

Recent record of marlinspike auger at Kusu Island

Subject: Marlinspike auger, *Oxymoris maculata* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Terebridae).

Subject identified by: Tan Siong Kiat.

Location, date and time: Singapore Strait, Kusu Island (Pulau Tembakul); 29 April 2017; around 0700 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Lower part of sandy beach slope in a lagoon.

Observers: Toh Chay Hoon & Ria Tan.

Observation: A live shell shallowly buried in sand was found during low tide, its presence betrayed by a small portion of the dorsal part that was exposed. The specimen, which has a shell length of 137.4 mm (see accompanying photograph), is deposited as a voucher in the Zoological Reference Collection of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum at the National University of Singapore, and registered as ZRC.MOL.9632.

Remarks: *Oxymoris maculata*, is a large and common species widely distributed throughout the tropical Indo-Pacific (Bratcher & Cernohorsky, 1987). Nevertheless this find is significant for verifying the presence of this species in Singapore as there appears to be only one known record thus far (see Dautzenberg, 1935). The next nearest known locality is Pulau Tioman off the eastern coast of Peninsular Malaysia documented by Way & Purchon (1981; for locality details see Purchon & Purchon, 1981).

References:

- Bratcher, T. & W. O. Cernohorsky, 1987. *Living Terebras of the World: A Monograph of the Recent Terebridae of the World*. American Malacologists, Melbourne. 240 pp.
- Dautzenberg, P., 1935. Gastéropodes marins. 1.—Famille Terebridae. 2.—Famille Mitridae. In: Résultats Scientifiques du Voyage aux Indes Orientales Néerlandaises de LL. AA. RR. le Prince et la Princesse Léopold de Belgique publiés par V. van Straelen, Directeur du Musée Royal d'Histoire naturelle. *Mémoires du Musée Royal d'Histoire naturelle de Belgique*, hors sér., 2: 1–208, pls. 1–4.
- Purchon, R. D. & D. E. A. Purchon, 1981. The marine shelled Mollusca of West Malaysia and Singapore. Part 1. General introduction and an account of the collecting stations. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*. 47: 290–312.
- Way, K. & R. D. Purchon, 1981. The marine shelled Mollusca of West Malaysia and Singapore. Part 2, Polyplacophora and Gastropoda. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*. 47: 313–321.

Contributors: **Tan Siong Kiat**, **Toh Chay Hoon**, **Ria Tan** & **Martyn E. Y. Low**

Contact address: nhmtsk@nus.edu.sg (Tan S. K.)



Photograph by Tan Siong Kiat