

## First records of the longhorn beetle, *Pachyteria dimidiata*, in Singapore

**Subjects:** Longhorn beetle, *Pachyteria dimidiata*

(Insecta: Coleoptera: Cerambycidae: Cerambycinae: Callichromatini).

**Subjects identified by:** Contributor, with Foo Maosheng & Cheong Loong Fah.

**Location, date and time:** Saint John's Island -

1) Forest patch between Tropical Marine Science Institute and holiday resort; 16 May 2017; 0950 hrs.

2) Male restroom of holiday camp; 30 May 2017; 0520 hrs.

**Habitat:** Coastal forest and parkland -

1) On bark of a tree trunk in forest, in cloudy weather.

2) On the door of a toilet cubicle, strong winds outside.

**Observers:**

1) Kenneth Lee Ee Meng & Abigail Leong Mo Wai.

2) Contributor & Tan Sijie.

**Observations:**

1) A single beetle, of unknown sex and about 5 cm body length, was observed for around 2 minutes, actively moving on the tree trunk at about 1.5 m off the ground. It was not certain if the beetle was foraging. The specimen was photographed (Fig. 1), but not collected.

2) One individual was seen flying around outside the toilet building, amidst strong winds heralding a Sumatra storm, before it flew into the restroom and landed on the door of a toilet cubicle (Fig. 2). It was collected under NParks permit number NP/RP17-004; and deposited under the registration number ZRC\_BDP0072070 (Fig. 3) in the Zoological Reference Collection, of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, at the National University of Singapore.

**Remarks:** These seem to be the first records of *Pachyteria dimidiata* in Singapore. The closely related *Pachyteria virescens* has been recorded in Singapore (see <http://wallace-dev.tk/species/A-Arth-Hexa-Coleoptera-000456>) and is differentiated from *P. dimidiata* by its red (instead of black) thorax and uniformly black elytra without a yellow band.

Before these records, there were no specimens of *Pachyteria dimidiata* from Singapore in the collections of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum. The species has also not been seen by macro photographers and amateur coleopterists on Singapore Island. Elsewhere, *Pachyteria dimidiata* has been recorded from Sumatra, Borneo (Sarawak), Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, India and Iran (Hutacharern & Tubtim, 1995; Özdikmen *et al.*, 2009; Trương & Nguyễn, 2010). In Vietnam, it is known to feed on the wood of the star apple (*Chrysophyllum cainito*) (Trương & Nguyễn, 2010).

**References:**

Hutacharern, C. & N. Tubtim, 1995. *Checklist of forest insects in Thailand*. Office of Environmental Policy and Planning, Bangkok.

Özdikmen, H., H. Ghahari & S. Turgut, 2009. New records for Palaearctic Cerambycidae from Iran with zoogeographical remarks (Col.: Cerambycoidea: Cerambycidae). *Munis Entomology & Zoology*. 4 (1): 1-18.

Trương, H. N. & T. T. C. Nguyễn, 2010. Côn trùng gậy hai cây vú sữa (*Chrysophyllum cainito* L.) trên một số địa bàn vùng đồng bằng sông cửu long và đặc điểm sinh học của sâu róm *Euproctis subnotata* (Walker) (Lepidoptera: Limntriidae). *Tạp Chí Khoa Học*. 13: 209-220.

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Fig. 1. In-situ image of *Pachyteria dimidiata* on tree trunk. Photograph by Kenneth Lee.



Fig. 2. In-situ image of *Pachyteria dimidiata* on a door. Photograph by Sean Yap.



Fig. 3. Dorsal (top) and lateral (bottom) views of *Pachyteria dimidiata* (ZRC\_BDP0072070)  
Scale bars = 1 cm. Photographs by Foo Maosheng.