

Records of two cerithiopsid snails in Singapore

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Subjects: Sykes's cerithiopsid snail, *Cerithiopsis sykesii* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Cerithiopsidae), Fig. 1; Iredale's cerithiopsid snail, *Seila iredalei* (Mollusca: Gastropoda: Cerithiopsidae), Fig. 2.

Subjects identified by: Chan Sow-Yan & Lau Wing Lup.

Location, date and time: Johor Strait, Changi Beach Park; 3 August 2019; morning.

Habitat: Estuarine shore at low tide. On the surface of the shell of a live saddle oyster (*Placuna ephippium*).

Observer: Lau Wing Lup.

Observations: A single *Cerithiopsis sykesii* (Fig. 1) was found adhering to the edge of the shell of a live saddle oyster (Fig. 3, in red circle) alongside encrusting organisms such as keel worms and green colonial ascidians (Fig. 3, in green circles). One example of *Seila iredalei* (Fig. 2) was found detached nearby and it was unknown if the snail was alive. Compared to *Cerithiopsis sykesii*, the shell of this species is more slender.



Fig. 1. Apertural view of cleaned shell of *Cerithiopsis sykesii* (shell length 4.6 mm).



Fig. 2. Apertural view of cleaned shell of *Seila iredalei* (shell length 7.5 mm).

Photographs by Lau Wing Lup

Remarks: The specific identities of both snails were not known until they had been carefully cleaned to reveal the diagnostic morphological features on their shells (see Fig. 1 & 2).

Cerithiopsis sykesii was first recorded in Singapore by Chuang (1973), and later listed by Chou et al. (1994) without description or illustration. Identification of this species was obtained by comparing the featured specimen with the figure of the type specimen of the species in Melvill (1896).

The specific identity of *Seila iredalei* (Fig. 2) was confirmed by comparing the present specimen with the figure of the species' holotype in Laseron (1956). References to Sanpanich & Tan (2016) and Tan & Woo (2010) reveal that this species had not been previously recorded in Singapore.

References:

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- Melvill JC (1896) Descriptions of new species of minute marine shells from Bombay. Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London, 2: 108-116, pl. 8.
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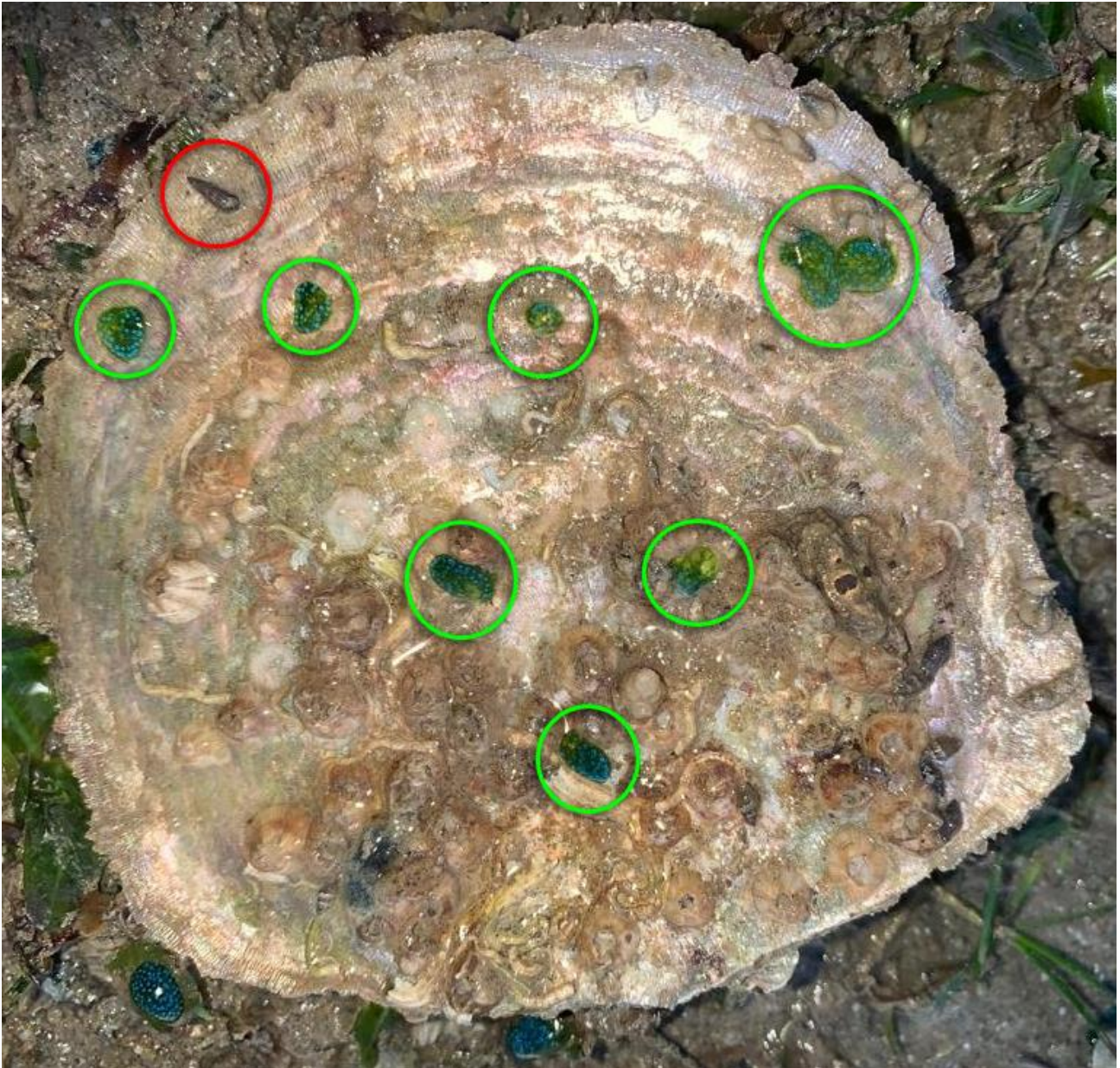


Fig. 3. *Cerithiopsis sykesii* (red circle) with green colonial ascidians (green circles) on the underside of a live saddle oyster shell. Insitu photograph by Lau Wing Lup