A lantern bug, *Laternaria oculata*, at Mandai

Jamie Whitehouse


Subject identified by: Jamie Whitehouse.

Location, date and time: Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve along Mandai Road; 11 March 2020; around 0800 hrs.

Habitat: Exposed edge of secondary forest.

Observer: Jamie Whitehouse.

Observation: An individual of approximately 4 cm total length (see accompanying picture) was observed at 1.5 m up on the trunk of an unidentified tree next to the Park Connector pathway (southern lane, Central Catchment Nature Reserve). The insect was stationary for at least two minutes during observation.

Remarks: *Laternaria oculata* is the only species of its genus that is known to occur in Singapore. This distinctive insect seems to be locally uncommon, and is found mainly in forest. In Singapore, it has been recorded from the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve and the Central Catchment Nature Reserve (Upper Peirce, Upper Seletar, Lower Peirce, and Nee Soon swamp forest) (Leong et al., 2009) and along Upper Thomson Road (Baker, 2015).

References:

Photograph by Jamie Whitehouse