

Parasitic snail, *Eulima adamsii*, on sand dollar *Arachnoides placenta*

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Subjects: *Eulima adamsii* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Eulimidae);
Arachnoides placenta (Echinodermata: Echinoidea: Clypeasteridae).

Subjects identified by: Chan Sow-Yan and Tan Siong Kiat.

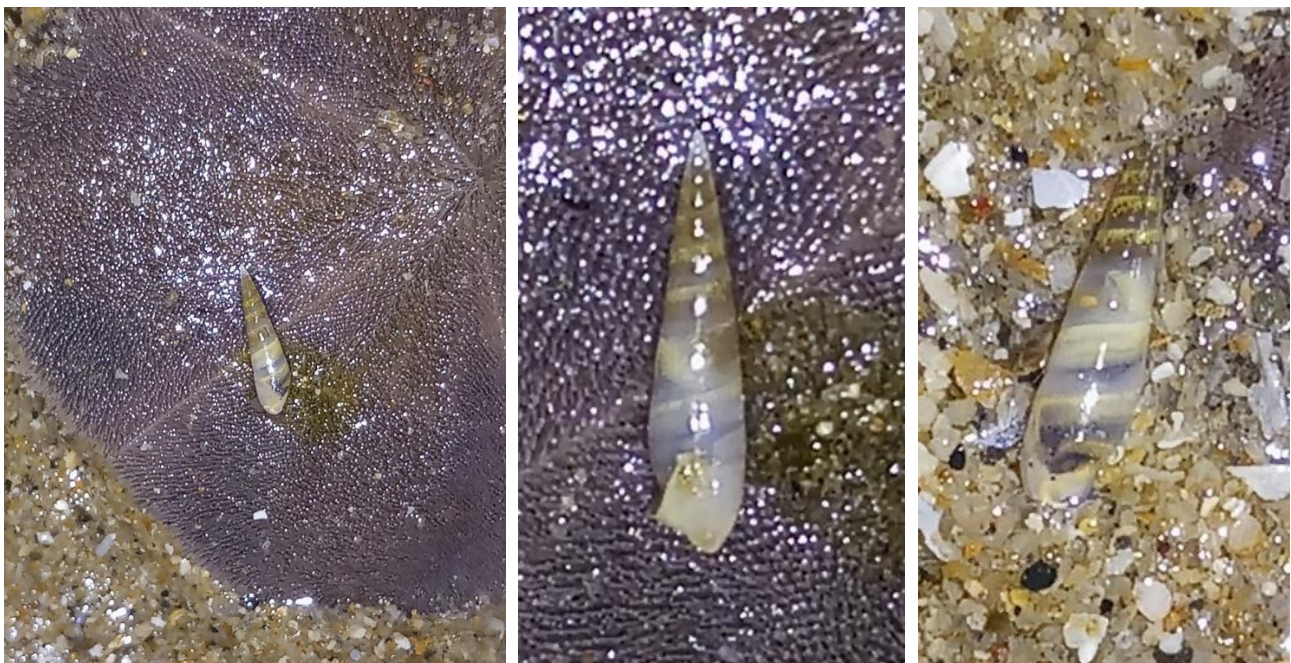
Location, date and time: Singapore Island, East Coast Park; 27 June 2020; 0927 hrs.

Habitat: Marine. Intertidal shore exposed during low tide, on sandy substrate.

Observer: Calvin Jiah Jay Leow.

Observation: A live *Eulima adamsii* of about 9 mm shell length was found attached to the dorsal surface of a live sand dollar (*Arachnoides placenta*) that was buried in the substrate (see accompanying pictures). Although not apparent in the pictures, the area of the sand dollar where the snail was attached appeared discoloured.

Remarks: Members of the family Eulimidae are well known as parasites of echinoderms with few exceptions (Warén, 1980). Information of the hosts of these parasitic snails is crucial for understanding their parasitic ecology, but this information remains scarce. The observation and positive identifications of both the host and parasite are therefore of interest. A similar-looking individual photographed on a sand dollar at Cyrene Reef by Tan (2020) is probably the same species, which suggests possible host specificity of *Eulima adamsii*.



Images of the live *Eulima adamsii* on the sand dollar *in-situ*. Photographs by Calvin Leow Jiah Jay

References:

Tan R (2020) Wild Singapore Fact Sheets. Ulimid snails. Family Eulimidae.

<http://www.wildsingapore.com/wildfacts/mollusca/gastropoda/eulimidae/eulimidae.htm>. Accessed on 18 August 2020.

Warén A (1980) Descriptions of new taxa of Eulimidae (Mollusca, Prosobranchia), with notes on some previously described genera. *Zoologica Scripta*, 9: 283-306.