

Singapore bent-toed gecko at Admiralty Park

Subjects: Singapore bent-toed gecko, *Cyrtodactylus majulah* (Reptilia: Sauria: Gekkonidae).

Subjects identified by: Contributor.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Woodlands, Admiralty Park; 3 May 2017; 2018-2050 hrs.

Habitat: Small patch of young, regenerating secondary forest with *Dillenia suffruticosa* and heavily degraded freshwater swamp, surrounded by urban parkland.

Observers: Contributor with Malcolm Luther Ng, Cheng Wei Lin, Zhang Xu Cheng & Joloys Ng.

Observations: Three individuals of around 12 cm total length were observed within a 30 minute period. Two of them were resting close to the ground near termite mounds, and one resting on the buttress of a tree. One of the examples is illustrated in the accompanying picture.

Remarks: This is likely to be the first recent record of *Cyrtodactylus majulah*, which is known only from Singapore Island and Pulau Bintan (Grismer et al., 2012), outside the Central Catchment Nature Reserves. It is unusual to find this species, regarded by Baker & Lim (2012, as *Cyrtodactylus quadrivirgatus*) as 'rare' and 'restricted' in distribution, in such a degraded habitat. It is assumed that the specimens are part of a remnant population that has persisted in the freshwater swamp at Admiralty Park (see O'Dempsey & Chew, 2011: 160).

References:

- Baker, N. & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Wild Animals of Singapore. A Photographic Guide to Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians and Freshwater Fishes*. Updated edition. Draco Publishing and Distribution Pte. Ltd. And Nature Society (Singapore). 180 pp.
- Grismer, L. L., P. L. Jr. Wood & K. K. P. Lim, 2012. *Cyrtodactylus majulah*, a new species of bent-toed gecko (Reptilia: Squamata: Gekkonidae) from Singapore and the Riau Archipelago. *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*. 60 (2): 487-499.
- O'Dempsey, T. & P. T. Chew, 2011. The freshwater swamp forests of Sungei Seletar catchment: a status report. *Proceedings of Nature Society, Singapore's Conference on 'Nature Conservation for a Sustainable Singapore'*. pp. 121-166.



Dorso-lateral view of one of the three *Cyrtodactylus majulah* at Admiralty Park. Photograph by Law Ing Sind

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