

Vinegaroon at the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve

Jiayuan Lin

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Subject: Vinegaroon, *Thelyphonus* sp. (Arachnida: Thelyphonida: Thelyphonidae).

Subject identified by: Jiayuan Lin.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, near the main trail; 8 June 2018; 1819 hrs.

Habitat: Primary rainforest, on a log surrounded by sparse amounts of leaf litter, near the main trail.

Observer: Jiayuan Lin.

Observation: An apparent sub-adult of 3.3 cm body length was observed on a log in the late afternoon. The weather was cloudy with a slight drizzle. The accompanying photograph was taken at about 25 cm away from the subject. The vinegaroon scuttled under the log when the observer attempted to take a macro photograph of it.

Remarks: Vinegaroons or whip-scorpions are uncommonly seen in Singapore. Although they have been observed at the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve (Court & Wang, 2011; Lim, 2014), There appears to be a lack of research on these arachnids here. The assignment of the animal to the genus *Thelyphonus* is tentative. Since vinegaroons are nocturnal, the featured sighting in daylight should be considered rare.



Vinegaroon on the side of a log. Photograph by Jiayuan Lin

References:

- Court, D. J. & L. K. Wang, 2011. Whip-scorpions. Order Uropygi. In: Ng, P. K. L., R. T. Corlett & H. T. W. Tan (eds.). *Singapore Biodiversity. An Encyclopedia of the Natural Environment and Sustainable Development*. Editions Didier Millet & The Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research. p. 504.
- Lim, K. K. P., 2014. An apparently mating pair of whip-scorpions. *Singapore Biodiversity Records*. 2014: 267.