

**REPORT OF THE MOTH, “HADENNIA” KIMAE HOLLOWAY, 2008
IN SINGAPORE, A FIRST RECORD OUTSIDE OF BORNEO
(LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE: HERMINIINAE)**

Tzi Ming Leong

*Central Nature Reserve, National Parks Board,
601 Island Club Road, Singapore 578775, Republic of Singapore
(E-mail: leong_tzi_ming@nparks.gov.sg, banjarana@gmail.com)*

INTRODUCTION

The noctuid moth, “*Hadennia*” *kimae* Holloway, 2008, was only recently described as a new species, based on specimens from lowland and hill dipterocarp forests in Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei (Borneo). The species was named for Mrs. Kim Harman, who assisted with dissections of moth genitalia at the Natural History Museum, London (J. D. Holloway, pers. comm.). The confirmed occurrence of this species in Singapore represents a westerly extension of its geographic distribution beyond Borneo.



Fig. 1. In-situ photograph of the moth, “*Hadennia*” *kimae*, encountered at Nee Soon Swamp Forest on the night of 29 Aug. 2009 (ca. 2220 hours). Its forewing length was about 2 cm. (Photograph by: Tzi Ming Leong).

OBSERVATIONS

While conducting a faunal survey at the Nee Soon Swamp Forest, Central Catchment Nature Reserve on the night of 29 Aug. 2009, a small but striking noctuid moth was found perched on a leaf at eye level (ca. 2220 hrs). A photographic record was made, but the specimen was not collected (Fig. 1). Its forewing length was ca. 2 cm. Upon comparisons with current moth literature, it was determined to be “*Hadennia*” *kimae*, as it clearly matched the illustration of the species (Holloway, 2008: Plate 3—moth 34). Soon after, the identity of the moth was confirmed as such and the present Singapore record constitutes a first report of the species outside of Borneo (J. D. Holloway, pers. comm.).

A few other moths have a tentative distribution of being found ‘only’ in Borneo and Singapore. These include the noctuids, *Bertula momusalis* (Walker, 1859), *Bertula nigra* Swinhoe, 1902, and *Polypogon wordsworthi* Holloway, 2008, (see Holloway, 2008). With increased research on the moth diversity in this region, it would not be surprising that these moths may subsequently be found in adjacent Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra, or Java.

In Singapore, there have also been botanical examples of such ‘out-of-Borneo’ discoveries. For example, the dipterocarp tree, *Dipterocarpus tempehes* (previously regarded as a Bornean endemic) was confirmed to occur within the forests of the Central Catchment Nature Reserve (Lee & Aidi Abdul Ghani, 2005), thus reinforcing the concept of species commonality among flora and fauna within the Sundaic region.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Jeremy D. Holloway (Natural History Museum, London) for his verification of the moth identity and kindly sharing the etymology of the species name. The response from an anonymous reviewer was delightfully swift.

LITERATURE CITED

Holloway, J. D., 2008. The Moths of Borneo: Family Noctuidae, subfamilies Rivulinae, Phytometrinae, Herminiinae, Hypeninae and Hypenodinae. *Malayan Nature Journal*, **60**(1–4): 1–268.
Lee, S. & Aidi Abdul Ghani, 2005. *Dipterocarpus tempehes* (Dipterocarpaceae)—A new record for Singapore. *Gardens' Bulletin Singapore*, **57**(2): 285–287.