

King cobra roadkill at Upper Peirce

Subject: King cobra, *Ophiophagus hannah* (Reptilia: Serpentes: Elapidae).

Subject identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, access road to Upper Peirce Reservoir Park from Old Upper Thomson Road; 2 July 2015; around 1310 hrs.

Habitat: On metaled road fringed by mature secondary forest.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: A juvenile example of about 65 cm total length was found dead and thoroughly flattened on the road.

Remarks: The present example, apparently a recent hatchling, was presumably run over by a vehicle while crossing the road from one patch of forest to another. It is not known if king cobras in Singapore breed at specific times of the year, but from records collated by Lim et al. (2011), juveniles of around 60 cm were reported between March and August.

Reference: Lim, K. K. P., T. M. Leong & F. L. K. Lim, 2011. The king cobra, *Ophiophagus hannah* (Cantor) in Singapore (Reptilia: Squamata: Elapidae). *Nature in Singapore*. 4: 143-156.



Photograph by Nick Baker

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