

## Bluespot shrimp-goby off Pulau Hantu

**Subject:** Bluespot shrimp-goby, *Cryptocentrus cyanospilotus* (Teleostei: Gobiidae).

**Subject identified by:** Zeehan Jaafar & Kelvin K. P. Lim.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Strait west of Pulau Hantu; 1 May 2015; at around 1400 hrs.

**Habitat:** Marine. Coral reef with silty substrate, at around 9 m depth.

**Observer:** Contributor.

**Observation:** One example of about 7 cm total length was observed at the entrance of its burrow excavated by an unknown species of commensal alpheid shrimp (see accompanying photograph).

**Remarks:** *Cryptocentrus cyanospilotus* is distinguished from other shrimp-gobies in Singapore by its distinctive colour pattern - dark brown with small blue spots on the sides of the head and body, grey on the top of the head, two grey saddles on either side of the first dorsal fin, whitish pelvic fins, and narrow whitish bars on the body. It occurs in the tropical western Pacific from the Ryukyu Islands of Japan southwards to New Guinea and the Solomon Islands (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 871). The species was first recorded from Singapore as '*Cryptocentrus* new species 2' based on a photograph also taken off Pulau Hantu in 2006 (Larson et al., 2008: 144, fig. 7 & 148).

### References:

- Allen, G. R. & M. V. Erdmann, 2012. *Reef Fishes of the East Indies. Volume III*. Tropical Reef Research, Perth, Australia. pp. 857-1292.
- Larson, H. K., Z. Jaafar & K. K. P. Lim, 2008. An annotated checklist of the gobioid fishes of Singapore. *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*. 56 (1): 135-155.



Photograph by Koh Kwan Siong

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