

## Shield bugs, *Enada rosea*, on *Hopea odorata*

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**Subjects:** Shield bug, *Enada rosea* (Insecta: Hemiptera: Tessaratomidae); *Hopea odorata* (Plantae: Dipterocarpaceae).

**Subjects identified by:** Marcus Ng and ‘Otet Muaish’ (*Hopea*).

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Kent Ridge Park at Pasir Panjang Ridge, canopy boardwalk overlooking HortPark; 10 October 2020; 1300 hrs.

**Habitat:** Secondary coastal forest on hill slope, dominated by *Adinandra dumosa*, *Adenanthera pavonina* and *Cyrtophyllum fragrans*.

**Observers:** Marcus F. C. Ng and Catalina Tong.

**Observation:** A cluster of six *Enada rosea* were observed on the crown-level foliage of a tree identified as *Hopea odorata* based on the leaves (Fig. 1). This was possible as the boardwalk ran through the canopy of the trees. Four of the bugs had red wings and abdomens (Fig. 2 & 3), while two were light green. The latter are believed to be freshly eclosed and still to develop their adult coloration. When disturbed, both red and green bugs took flight briefly and landed a couple of metres away on the boardwalk. No *Enada rosea* was found on other trees along the boardwalk. A visit to the same location two days later found no bugs, suggesting their dispersal.



Fig. 1. Leaves of the *Hopea odorata* where the shield bugs were found. Photo by Catalina Tong



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

Photographs by Marcus F. C. Ng

**Remarks:** Little is known about the host plant(s) of *Enada rosea*. The occurrence of a small cluster of this bug on *Hopea odorata* may give an indication that it is a food source, although feeding was not observed. A specimen found at another location at Kent Ridge changed colour from green to red after being confined to a bare plastic container for around 24 hours, and produced an almond-like scent when disturbed (Lee & Foo, 2017)

**Reference:** Lee KY & Foo M (2017) A colour-changing shield bug, *Enada rosea*, at Kent Ridge. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2017: 150.