

## Biodiversity Record: Lantern bug, *Pyrops oculatus*, at Upper Seletar

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**Recommended citation.** Kong E & Kong E (2021) Biodiversity Record: Lantern bug, *Pyrops oculatus*, at Upper Seletar. Nature in Singapore, 14: e2021029. DOI: 10.26107/NIS-2021-0029

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**Subject:** Lantern bug, *Pyrops oculatus* (Insecta: Hemiptera: Fulgoridae).

**Subject identified by:** Nicholas Lim.

**Location, date and time:** Singapore Island, Central Catchment Nature Reserve, Upper Seletar, along Mandai Road Track 7; 16 January 2021; around 1200 hrs.

**Habitat:** Edge of secondary forest.

**Observers:** Eunice Kong and Esther Kong.

**Observation:** An individual, estimated to be around 8 cm in total length, was seen flying from an unidentified tree species and landing on a birdnest fern (*Asplenium nidus*) that was approximately 3 m above ground (Fig. 1). There, it remained stationary for half a minute before flying into the forest.

**Remarks:** *Pyrops oculatus* is the only species of the genus *Pyrops* known to occur in Singapore. Sightings of this species in the past 10 years were mostly confined to within the Central Catchment Nature Reserve, especially to the northeastern section that includes Upper Peirce, Upper Seletar, Nee Soon Swamp Forest and Lower Peirce (Leong et al, 2009; Baker, 2015; Whitehouse, 2020; as *Laternaria oculata*).

Previously recorded as *Laternaria oculata*, the correct name for this species should be *Pyrops oculatus* (see Constant, 2015).

### Literature cited:

- Baker N (2015) Lantern bug *Laternaria oculata* at Upper Thomson. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2015: 35.
- Constant J (2015) Review of the *effusus* group of the lanternfly genus *Pyrops* Spinola, 1839, with one new species and notes on trophobiosis (Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Fulgoridae). European Journal of Taxonomy, 128: 1–23.
- Leong TM, Murphy DH & Leong L (2009) Records of the lantern bug, *Laternaria oculata* (Westwood, 1839), (Homoptera: Fulgoridae: Fulgorinae) in Singapore, with notes on *Zanna nobilis* (Westwood, 1839). Nature in Singapore, 2: 495–501.
- Whitehouse J (2020) A lantern bug, *Laternaria oculata*, at Mandai. Singapore Biodiversity Records, 2020: 62.

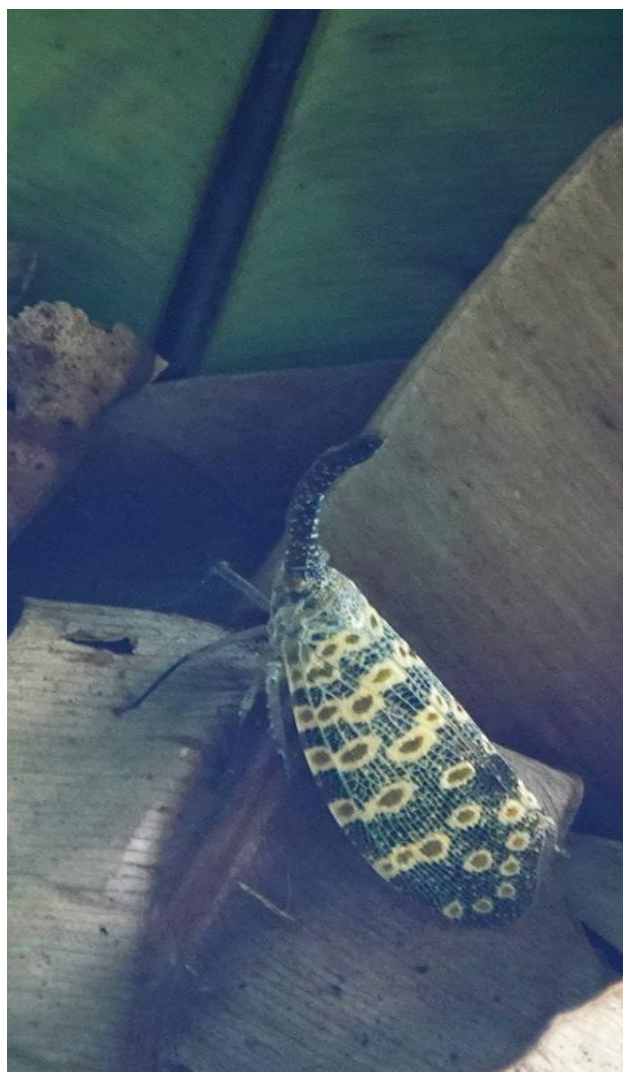


Fig. 1. The lantern bug on an *Asplenium nidus* before flying into the nearby forest. (Photograph by: Eunice Kong).