. 1. Female on 21 June 2015.



Fig. 2. Male on 24 June 2015.

Photographs by Chua Keng Soon

Contributor: **Chua** Keng Soon
Contact address: nhmcks@nus.edu.sg