

First record of bubble snail *Limulatus okamotoi* in Singapore

Subject: Bubble snail, *Limulatus okamotoi* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Haminoeidae).

Subject identified by: Tan Siong Kiat.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, off Pulau Hantu; 30 May 2015; around 1630 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Open seabed of silty sand, at depth of around 10 m.

Observer: Toh Chay Hoon.

Observation: An example of about 5 mm shell length was seen burrowing into silty sand during a dive (Fig. 1). The animal was removed from the sediment for closer examination and identification (Fig. 2). A quick search in the immediate vicinity did not reveal more conspecifics.

Remarks: The specimen has been deposited as a voucher (ZRC.MOL.5828) in the Zoological Reference Collection of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore. It is identified as *Limulatus okamotoi* based on its superficial shell characters (after Hori, 2000). This find appears to be the first record of the genus and species in Singapore waters (Tan & Woo, 2010).

References:

- Hori, S., 2000. Family Haminoeidae. In: Okutani, T. (ed.), *Marine Mollusks in Japan*. Tokai University Press, Tokyo. Pp. 754-759, pls. 375-376.
- Tan S. K. & H. P. M. Woo, 2010. *A Preliminary Checklist of the Molluscs of Singapore*. Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore. 78 pp.



Fig. 1. Animal in situ, partially buried in substrate.



Fig. 2. Animal ex situ.

Photographs by Toh Chay Hoon.

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