

## Brown land crab *Cardisoma carnifex* on Pulau Ubin

**Subject:** Brown land crab, *Cardisoma carnifex* (Crustacea: Brachyura: Gecarcinucidae).

**Subject identified by:** Jose C. E. Mendoza & Peter K. L. Ng.

**Location, date and time:** Pulau Ubin, eastern part; 9 September 2016; at night.

**Habitat:** On metaled road next to mangrove.

**Observer:** Tan Teck Ngiap.

**Observation:** An adult male of 9 cm carapace width was found on the road. See accompanying photograph.

**Remarks:** The brown land crab is first recorded from Singapore Island based on an example of about 8 cm carapace width photographed at the Nanyang Technological University's Jurong Campus in June 2015 (Lee et al., 2016). Because the example was found in an urban area some distance away from mangrove, it is believed to be artificially introduced there. The present specimen was obtained at the edge of mangroves, which is appropriate habitat for this crab (Ng, 1998: 1148-1149), and its occurrence there is thus considered natural. The specimen is deposited in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore under the catalogue number ZRC 2016.0305.

### References:

- Lee, J. S. Y., A. Y. P. Yong & V. D'Rozario, 2016. Brown land crab *Cardisoma carnifex* in Singapore. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2016: 82.
- Ng, P. K. L., 1998. Crabs. In: Carpenter, K. E. & V. H. Niem (eds.). *FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes. The Living Marine Resources of the Western Central Pacific. Volume 2. Cephalopods, Crustaceans, Holothurians and Sharks*. FAO, Rome. pp. 1046-1155.



Frontal view of the crab in life, showing the enlarged right cheliped. Ex-situ photograph by Marcus A. H. Chua

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