

Dead snakes and skink at Upper Peirce

Subjects: White-bellied blind snake, *Typhlops muelleri* (Reptilia: Serpentes: Typhlopidae);
Jasper cat snake, *Boiga jaspidea* (Reptilia: Serpentes: Colubridae);
Brown tree skink, *Dasia grisea* (Reptilia: Sauria: Scincidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributors.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, access road to Upper Peirce Reservoir Park, off Old Upper Thomson Road; 27 August 2016; evening.

Habitat: Metaled road bordered by secondary forest and freshwater swamp-forest.

Observers: Contributors.

Observation: A juvenile *Typhlops muelleri* of about 10 cm total length (Figs. 1 & 2) was found dead in water in a drain. It is believed to have drowned. A male example of *Boiga jaspidea* of about 1 m total length (Fig. 3), and an adult *Dasia grisea* (Figs. 4 & 5) are both flattened and dried roadkills found plastered on the surface of the road. They have probably been dead for more than a day.

Remarks: The three species of reptile herein recorded are recognised as rare in Singapore. *Boiga jaspidea* and *Typhlops muelleri* are classified as ‘critically endangered’ while *Dasia grisea* is regarded as ‘endangered’ (Lim, 2008: 264-265).

All three specimens have been deposited at the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore, with *Boiga jaspidea* catalogued as ZRC 2.7225, *Typhlops muelleri* as ZRC 2.7226 and *Dasia grisea* as ZRC 2.7227.

Reference: Lim, K. K. P., 2008. Checklists of threatened species - fishes, amphibians and 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). p. 263-266.



Fig. 1. Dorsal view of *Typhlops muelleri*.



Fig. 2. Ventral view of *Typhlops muelleri*.

Photographs by Law Ing Sind



Fig. 3. Flattened and dried carcass of *Boiga jaspidea*.



Fig. 4. Flattened and dried carcass of *Dasia grisea*.



Fig. 5. Head of *Dasia grisea* carcass.

Photographs by Law Ing Sind

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