

## New record of the creeping plant *Evolvulus nummularius* in Singapore

**Subjects:** *Evolvulus nummularius* (Magnoliopsida: Solanales: Convolvulaceae).

**Subjects identified by:** Gwee Aik Teck.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Hougang, Hougang Avenue 10; 23 September 2016 at 1140 hrs (Fig. 1) and 6 November 2016 at 1025 hrs (Fig. 2).

**Habitat:** Urban housing estate.

**Observer:** Contributor.

**Observation:** The tiny creeper, with flowers 6-8 mm across (see accompanying pictures), was first noticed growing in a little patch of 0.6 x 0.6 m<sup>2</sup> by the roadside in semi-shade. About 6 weeks later, the plants were observed to have spread from its original spot, creeping in gaps between concrete paving slabs (Fig. 2), and trailing along the edge of a footpath.

**Remarks:** *Evolvulus nummularius* is a native of tropical America and Africa, but has been widely introduced throughout the tropics. Although it is known to occur in Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos (GBIF, 2016), the present observation appears to be a new record for Singapore (Chong et al., 2009). A voucher specimen has been deposited in the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore.

### References:

- Chong K. Y., H. T. W. Tan & R. T. Corlett, 2009. *A Checklist of the Total Vascular Plant Flora of Singapore: Native, Naturalised and Cultivated Species*. Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore, Singapore. 273 pp.
- GBIF, 2016. *Evolvulus nummularius* (L.) L. *Global Biodiversity Information Facility Backbone Taxonomy*. [www.gbif.org/species/2928680](http://www.gbif.org/species/2928680). Accessed on 8 November 2016.

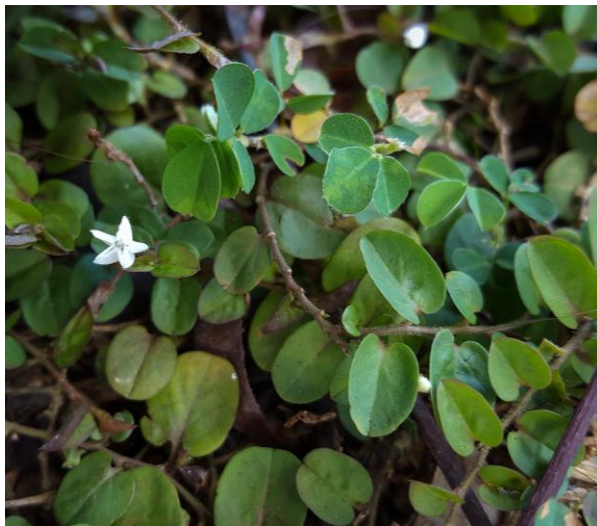


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

Photographs by Chua Keng Soon

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