

Marbled bent-toed gecko at Upper Seletar

Subject: Marbled bent-toed gecko, *Cyrtodactylus quadrivirgatus* (Reptilia: Sauria: Gekkonidae).

Subject identified by: L. Lee Grismer.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Upper Seletar Reservoir Park; 17 July 2016; 2120 hrs.

Habitat: Swamp forest, along a freshwater stream.

Observers: Contributors.

Observation: An example of about 6 cm snout-vent length, with regenerated tail, was observed on a large palm leaf about 30 cm off the ground (Figs. 1, 2 & 3).



Fig. 1. Dorso-lateral view of the gecko.



Fig. 1. Dorso-lateral view of the head and anterior body of gecko.

Photographs by Serin Subaraj

Remarks: The marbled bent-toed gecko (*Cyrtodactylus quadrivirgatus*) is widely distributed throughout the Malay Peninsula from the Kra Isthmus southwards, including the islands of Langkawi, Penang, Tioman, and also occurs in Sumatra (Grismer, 2011: 431). Since 2011, it was assumed that all the geckos from Singapore previously identified as *Cyrtodactylus quadrivirgatus* are *C. majulah* (Grismer et al., 2011), and that *C. quadrivirgatus* did not occur there (Grismer et al., 2013: 249).

The present observation, however, appears to show that *Cyrtodactylus quadrivirgatus* does occur in Singapore, alongside *C. majulah*, and possibly *C. semenanjungensis* (see: Baker, 2014). The marbled bent-toed gecko is distinguished from both *Cyrtodactylus majulah* and *C. semenanjungensis* by the distinct dark brown striped pattern on its dorsum (Figs. 1 & 3). The other two species have dark blotches. On Gunung Tebu in Terengganu, Peninsular Malaysia, it occurs syntopically with the endemic and closely related *Cyrtodactylus tebuensis* (Grismer et al., 2013: 249).

Along with *Cyrtodactylus consobrinus* (see: Baker & Lim, 2012: 79), *C. majulah* and *C. semenanjungensis*, there are presently four species of *Cyrtodactylus* on Singapore Island.

References:

- Baker, N., 2014. New record of peninsular bent-toed gecko in Singapore. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 331-332.
- Baker, N. & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes*. Updated edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd. and Nature Society (Singapore). 180 pp.
- Grismer, L. L., 2011. *Lizards of Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, and their Adjacent Archipelagos. Their Description, Distribution, and Natural History*. Edition Chimaira, Frankfurt am Main. 728 pp.
- Grismer, L. L., P. L. Jr. Wood & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Cyrtodactylus majulah*, a new species of bent-toed gecko (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae) from Singapore and the Riau Archipelago. *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*. 60 (2): 487-499.
- Grismer, L. L., A. Shahrul, Mohd. Abdul Muin, E. S. H. Quah & P. L. Jr. Wood, 2013. Phylogenetic relationships and description of a new upland species of bent-toed gecko (*Cyrtodactylus* Gray, 1827) of the *C. sworderi* complex from northeastern Peninsular Malaysia. *Zootaxa*. 3616 (3): 239-252.

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Fig. 3. Fronto-dorsal view of the gecko showing the striped dorsal pattern. Photograph by Serin Subaraj