

New Singapore record of the nudibranch *Aegires villosus*

Subject: *Aegires villosus*. (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Aegiridae).

Subject identified by: Toh Chay Hoon.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait off Pulau Hantu; 1 May 2016; around 0854 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Coral reef at depth of about 12 m.

Observers: Ng Boon Leong, Joy Song & Joey Song.

Observation: One example of about 7 mm total length was observed on some brown branching seaweeds attached to a discarded car tyre. The accompanying picture shows a dorso-lateral view of this specimen.

Remarks: This nudibranch feeds on calcareous sponges, and is distributed in shallow coral reefs throughout the tropical Indian and western Pacific oceans (Gosliner et al., 2015: 146). The species is not on the list of Singapore molluscan fauna by Tan & Woo (2010), and is believed to be a new record for Singapore waters.

References:

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.

Gosliner, T. M., A. Valdés & D. W. Behrens, 2015. *Nudibranch & Sea Slug Identification. Indo-Pacific*. New World Publications, Jacksonville, Florida, USA. 408 pp.



Photograph by Ng Boon Leong

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