The blueback damselfish, *Pomacentrus simsiang*, in Singapore

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**Subject**: Blueback damselfish, *Pomacentrus simsiang* (Teleostei: Pomacentridae).

**Subject identified by**: Gerald R. Allen & Daisuke Taira.

**Location, date and time**: Singapore Strait off Pulau Satumu; 19, 25 & 26 September 2019; 1100-1440 hrs.

**Habitat**: Marine. Coral reef, on reef flat at around 2 m depth.

**Observers**: Daisuke Taira (19 Sep), Jovena C. L. Seah (25 Sep) and Aaron Teo (26 Sep).

**Observation**: One individual of about 8 cm total length was first observed swimming among coral rubble on 19 September 2019. The same individual was found at the same spot again on 25 (Fig. 1) and 26 September 2019 (Fig. 2).

**Remarks**: *Pomacentrus simsiang* was first recorded from Singapore by Bleeker (1861: 31, 43). The name was treated as a synonym of *Pomacentrus tripunctatus* by Fowler (1938: 190) and thereafter, not recognised by subsequent works that cover Singapore’s damselfishes (e.g., Sin et al., 1994). *Pomacentrus tripunctatus*, the three-spot damsel, differs from *Pomacentrus simsiang* in being uniformly dark grey brown with a black spot over the back of its caudal peduncle (see Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 625). *Pomacentrus simsiang* inhabits silty reefs and lagoons around coral or rock outcrops in depths of between 1 and 10 m, either singly or in loose groups. It is distributed throughout Indonesia and the Philippines, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Micronesia (Allen & Erdmann, 2012: 623).

**References**


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