

New Singapore record of comb bittersweet clam, *Tucetona pectunculus*

Subjects: Comb bittersweet clam, *Tucetona pectunculus* (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Arcoidea: Glycymerididae).

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, East Coast Park, beach on the right side of the mouth of Bedok Canal; 12 January 2012; 1915 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Sandy beach. Among beach debris at mid tide level.

Observer: Contributor.

Observation: Two unpaired valves of 26.0 and 43.9 mm shell height, were found beached at about 0.5 m tide level among beach debris. No live specimens were observed.

Remarks: This species is uncommon and appears to inhabit the sub littoral zone (personal observations). These morphologically variable clams were identified with references to publications by Dharma (2005), Huber (2010), Lamprell & Whitehead (1992) and Poppe (2010). The bivalve family Glycymerididae has not been reported from Singapore (see Morris & Purchon, 1981; Tan & Woo, 2010), and the featured specimens thus represent a new record for the country.

References:

- Dharma, B., 2005. *Recent and fossil Indonesian shells*. Conchbooks, Hackenheim. 424 pp.
- Huber, M., 2010. *Compendium of bivalves*. Conchbooks, Hackenheim. 901 pp.
- Lamprell, K. L. & T. Whitehead, 1992. *Bivalves of Australia. Volume 1*. Crawford House Press Pty Ltd, Bathurst. 182 pp.
- Morris, S. & R. D. Purchon, 1981. The marine shelled Mollusca of West Malaysia and Singapore. Part 3, Bivalvia. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*. 47: 322-327.
- Poppe, G., 2010. Glycymerididae. In: Poppe, G. (ed.). *Philippine Marine Mollusks, Volume 3 (Gastropoda Part 3 & Bivalvia Part 1)*. Conchbooks, Hackenheim. pp. 494-498.
- Tan S. K. & H. P. M. Woo, 2010. *A Preliminary Checklist of the Molluscs of Singapore*. Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research, National University of Singapore. 78 pp.



Two halves of *Tucetona pectunculus* (left: shell height 26.0 × shell width 25.9 mm; right: shell height 43.9 × shell width 45.9 mm). Photographs by Chan Sow-Yan

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