

Juvenile mangrove whip-ray at Pulau Hantu

Subject: Mangrove whip-ray, *Himantura granulata* (Chondrichthyes: Myliobatoidei: Dasyatidae).

Subject identified by: Kelvin K. P. Lim.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, at Pulau Hantu, on reef flat between Pulau Hantu Besar and Pulau Hantu Kechil; 30 August 2015; 0730 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. On intertidal coral reef flat with sand-silt substrate, in water of about 30 cm depth.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: An example of between 70 and 80 cm total length was observed exposed on the substrate during morning low tide. Its dorsal view is shown in the accompanying picture.

Remarks: The identification of the present example is tentative. Despite its pale colouration, it appears to be a juvenile *Himantura granulata* on account of its almost circular disc, long whitish tail without thorns, and some minute white flecks on its disc (see Last et al., 2010: 195). This species was first recorded from Singapore waters by Toh & Lim (2013) based on an adult example photographed off Semakau Landfill.

References:

- Last, P. R., W. T. White, J. N. Caira, Dharmadi, Fahmi, K. Jensen, A. P. K. Lim, B. M. Manjaji-Matsumoto, G. J. P. Naylor, J. J. Pogonoski, J. D. Stevens & G. K. Yearsley, 2010. *Sharks and Rays of Borneo*. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Australia. v + 298 pp.
- Toh C. H. & K. K. P. Lim, 2013. Mangrove whip-ray at Semakau reef: a new record for Singapore. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2013: 46.



Photograph by Marcus F. C. Ng

Contributor: Marcus F. C. Ng
Contact address: thebudak@gmail.com