

New record of auger shell, *Triplostephanus triseriatus*, in Singapore

Subject: Triseriate auger, *Triplostephanus triseriatus* (Gastropoda: Terebridae).

Subject identified by: Tan Siong Kiat.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, off Pulau Hantu; 26 July 2015; around 1000 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef, coral rubble substrate, at a depth of around 12 m.

Observer: Toh Chay Hoon.

Observation: An empty shell measuring 57.4 mm in shell length (see accompanying picture) was found on the seabed during a dive. The shell was collected and deposited as a voucher specimen in the Zoological Reference Collection (ZRC) of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, at the National University of Singapore.

Remarks: The shell is slightly damaged; missing the apical whorls and nearly a quarter of the last part of the body whorl. This find represents the first published record of *Triplostephanus triseriatus* in Singapore waters. The species can be found throughout much of the tropical Indo-Pacific (Bratcher & Cernohorsky, 1987; Terryn, 2007).

Members of the family Terebridae appear to be seldom encountered and rarely reported in Singapore. Thus far just over half a dozen species have been recorded (e.g., Tan & Woo, 2010 and references therein cited; unpublished data). Further sampling and studies are therefore needed to provide a more accurate account of the species diversity of this family in Singapore waters.

References:

- Bratcher, T. & W. O. Cernohorsky, 1987. *Living Terebras of the World: A Monograph of the Recent Terebridae of the world*. American Malacologists, Melbourne. 240 pp.
- 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.
- Terryn, Y., 2007. *A Collectors Guide to Recent Terebridae (Mollusca: Neogastropoda)*. ConchBooks/Natural Art, Hackenheim. 57 pp. + 65 pls.



Photograph by Toh Chay Hoon

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