

Long-tongued nectar bat with pup on Pulau Ubin

Noel Thomas & Law Ing Sind

noel_thomas@nparks.gov.sg (Thomas)

Subjects: Long-tongued nectar bat, *Macroglossus minimus* (Mammalia; Chiroptera; Pteropodidae).

Subjects identified by: Noel Thomas.

Location, date and time: Pulau Ubin; 25 September 2017; 2130 hrs.

Habitat: Rural village.

Observers: Noel Thomas, Law Ing Sind and others.

Observation: A female was observed hanging from the underside of a coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera*) frond at a height of about 5.5 m. The accompanying photograph reveals the presence of a pup held snugly under the folded wings of the adult (position indicated by arrow).

Remarks: The long-tongued nectar bat appears to have a restricted distribution in Singapore (Baker and Lim, 2012: 162). It was recorded mainly from mangrove habitats on Pulau Ubin, Pulau Tekong and at Sungei Buloh; where it visits flowers in search of nectar (Lim et al., 2008: 193). The featured individual may have been attracted to the durian trees that were flowering nearby (see Phillipps & Phillipps, 2016: 96).



Photograph by: Law Ing Sind

References:

- Lim, K. K. P., R. Subaraj, S. H. Yeo, N. Lim, D. Lane & B. Y. H. Lee, 2008. Mammals. 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. Singapore: Nature Society (Singapore). pp. 190-207.
- Baker, N. & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Wild animals of Singapore*. Singapore: Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte Ltd. 180 pp.
- Phillipps, Q. & K. Phillipps, 2016. *Phillipps' Field Guide to the Mammals of Borneo and their Ecology*. John Beaufoy Publishing Ltd., Oxford, United Kingdom. 400 pp.