

Five-banded flying dragon at Venus Loop

Subject: Five-banded Flying Dragon, *Draco quinquefasciatus* (Reptilia: Sauria: Agamidae).

Subject identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Thomson, Venus Loop; 3 April 2016; 0930 hrs.

Habitat: Young secondary forest.

Observers: Contributors.

Observation: One example of about 20 cm total length glided and landed onto a tree trunk at about 1.5 m above the ground. When approached by the observers, it skirted to the opposite side of the tree and climbed upwards until it was out of sight. The accompanying picture shows a dorsal view of the lizard with its head pointing upwards. In the immediate vicinity, multiple examples of its congener, the black-bearded flying dragons (*Draco melanopogon*) were observed gliding and flashing their dewlaps.

Remarks: In Singapore, *Draco quinquefasciatus* occurs in the forests of Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves. It is regarded as a locally endangered species that may be threatened by forest degradation (Lim et al., 2008: 169). A recent record from the Mandai area (Serin, 2015) and the present observation show that it is found in young secondary forest.

References:

- Lim, K. K. P., N. Baker, R. Teo & T. M. Leong, 2008. Reptiles. In: Davison, G. W. H., P. K. L. Ng & H. C. Ho (eds.). *The Singapore Red Data Book. Threatened Plants & Animals of Singapore*. Second Edition. Nature Society (Singapore). pp. 160-176.
- Serin S., 2015. Five-banded flying dragon at Mandai. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2015: 29.



Photograph by Marcus F. C. Ng

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